LANGUAGE ARTS

What should my child be working on during the first nine weeks of school?

READING
• Identifying uppercase and lowercase letters
• Recognizing the difference between a letter and a word
• Learning how to hold a book and turn the pages correctly, and knowing that reading moves from top to bottom on the page and from left to right
• Identifying the different parts of a book (front and back covers, title, pages)
• Identifying syllables in a spoken word and generating rhymes in response to spoken words
• Sorting objects or pictures into categories such as colors, shapes, sizes, and textures
• Using words that name actions, directions, positions, sequences, and locations
• Listening to books read aloud and responding to questions about character, setting, and important events
• Using the illustrations in a book to make predictions about the text
• Making connections between the books they hear and their own lives

WRITING
• Engaging in shared writing experiences with class and teacher
• Dictating or writing sentences to tell a story with a beginning, middle, and end

MATH

What should my child be working on during the first nine weeks of school?

NUMBER SENSE
• Counting forward and backward to at least 20 with and without objects, starting at any number
• Reading, writing, and representing whole numbers from 0 to at least 20 with and without objects or pictures
• Instantly recognizing the quantity of objects in organized and random arrangements (e.g., dots on dominoes or number cubes, eggs in a carton, legs on a chair)

MEASUREMENT
• Giving an example of a measurable attribute of a given object, including length, capacity, and weight
• Comparing two objects with a common measurable attribute to see which object has more of/less of the attribute and describe the difference

DATA
• Collecting, sorting, and organizing data into two or three categories
• Using data to create real-object and picture graphs
• Drawing conclusions from graphs

GEOMETRY
• Identifying 2D shapes (circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares as special rectangles)
• Identifying attributes of 2D shapes using informal and formal geometric language interchangeably
• Classifying and sorting different kinds of 2D figures
• Creating 2D shapes using a variety of materials and drawings
QUESTIONS TO ASK
YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER

• How is the school day structured?
• Is my child behaving at school and following rules?
• Does my child play and interact with other kids without issues?
• What kind of physical/outdoor activities are incorporated into the school day?

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD
LEARN AT HOME?

• Take advantage of free resources HISD offers such as Ready Rosie for ideas on incorporating learning in everyday activities at home. HoustonISD.org/ReadyRosie
• Read every day and make it an interactive activity: Ask your child why he or she chose a particular book and ask for descriptions of the book and its contents.
• When reading, point out the different parts of the book: title, author, illustrations, etc.
• Provide a space where your child can draw, write, color, and explore different textures and sizes.
• Incorporate games, songs, and rhymes that your child can become familiarized with to help them develop language skills.

BEYOND ACADEMICS
SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Help your child with recognizing feelings. Students are learning how emotions can be mild or strong and can change the way their body looks and sounds on the outside and feels on the inside. Here are a few activities you can do at home to support the recognition of feelings:

• Use a wide range of emotion labels to help your child describe his or her feelings and to rate the intensity of these emotional reactions (e.g., happy with a pizza party; happier with a birthday cake; happiest with a new pet).
• When watching a television show or movie, mute the volume and try to identify how the characters are feeling. Talk with your child about the physical or situational cues that help determine each person’s emotions.

For more information, use this link to access a Parent Toolkit: MHAHouston.org/parent-toolkit

TOOL FOR SUCCESS

Learning Link is a partnership between HISD and the Houston Public Library that provides free, 24/7 access to books. A student’s ID card is their library card, and there are no overdue fines. For more information, HoustonISD.org/LearningLink