**LANGUAGE ARTS**

What should my child be working on in the second nine weeks of school?

**READING**
- Identifying uppercase and lowercase letters
- Recognizing the difference between a letter and a word
- Identifying syllables in a spoken word and generating rhymes in response to spoken words
- Distinguishing between rhyming words and non-rhyming words
- Identifying 25 high-frequency words
- Recognizing that compound words are made up of shorter words
- Sorting objects or pictures into categories such as colors, shapes, sizes, and textures
- Identifying setting, characters, and important events in a story
- Describing characters in a story and the reasons for their actions
- Identifying the topic and details in a nonfiction book

**WRITING**
- Capitalizing the beginning of a sentence and using punctuation at the end of a sentence
- Writing uppercase and lowercase letters
- Dictating or writing sentences to tell a story with a beginning, middle, and end

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**MATH**

What should my child be working on in the second nine weeks of school?

**NUMBER SENSE**
- Counting forward and backward to at least 20 with and without objects
- Reading, writing, and representing whole numbers from 0 to at least 20
- Counting a set of objects to at least 20 and demonstrating that the last number counted tells the number of objects in the set regardless of the arrangements
- Instantly recognizing the quantity of a small group of objects in organized and random arrangements

**COMPARING NUMBERS TO 10**
- Generating a set that represents a number that is more than, less than, and equal to a given number
- Generating a number that is one more than or one less than another number up to at least 20
- Comparing sets of objects up to at least 20 using comparative language
- Using comparative language to describe two numbers up to 20 presented as written numerals

**COMPOSING & DECOMPOSING TO 5**
- Composing and decomposing numbers up to 10 with objects and pictures
QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER

• What are strategies that I can use to help my child build/expand vocabulary?
• What are ways that I can promote writing development at home?
• What is the best practice for my child to understand composing and decomposing of numbers?
• How can I get my child to understand the difference between the main topic and details of a nonfiction book?

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

• Create flashcards with sight words that your child has been exposed to in books, the classroom, and their environment.
• Provide a picture (printed, magazine, book) and ask your child to write basic sentences describing what they see on the picture.
• Label objects at home.
• Read every day, and make it an interactive activity: Ask your child why they chose a particular book, and ask for descriptions of the book and its contents; discuss main topic and details.
• Create a math number game that focuses on what two numbers can compose a total or decompose a total.

BEYOND ACADEMICS
SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

Help your child with predicting and explaining feelings. Students are learning that emotions are one way we react to things and situations, and they are learning to think ahead and try to predict or guess someone’s feelings. They can also think back to what happened first to understand how someone is feeling. Here are a few activities you can do at home to support predicting and explaining feelings:

• When reading books together, pause throughout the story and invite your child to think ahead and predict how the character might feel next or to think back to what events or thoughts could explain some of the character’s feelings.
• Help your child notice clues about why someone feels a certain way by pointing someone out (e.g., There is a child standing all alone at the edge of the playground, but there are a lot of kids playing on the swing set. Why do you think the child looks so sad?).

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

TOOL FOR SUCCESS

Storyline Online streams imaginatively produced videos featuring actors reading children’s books, helping to inspire a love of reading. Storyline Online is available 24 hours a day. StoryLineOnline.net