

PARENT GUIDE TO

1ST GRADE FIRST 9 WEEKS

LANGUAGE ARTS

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

READING

- Reviewing the alphabet, blending sounds to make words, and making rhyming words
- Learning to read independently for a sustained period of time
- Making predictions about what will happen next in a story and confirming their predictions after reading by “reading the part that tells”
- Setting a purpose for reading selected books – reading for fun, reading to learn, reading to understand a character, etc.
- Retelling a story’s beginning, middle, and end with attention to the sequence of events in the story
- Reading both fictional and nonfictional texts and determining if a book is true or a fantasy and explaining why
- Describing the characters in a story and explaining the reasons for their actions or feelings

WRITING

- Writing complete sentences and identifying the words that name actions (verbs) and words that name a person, place, or thing (nouns)
- Writing brief stories that include a beginning, middle, and end

MATH

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

NUMBER SENSE

- Reciting numbers forward and backward between 1 and 120 from any given number
- Skip-counting by fives and tens to determine the total number of objects in a set
- Recognizing instantly the quantity of structured arrangements (e.g., dots on dominoes or number cubes)
- Using concrete and pictorial models to compose (put together) and decompose (break apart) numbers to 120 in different ways

PLACE VALUE

- Using objects, pictures, and expanded and standard forms to represent numbers to 120
- Using concrete and pictorial models to add a multiple of 10 and a one-digit number in problems to 99 (e.g., $20 + 4$, $50 + 7$, $90 + 2$)
- Ordering whole numbers to 120 using place value and number lines
- Using place value to compare whole numbers up to 120
- Comparing two numbers to 100 using the symbols $>$, $<$, or $=$
- Generating a number that is greater/less than a given whole number to 120
- Identifying a number that is 10 more and 10 less than a given number to 120



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

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QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



- **How can I help build/reinforce my child's vocabulary skills?**
- **In addition to any homework my child gets, how much time does my child need to spend reading?**
- **Is my child interacting with his or her peers and teachers?**
- **Is my child understanding the concepts that you are teaching?**
- **What's the best way to keep in contact with you?**

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

- Check the homework and testing expectations so you can prepare your child.
- Take advantage of free resources HISD offers such as Ready Rosie for ideas on incorporating learning in everyday activities at home.
HoustonISD.org/ReadyRosie
- Leverage opportunities away from school to read, describe things, count, add, subtract, and compare. (e.g. counting coins at the grocery store, measuring and estimating when preparing meals, developing shopping list).
- Use your daily routine to introduce new words, identify and divide shapes, measure objects, recite colors, etc.

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

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