**LANGUAGE ARTS**

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

**READING**
- Learning about different genres of text: realistic fiction; traditional literature such as fables, legends, or myths; and informational texts
- Describing similarities and differences in books written by the same author
- Describing the main characters in works of fiction, including their physical traits and motivation for their actions and feelings
- Identifying the main idea in a text, along with important facts or details
- Describing the order or sequence of events in a text
- Understanding why an author wrote a particular text – to entertain or inform
- Using text features (table of contents, index, headings) to locate information in a text and increase understanding of the text

**WRITING**
- Creating personal narratives with a beginning, middle, and end
- Understanding and using nouns and verbs
- Beginning to use adjectives and adverbs in their writing
- Recognizing and beginning to use punctuation marks in their writing, including apostrophes and contractions (English Language Arts only)

**MATH**

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

**PLACE VALUE TO 1,200**
- Using concrete and pictorial models to compose and decompose numbers in multiple ways
- Using standard, word, and expanded forms to represent numbers
- Determining the number that is 10 or 100 more or less than a given number
- Generating a number that is greater than or less than another number
- Comparing and ordering numbers
- Locating the position of a number on a number line
- Naming the number that corresponds to a specific point on a number line

**ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION**
- Automatically recalling basic facts to add and subtract within 20
- Adding and subtracting two-digit numbers using mental strategies and number sentences
- Representing and solving one-step word problems involving addition and subtraction within 1,000

**DATA**
- Explaining how bars and pictures in a graph represent the data points for a given category
- Organizing data with up to four categories using pictographs and bar graphs
- Drawing conclusions and making predictions from information in a graph

**NEWS AND RESOURCES ALL YEAR LONG**
HoustonISD.org/news | Facebook.com/HoustonISD | Twitter.com/HoustonISD | Text “YES” to 68453 for text alerts
Questions to Ask Your Child’s Teacher

- How can I help build/reinforce my child’s comprehension and writing skills?
- What are the homework and testing expectations?
- In addition to any homework my child gets, how much time does my child need to spend practicing the concepts that are being taught?
- Are there any areas where my child needs additional support?
- What’s the best way to keep in contact with you?

How Can I Help My Child Learn at Home?

- Designate a quiet area for homework and studying.
- Ask your child’s teacher for books available to build a home library.
- Make reading a family activity and discuss the text being read. Have the child ask questions, identify different parts of the text, and write ideas down.
- Inquire about any technology, websites, and apps that can support learning away from the classroom and reinforce the concepts being taught at school.
- Use your daily routine to count, subtract, and compare quantities.

Beyond Academics: Social & Emotional Behavior

Help your child with understanding that people can change. Students are discussing how everyone can change, and that means we will have many opportunities to grow, learn, and try new things. Focusing on our abilities to grow, learn, and change can help us persist in trying new things. Here are a few activities you can do at home to help your student:

- Ask your child for one example of how he or she has changed this year.
- Focus on “process rather than product” – praise your child for his or her efforts rather than what the accomplishment is (e.g., I see that you are working really hard at trying to tie your own shoes!).

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

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Houston Independent School District