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

READING
• Reading and interacting with fictional texts, autobiographies and biographies, as well as expository or informational text
• Determining the roles characters play in the conflict and resolution of a story’s plot, as well as analyzing character interactions in order to make inferences about them
• Making inferences about text and using textual evidence to support their understanding of the text
• Summarizing information in text in a logical order and maintaining the meaning
• Explaining the difference in point of view between a biography and autobiography
• Exploring expository text that communicates information about a topic
• Using text features to locate information
• Drawing conclusions from information presented by the author and supporting with text evidence

WRITING
• Creating personal narratives using writing conventions such as predicates and subjects
• Creating compositions that include a central idea, supporting sentences, and a concluding statement
• Using and understanding verbs (past, present, and future) and nouns (singular and plural, common and proper)
• Using capitalization for geographical names and places, historical periods, and official titles of people (Mr., Dr., Ms.)
• Writing simple and compound sentences

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

PLACE VALUE TO 100,000
• Composing and decomposing numbers in many ways using objects, pictorial models, and expanded notation
• Describing the mathematical relationships found in the base-10 system through the hundred-thousands place
• Comparing, ordering, and representing numbers using the symbols >, <, or =

ESTIMATION, ADDITION & SUBTRACTION, WORD PROBLEMS
• Solving one- and two-step problems involving addition and subtraction using various strategies
• Representing numbers on a number line in order to round whole numbers
• Rounding to the nearest 10 or 100 to estimate solutions

MULTIPLICATION & DIVISION
• Determining the total number of objects in arrays up to 10 by 10
• Representing multiplication facts (e.g., repeated addition, arrays, skip counting, area models)
• Automatically recalling multiplication and division facts up to 10 by 10
• Determining if a number is even or odd using divisibility rules
• Partitioning a set of objects into equal-sized groups to find how many in each group
• Identifying the unknown number in a multiplication or division equation, when the unknown is a missing factor or product
**Questions to Ask Your Child’s Teacher**

- What are the homework and testing expectations?
- Are there any state-mandated assessments that my child will be taking this year and how will he/she be prepared?
- What impact do state-mandated assessments have on my child passing to the next grade?
- What extra support is available to help my child in areas he/she might be struggling?
- What’s the best way to keep in contact with you?

**How Can I Help My Child Learn at Home?**

- Build a routine that allows for homework and studying time and enough sleep to help your child establish a healthy balance.
- Ask your child’s teacher for available resources to help your child prepare for standardized testing.
- Incorporate daily reading time at home and allow your child to share about it.
- Keep a positive attitude about school assignments, even when your child and/or you are not able to understand, and reach out to the teacher for resources/support.
- Inquire about any technology, websites, and apps that can support learning away from the classroom and reinforce the concepts being taught at school.

**Beyond Academics**

**Social & Emotional Behavior**

How to support your child at school as curriculum and social demands increase:

- Ask children how they feel. When you ask your child about his or her feelings, the message is that feelings matter and you care.
- Find ways to stay calm when angry. It’s normal to get angry or irritated sometimes. Learn to recognize “trigger situations” and do something about them before you lose control. Try taking deep breaths for a few moments. Consider having a “quiet area” where people can go when they are upset. Or you can just stop talking and leave the room for a while. Sit down as a family and talk about what everyone can do to stay calm.

For more information, use this link to access a Parent Toolkit: [MHAHouston.org/parent-toolkit](http://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](http://HoustonISD.org/LearningLink)