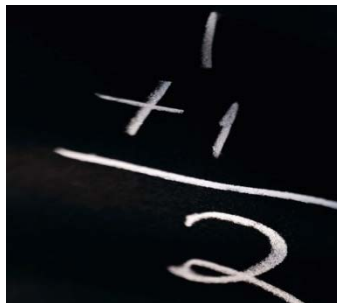


What Can I Do at Home to Help My Child's Learning?

Beginning this school year (2012-2013) New York State will be assessing students in grades 3-8 on the new Common Core Learning Standards. These standards were created nationally and adapted by New York State. Grades 9-12 will begin being assessed by these standards next year (2013-2014).

As we move forward, we need to prepare all our students to meet these new standards. Major changes have been incorporated in these standards that will need the support not only from the teachers, but also from the students' parents at home. Together we can raise our student's knowledge and skills. This is a booklet that explains the changes to the standards and what parents can do at home to support their child's learning.

Feel free to call me with any questions. Thank you for your help!



Eric C. Whipple
K-12 Principal


Major Changes (Shifts) in ELA and Math

ELA

1. Read as much nonfiction as fiction
2. Learn about the world by reading
3. Read more challenging material closely
4. Discuss reading using evidence
5. Write non-fiction using evidence
6. Increase academic vocabulary

Math

1. Learn fewer topics, but with in-depth understanding
2. Build skills within and across grades
3. Develop speed and accuracy
4. Really know it, Really do it
5. Use it in the real world
6. Think fast AND solve problems



The following is
what you can do at
home to help your
child meet those
new “Shifts”!!



ELA Shift #1-Read as Much Non-Fiction as Fiction

- Supply more non-fiction text
- Read non-fiction texts **aloud or with** your child
- Have **fun** with non fiction in front of them

ELA Shift #2-Learn About the World by Reading

- Supply series of texts on topics of interest
- **Find books that explain**
- Discuss non-fiction texts and the ideas within

ELA Shift #3-Read More Complex Material Carefully

- **Provide more challenging texts AND** provide texts they WANT to read and can read comfortably
- Know what is grade level appropriate (ask the teacher)
- Read challenging text and topics *with* them
- Show that reading challenging text and topics is worth it

ELA Shift #4-Discuss Reading Using Evidence

- Talk about text
- **Demand evidence** in everyday discussions/disagreements
- Read aloud or read the same book and discuss with evidence from text

ELA Shift #5-Writing from Sources

- **Encourage writing** from home
- Write books together and use evidence/details

ELA Shift #6-Academic Vocabulary

- **Read often** and constantly with babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and children
- Read multiple books about the same topic
- **Let your kids see you reading**

Math Shift #1-Learn Fewer Topics, but with In-depth Understanding

- **Know what the priority work is** for your child for their grade level (ask the teacher)
- Spend time with your child on this work
- Ask the teacher about your child's progress



Math Shift #2-Skills Across Grades

- Be aware of what your **child struggled with last year**. This will affect learning this year
- Advocate for your child and ensure that support is given for those skills by the teacher

Math Shift #3-Speed and Accuracy

- **Push children** to know/memorize basic math facts
- Know all the fluencies your child should have and prioritize learning of the ones they don't (see next page)

Key Fluencies

Grade	Required Fluency
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K	Add/subtract within 5
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1	Add/subtract within 10
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2	Add/subtract within 20
---	------------------------

	Add/subtract within 100 (pencil and paper)
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3	Multiply/divide within 100
---	----------------------------

	Add/subtract within 1000
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4	Add/subtract within 1,000,000
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5	Multi-digit multiplication
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6	Multi-digit division
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	Multi-digit decimal operations
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7	Solve $px + q = r$, $p(x + q) = r$
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8	Solve simple 2×2 systems by inspection
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Math Shift #4-Know it/Do it

- Notice whether your child **REALLY** knows why the answer is what it is
- Provide **TIME** for your child to work hard with math at home
- Get smarter in the math your child needs to know

Math Shift #5-Real World

- Ask your child to **DO** the math that comes up in your daily life

Math Shift #6-Think Fast/ Solve Fast

- Make sure your child is **PRACTICING** the math facts he/she is struggling with
- Make sure your child is thinking about math in real life

THANK YOU!

Hopefully this booklet provides you with some helpful tips so that you can be a part of your child's academic program. If you have any questions, your teacher will be more than willing to help answer them. Also, feel free to contact me with questions and concerns.

Eric C. Whipple
K-12 Principal