

A SAMPLE OF WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEARNING

- Reading closely to find main ideas and supporting details in a story
- Describing characters in a story and how their actions contributed to events
- Reading texts about history, social studies, or science and answering questions about what he or she learned
- Referring to information from illustrations such as maps or pictures as well as the words in a text to support answers
- Comparing the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic
- Learning and using new words, including words related to specific subjects (such as science words), and distinguishing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as *something's fishy* and *cold shoulder*
- Asking and answering questions about information he or she hears from a speaker or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that builds on what others have said
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story using relevant facts and details and speaking clearly
- Describing the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in stories (e.g., first, second, third; cause and effect)
- Writing stories with dialogue and descriptions of characters' actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Gathering information from books, articles, and online sources to build understanding of a topic
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Keep conversations focused on concepts your child will be learning.

Ask to see a sample of your child's work and ask the teacher questions such as:

- Is this piece of work satisfactory?
- How could it be better?
- Is my child on track?
- How can I help my child excel in this area?
- If my child needs extra support or wants to learn more about a subject, are there resources to help his/her learning outside the classroom?

ACTIVITIES FOR HOME TO SUPPORT LEARNING

- Make reading for fun a part of your child's daily routine. Set aside quiet time, with no phones, computers, or other distractions, when your child can read for pleasure. Books such as *Amos & Boris* by William Steig or *The Fire Cat* by Esther Averill are suggested. To find more books for your child to read, visit: <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/acre/standards/common-core-tools/exemplar/ela.pdf>.
- Encourage your child to find a picture from a newspaper or magazine, cut it out, paste it on paper, and write a story about it.
- Start a family vocabulary box or jar. Have everyone write down new words they discover, add them to the box, and use the words in conversation.

3rd Grade

Parent Resource English Language Arts



COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS



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Reading Literature

2nd Grade Reading

- Students retell stories and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.
- Students acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.

3rd Grade Reading

- Students recount stories and determine the central message, lesson, or moral, explaining how it is developed in the text.
- Students distinguish their own points of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

4th Grade Reading

- Students determine the theme of a story, play, or poem from details in the text and summarize the text.
- Students compare and contrast the points of view from which different stories are told, including the difference between first- and third-person accounts.

Reading for Information

2nd Grade Reading

- Students ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- Students explain how specific images or illustrations (such as a diagram of how a machine works) are useful.

3rd Grade Reading

- Students ask and answer questions about what they read by referring directly to parts of the text.
- Students use information gained from images or illustrations.

4th Grade Reading

- Students refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- Students interpret information presented in charts, graphs, or other visual sources of information and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text.

Writing

2nd Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic and use facts and definitions to develop points.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section.

3rd Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic and use facts, definitions, and details to develop points.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section.
- Students group related information together.
- Students use linking words and phrases to connect ideas, such as *also*, *another*, and *but*.

4th Grade Writing

- Students introduce a topic clearly and develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.
- Students provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.
- Students group related information in paragraphs and sections and use formatting (such as headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful.
- Students link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases such as *another*, *for example*, *also*, and *because*.
- Students use precise language and subject-specific vocabulary.