On Common Ground

Third Grade, Trimester 2

This newsletter provides an overview of what your child will learn based on the Missouri Learning Standards during the second trimester of third grade in reading, writing, and mathematics. It also offers ideas to support your child’s learning at home.

What are the Missouri Learning Standards?

- The Missouri Learning Standards initiative was a state-led effort to establish a shared set of clear academic standards for English language arts and mathematics that districts may voluntarily adopt. The standards have been created based on the best available evidence and the highest state standards across the country.

- The standards were created by a group of teachers, content experts, school administrators, and parents.

- The goal of the standards is to ensure that students graduating from high school are prepared to go to college or enter the workforce and that parents, teachers, and students have a clear understanding of what is expected from them.

- The standards are also benchmarked to international standards to guarantee that students are competitive in the emerging global marketplace.

Reading

At school, students will:

- Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- Compare and contrast themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters.
- Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic.
- Read words with common Latin suffixes (e.g., flexible, loyalty, action).

At home, you can:

- Read different types of books together, including fables, folktales, and myths; discuss the central message, lesson, or moral of the story.
- Read different stories written by the same author and compare the themes, settings, and plots.
- Read informational texts and Internet sources together; use text features and search tools to find information.

Writing

At school, students will:

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- Introduce a topic and group related information together.
- Develop a topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- Provide a concluding statement or section.
- Use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
- Form and use possessives (e.g., its, hers, theirs).

At home, you can:

- Encourage your child to keep a personal journal or diary to explain things he/she knows or learns.
- Show your child how to use informational books and the Internet to locate information; use the information to write informative text.
- Help your child add details to support his/her ideas.
- Show your child how to use possessives in writing.

Mathematics

At school, students will:

- Add and subtract two- and three-digit numbers with and without regrouping.
- Create and solve two-step addition and subtraction problems.

At home, you can:

- Ask your child to compare numbers by asking questions such as “Which number is the greatest?” or “Which number is the least?”
- Practice adding and subtracting two- and three-digit numbers.
- Practice solving two-step addition and subtraction problems.