On Common Ground
Fourth 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 fourth 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:**
- Determine the theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.
- Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems (e.g., verse, rhythm) and drama (e.g., casts of characters, settings).
- Compare and contrast point of view from which different stories are narrated, including between first- and third-person narrations.
- Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points in a text.

**At home, you can:**
- Ask your child questions about stories he/she is reading; have him/her use parts of the story to explain his/her thinking.
- Find poetry or plays to read or watch together.
- Read stories or plays together and discuss the characters and settings.
- Look for main ideas in text and how the author supports the main ideas.
- Read texts with narration.

### Writing

**At school, students will:**
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections.
- Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information related to the topic.
- Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also).
- Provide a concluding statement or section related to the presented information.

**At home, you can:**
- Encourage your child to keep a personal journal or diary to tell his/her own stories.
- Include your child in real-life writing experiences (e.g., write a letter to a family member to share recent events).
- Show your child how to use books and online resources to gather information on a topic.
- Encourage your child to use descriptive words in speaking and writing.

### Mathematics

**At school, students will:**
- Divide a four digit number by a one digit number dealing with a remainder.
- Compare two fractions with different numerators and denominators justifying the conclusion.
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers with same denominators.
- Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions having the same denominators.
- Multiply a fraction by a whole number.
- Solve multistep word problems using all four operations.
- Divide a four digit number by a one digit number dealing with a remainder.

**At home, you can:**
- Practice dividing large numbers by a one-digit number.
- Practice multiplication and division facts with flash cards or stretch (online resource provided by the district).
- Make fraction cards with pictures on the back, then play War.
- Play fraction games sent home with your child.
- Practice dividing large numbers by a one-digit number.