This newsletter provides an overview of what your child will learn based on the Missouri Learning Standards during the second trimester of first 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:**
- Retell stories, including key details and demonstrate understanding of the central message or lesson.
- Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.
- Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, table of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text.
- Know final -e and common vowel teams (e.g., oo, oa, ea) for representing long and short vowels.

**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.
- Read different stories together and discuss the similarities and differences of the adventures of the characters.
- Read informational texts and Internet content together; use text features to find facts or information.

### Writing

**At school, students will:**
- Write informative texts in which they name a topic; supply some facts about the topic, and provide closure.
- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- Use frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., during, beyond, toward).
- Use commas in dates and to separate single words in a series.
- Produce and expand sentences (simple and compound) in response to prompts.

**At home, you can:**
- Encourage your child to tell a sequence of events in his/her writing.
- Use books and Internet sources to gather information; have your child write about what he/she learned.
- Show your child how to use commas when writing dates (e.g., Tuesday, February 7, 2012).
- Show your child how to make simple sentences more complex.

### Mathematics

**At school, students will:**
- Add and subtract within 20 and understand the relationship between addition and subtraction (e.g., $8 + 6 = 14$; $14 - 6 = 8$).
- Determine if equations involving addition and subtraction are true or false.
- Solve addition word problems that call for three whole numbers whose sum (total) is less than or equal to 20.
- Determine the unknown whole number in an addition or subtraction equation with three whole numbers (e.g., $6 + 2 + \_ = 14$).

**At home, you can:**
- Practice adding and subtracting numbers within 20.
- Discuss the relationship between adding and subtracting.
- Give your child addition sentences with three numbers to solve (e.g., $3 + 9 + 6 = ?; 3 + \_ + 4 = 10$).