

English Language Arts/Literacy: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents

What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
<b><i>Read as much fiction as non-fiction</i></b>	Read more non-fiction Understand how non-fiction is written and put together Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	Supply more non-fiction texts Read non-fiction books aloud or with your child Have fun with non-fiction in front of your child
<b><i>Learn about the world by reading</i></b>	Learn more about science and social studies through reading Use “primary source” documents Get smarter through the use of texts	Supply series of texts on topics that interest your child Find books that explain how things work and why Discuss non-fiction texts and their ideas
<b><i>Read more challenging material</i></b>	Re-read until they understand Read books both at and above their comfort level Handle frustration Keep pushing to improve	Know what is grade-level appropriate Provide challenging texts as well as books they can read easily Read challenging books with your child Show that challenging books are worth reading
<b><i>Talk about reading using evidence</i></b>	Find evidence to support their arguments Form judgments and opinions Discuss what the author is thinking Make predictions about what will happen next	Talk about texts Demand evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements Read aloud or read the same book as your child and discuss Discuss predictions
<b><i>Write about text using evidence</i></b>	Make arguments in writing using evidence Compare multiple texts in writing Learn to write well	Encourage writing at home Write “books” together using evidence and detail Review samples of exemplar student writing
<b><i>Learn more vocabulary words</i></b>	Learn the words they will need to use in college and career Get smarter at using the “language of power”	Read often and constantly with young children Read multiple books on the same topic Talk to your children, read to them, listen to them, sing with them, make up silly rhymes and word games

Mathematics: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents

What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
<b><i>Build skills across grade levels</i></b>	Keep building on learning year after year Focus on the most important concepts for learning math well	Be aware of what your child may have struggled with the previous year and how that will affect the next year's learning Advocate for your child Ask what support is available for "gap" skills, such as negative numbers, fractions, etc.
<b><i>Learn more about less, deeper understanding of fewer concepts</i></b>	Spend more time on fewer concepts	Know what the priority work is for your child at his/her grade level
<b><i>Use math facts easily</i></b>	Go more in-depth on each concept	Spend time with your child on priority work Ask for progress reports on priority work
<b><i>Think fast AND solve problems</i></b>	Spend time practicing by doing lots of problems on the same idea	Push children to know, understand and memorize math facts Know the fluencies your child should have Prioritize learning what your child may find more difficult
<b><i>Really know it, really do it</i></b>	Make the math work and understand why it does Talk about why the math works Prove that they know why and how the math works	Ask questions and review homework to see whether your child understands the <b><i>why</i></b> as well as <b><i>what</i></b> the answer is.
<b><i>Use math in the real world</i></b>	Apply math in real world situations Know which math skills to use for which situation	Ask your child to "do the math" that comes up in daily life