Parents’ Guide to Student Success in

*English Language Arts*

 *1st Grade*

**Why Are Academic Standards Important?**

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

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| **Here are Some Things Your Child Will Be Working on in 1st Grade*** Sight words, blending, & segmenting
* Grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, conjunctions, etc.)
* Writing stories, directions, & opinions
* Reading different kinds of texts (informational and literary)
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| Keeping the Conversation Focused:When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything. Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In Grade 1, these include:* Phonics.
* Sight Words.
* Comprehension.
* Vocabulary.
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**Help Your Child Learn at Home**

Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

* Read to and/or with your child daily.
* Use Flashcards to practice sight words.
* Practice writing by writing letters to friends and family members.
* Sound out words and have students spell them.

Resource: <http://www.pta.org/parents/>

**1st Grade**

Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students



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| **Helpful Websites** |
| [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com) [www.Myon.com](http://www.Myon.com) [www.i-ready.com](http://www.i-ready.com)[www.abcya.com](http://www.abcya.com)  |
| **First Nine Weeks** | **Second Nine Weeks** |
| *Students should know and be able to:** Identify and describe the characters, setting, and major events in a story.
* Use the illustrations to describe what they see.
* Identify the five senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, smell).
* Identify and give examples of text features (table of contents, index, glossary, maps, illustrations, etc.)
* Define/identify the main topic/idea in a story.
* Identify sight words (shorts vowel sounds)
* Write personal narratives (stories about themselves)
 | *Students should know and be able to:** Ask and answer questions about a story/text.
* Explain the difference between books that tell stories and those that give information.
* Retell the important events in a story
* Define the central message/idea of a story or text.
* Use context clues to define unknown words/phrases
* Identify sight words (words with silent e)
* Write personal narratives (stories about themselves) and make believe stories they create.
* Write stories that gives information.
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| **Third Nine Weeks** | **Fourth Nine Weeks** |
| *Students should know and be able to:** Identify/describe the characters, setting, and major events in a story.
* Read first grade sight words, short books and poems.
* Define/explain the main topic/idea of a story or text
* Explain that a key detail is an important part of a text.
* Identify sight words (words with long vowel sounds)
* Write texts where they name a topic, gives facts about the topic, and give a closing.
 | *Students should know and be able to:** Identify words and phrases that tell about the five senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell).
* Describes the adventures/experiences of characters in a story.
* Read first grade sight words, short books, and poems.
* Identify and read words such as (bread, feet, day, train, toy, coil, book, pout, cage, and race)
* Write pieces that give their opinion about a topic or book, provide a reason, and a closing.
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