IDEAS FOR HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Read to and with your child using a variety of texts.

Provide reading materials: stories, short articles, poems.

Encourage your child to read stories, poems, or write reviews/summaries.

Include your child in activities that require using critical thinking skills such as card games, puzzles.

Ask your child to do some of the hands-on activities s/he is doing in class.

Collect data such as temperature, rainfall amounts, or miles driven per day over a period of time.

Find the range, mean, median, and mode of the data.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading Process
- uses knowledge of root words and other word parts to understand the denotative and connotative meaning of text
- demonstrates knowledge of spelling patterns
- uses repair strategies for understanding text (self-correction, asking questions, summarizing, rereading, checking context clues)
- reads grade-level text with expression at a conversational pace
- uses strategies to comprehend text (for example, predicting, retelling, discussing, asking questions, context clues, main idea and details, cause and effect, compare and contrast, author's purpose, making inferences, paraphrasing)
- compares elements across multiple texts
- explains purpose of text features (captions, heading, subheadings, illustrations)
- determines meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by applying strategies (including familiar root words, prefixes, suffixes, homophones, and words with multiple meanings)
- determines meanings of words, pronunciations, etymologies (Greek and Latin) and alternate word choices using a dictionary, thesaurus, or digital tools

Writing Process and Applications
- uses prewriting strategies (for example, drawing pictures, recording questions for investigation)
- makes a plan for writing and organizes ideas a graphic organizer
- maintains focus on a single idea using supporting details and logical sequence of events with new ideas in paragraph format
- uses phrases that represent time, order of events, and transitions in writing
- evaluates drafts for logical thinking, development of ideas, word choice, voice, and consistent point of view appropriate for the purpose and audience
- creates clarity and interest by incorporating descriptive words, sensory language, figurative language, and dialogue
- uses a variety of sentence structures and arranging of words to clarify meaning
- writes narrative, expository, and persuasive text
- uses knowledge of common spelling patterns and generalizations (including Greek and Latin) and alternate word choices using a dictionary, thesaurus, or digital tools
- uses appropriate capitalization, grammar, and punctuation
- revises a piece of writing to add more details and remove repetitive text
- produces, illustrates, and shares a variety of expressive forms incorporating the use of technology

Communication
- demonstrates fluent and legible cursive handwriting
- makes formal or informal oral presentations for a variety of purposes, audiences and occasions using the appropriate voice, eye contact, and body movements along with appropriate and available technologies
- listens and speaks to gain and share information for a variety of purposes (personal interview, dramatic and poetic recitations, and formal presentations)
- uses increasingly complex language patterns and sentence structure when communicating

Information and Media Literacy
- explains how text features aid the reader’s understanding
- selects a topic for a web inquiry
- uses criteria to select appropriate reference materials (maps, charts, photos) to gather information
- communicates information in an informational report that includes main idea and relative details with visual support
- uses evidence from a book/passage to answer a question
- evaluates reliability and validity of resources
- records basic bibliography data and present quotes using ethical practice
- uses appropriate and available technology/digital tools to enhance communication and achieve a purpose

Literary Analysis
- knows the sequence of events, characters, and setting of stories and knows a variety of familiar literary genres (for example, fiction, nonfiction, chapter books, folk tales, legends, media)
- recognizes author's use of descriptive and figurative language (similes, metaphors, mood, etc.)
- compares language patterns and vocabulary of contemporary text to those of historical text
- understands the distinguishing features of fiction and nonfiction text in a variety of genres
- develops an interpretation of a selection and supports through examples and contextual evidence
- responds to and makes connections between characters and events in stories to self, other text, and world
- writes a book report/review/critique that compares two or more works by the same author
- organizes information found in nonfiction text (charting, mapping, summarizing)
- self-selects fiction and nonfiction material for pleasure reading

MATHEMATICS

Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- explains and justifies procedures for multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals
- multiplies and divides fractions and decimals efficiently
- uses equivalent forms of fractions, decimals, and percents to solve problems
- compares and orders fractions, decimals, and percents
- estimates and judges reasonableness of results of computational problems with fractions, decimals, and percents
- applies the commutative, associative, and distributive properties to show that two expressions are equivalent
- solves ratio and rate problems
- interprets and compares ratios and rates
- writes and evaluates mathematical expressions that correspond to given situations
- writes, solves, and graphs one- and two-step linear equations and inequalities
- works backwards with two-step function rules to undo expressions
- constructs and analyzes tables, graphs, and equations to describe linear functions and other simple relations using common language and algebraic notation

Geometry and Measurement
- determines a missing dimension of a plane figure or prism given its area or volume and some of its dimensions or determine the area or volume given the dimensions
- finds the perimeters and areas of composite two-dimensional figures, including non-rectangular figures
- understands the concept of π, know common estimates for π, and use these values to estimate and calculate the circumference and area of circles

Data Analysis
- finds the range, mean, median, mode and variability for a set of data
- selects and analyzes the measures of central tendency or variability in order to answer questions about a set of data appropriately

SOCIAL STUDIES

Geography
- understands how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools and technology to report information
- understands the physical and cultural characteristics of places
- understands the relationships between the Earth's ecosystems and the populations that dwell within them
- understands how human actions can impact the environment
- understands how to apply geography to interpret the past and present and plan for the future

Economics
- understands the fundamental concepts relevant to the development of a market economy
- understands the fundamental concepts relevant to institutions, structure, and functions of a national economy
- understands the fundamental concepts and interrelationships of the United States economy in the international marketplace

World History
- utilizes historical inquiry skills and analytical processes
- describes the emergence of early civilizations
- recognizes significant events, figures, and contributions of ancient civilizations

Civics and Government
- identifies democratic concepts developed as a foundation for American constitutional democracy
- evaluates the roles, rights, and responsibilities of United States citizens and determine methods of active participation in society, government, and the political system
- develops a rich vocabulary of historical and social science words and uses them to speak and write more precisely and coherently.
Content Literacy
- reads closely and cites evidence from historical and social science documents to support an analysis of what the materials say
- develops a rich vocabulary of scientific words and uses them to speak and write more precisely and coherently

Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home
- Read a historical fiction book or informational text with your child and discuss the content together.
- Play geography games with your child.
- Talk to your child about how culture of a society can affect history.
- Discuss current events with your child.

What Your Child is Expected to Learn in GRADE 6

SCIENCE

Nature of Science
- explains why scientific investigations should be replicable
- explains the difference between an experiment and other types of scientific investigation, and explain the relative benefits and limitations of each
- explains that scientific knowledge is durable because it is open to change as new evidence or interpretations are encountered
- recognizes and explains that a scientific theory is a well-supported and widely accepted explanation of nature and is not simply a claim posed by an individual. Thus, the use of the term theory is science is very different than how it is used in everyday life
- recognizes and explains that a scientific law is a description of a specific relationship under given conditions in the natural world. Thus, scientific laws are different from societal laws

Earth and Space Science
- describes and gives examples of ways in which Earth’s surface is built up and torn down by physical and chemical weathering, erosion, and deposition
- recognizes that there are a variety of different landforms on Earth’s surface such as coastlines, dunes, rivers, mountains, glaciers, deltas, and lakes and relate these landforms as they apply to Florida
- describes how global patterns such as the jet stream and ocean currents influence local weather in measurable terms such as temperature, air pressure, wind direction and speed, and humidity and precipitation
- investigates how natural disaster have affected human life in Florida
- describes ways human beings protect themselves from hazardous weather and sun exposure

Physical Science
- explores the Law of Conservation of Energy by differentiating between potential and kinetic energy. Identify situations where kinetic energy is transformed into potential energy and vice versa
- measures and graphs distance versus time for an object moving at a constant speed
- explores the Law of Gravity by recognizing that every object exerts gravitational force on every other object and that the force depends on how much mass the objects have and how far apart they are
- investigates and describes that an unbalanced force acting on an object changes its speed, or direction of motion, or both
- investigates and explains the components of the scientific theory of cells (cell theory): all organisms are composed of cells (single-celled or multi-cellular), all cells come from pre-existing cells, and cells are the basic unit of life
- identifies and investigates the general functions of the major systems of the human body (digestive, respiratory, circulatory, reproductive, excretory, immune, nervous and musculoskeletal) and describe ways these systems interact with each other to maintain homeostasis
- compares and contrasts types of infectious agents that may infect the human body, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites
- analyzes and describes how and why organisms are classified according to shared characteristics with emphasis on the Linnaean system combined with the concept of Domains

Content Literacy
- reads closely and cites evidence from science documents to support an analysis of what the materials say
- develops a rich vocabulary of scientific words and uses them to speak and write more precisely and coherently

Ideas for Helping Your Child at Home
- Use common items (a pebble dropped in water, a marble dropped in sand) to demonstrate that vibrations in materials set up visible disturbances that spread away from a force in all directions.
- Go into a dark room with your child with a roll of electric tape. Give your eyes time to adjust to the dark; then watch closely as your child quickly pulls the tape off the roll. You may see small sparks caused by electric energy. Also note how similar activities like clothes being pulled from the dryer can illustrate that energy is everywhere.
- Encourage original drawings to express main ideas of things observed or how things work.
- Read and discuss news articles pertaining to health and the body’s systems.

Life Science
- investigates and explains the components of the scientific theory of cells (cell theory): all organisms are composed of cells (single-celled or multi-cellular), all cells come from pre-existing cells, and cells are the basic unit of life
- identifies and investigates the general functions of the major systems of the human body (digestive, respiratory, circulatory, reproductive, excretory, immune, nervous and musculoskeletal) and describe ways these systems interact with each other to maintain homeostasis
- compares and contrasts types of infectious agents that may infect the human body, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites
- analyzes and describes how and why organisms are classified according to shared characteristics with emphasis on the Linnaean system combined with the concept of Domains

What Your Child is Expected to Learn in

6th Grade

A Representative Sample of Expectations by Grade Level
For a complete list of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, please review: http://www.floridastandards.org/Standards/P/Standardsearch.aspx

Dear Parents,

The mission of Brevard Public Schools is “to serve every student with excellence as the standard.” Our elementary schools work toward this goal each school day by ensuring that every child has exciting and meaningful learning experiences. We expect all of our students to learn and to demonstrate increasingly complex skills as they progress through the grades toward the goal of responsible and productive adulthood. Toward this end, we are pleased to share with you a representative sample of our learning expectations for your child this year. These sample expectations are stated in the most recently adopted Next Generation Sunshine State Standards from the Florida Department of Education.

These Next Generation Sunshine State Standards provide focus and consistency for teachers and students, and offer you, as parents, a clear view of your school’s expectations. The role of parents in supporting children’s educational progress is ever more important in our rapidly changing world. I urge you to review these expectations and to take advantage of opportunities to provide rewarding learning experiences for your child each day.

I wish your child a successful school year!

Sincerely,

Lynn Spadaccini, Director
Office of Elementary Programs

School Board Members
Dr. Barbara A. Murray, Chairman
Amy Kneessy, Vice-Chairman
Karen Henderson
Dr. Michael Knupp
Andy Ziegler

Superintendent
Dr. Brian T. Binggeli

Division of Curriculum and Instruction
Cyndi Van Meter, Associate Superintendent

Office of Elementary Programs
Dr. Lynn Spadaccini, Director
Office of Early Childhood and Title I
Teresa Wright, Director

What Your Child is Expected to Learn in 6th Grade 2012-13