

# Parent Roadmap to Common Core Standards

## English Language Arts

*America's schools are working to provide higher quality instruction than ever before.*

The way we taught students in the past simply does not prepare them for the higher demands of college and careers today and in the future. Your school and schools throughout the country are working to improve teaching and learning to ensure that all children will graduate high school with the skills they need to be successful.

In English language arts and literacy, this means three major changes. Students will continue reading and writing. But in addition to stories and literature, they will read more texts that provide facts and background knowledge in areas including science and social studies. They will read more challenging texts and be asked more questions that will require them to refer back to what they have read. There will also be an increased emphasis on building a strong vocabulary so that students can read and understand challenging material.

### Grade Level Expectations

In grade one, your child will build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will continue to learn the letters and sounds that make up words. They will think, talk, and write about what they read in stories, articles, and other sources of information. In their writing, students will work on putting together clear sentences on a range of topics using a growing vocabulary. Activities in these areas will include:

- Reading stories and showing they understand the lesson or moral of the story
- Asking and answering questions about a story, including characters, settings, and major events
- Comparing and contrasting the experiences of different characters
- Identifying the reasons an author gives to support a point
- Explaining differences between texts that tell stories and texts that provide information
- Learning and using new words
- Participating in class discussions by listening, responding to what others are saying, and asking questions
- Describing people, places, things, and events, expressing feelings and ideas clearly
- Learning basic rules of spoken and written English
- Working with others to gather facts and information on a topic
- Writing to describe an event, provide information on a topic, or share an opinion

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In grade one, students will read stories and poems. Additionally, they will read to learn information about history, the world, science, and other areas. Here are just a few examples of how your child will develop important reading skills across grade levels.

**READING LITERATURE**

<p><b>Kindergarten Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With help from the teacher, students retell stories, including key details.</li> <li>• With help from the teacher, students name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade One Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students retell stories, including key details, and show that they understand the lesson or moral of a story.</li> <li>• Students identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade Two Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students retell stories and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.</li> <li>• Students acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.</li> </ul>
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**READING FOR INFORMATION**

<p><b>Kindergarten Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With help from the teacher, students ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</li> <li>• With help from the teacher, students identify what person, place, thing, or idea a picture shows.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade One Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</li> <li>• Students use the illustrations and details in a text to describe key ideas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade Two Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students ask and answer such questions as <i>who</i>, <i>what</i>, <i>where</i>, <i>when</i>, <i>why</i>, and <i>how</i> to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.</li> <li>• Students explain how specific images or illustrations (such as a diagram of how a machine works) are useful.</li> </ul>
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*Writing tasks in grade one may include stories, essays, reports, and persuasive papers. Here are just a few examples of how your child will develop important writing skills across grade levels.*

<p><b>Kindergarten Writing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing, students name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.</li></ul>	<p><b>Grade One Writing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students name a topic and supply some facts about the topic.</li><li>• Students provide some sense of closure.</li></ul>	<p><b>Grade Two Writing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students introduce a topic and use facts and definitions to develop points.</li><li>• Students provide a concluding statement or section.</li></ul>
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*Some writing guidelines may seem similar from year to year. However, with practice at each grade level, students continue to learn and apply the rules of standard written English and to strengthen and expand their vocabulary, use of language, and organization of ideas.*

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### ***Partnering with your child's teacher:***

Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher—you are an important part of your child's education. Ask to see a sample of your child's work or bring a sample with you. Ask the teacher questions like:

- Is my child reading on grade level?
- How is my child doing in writing?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- What can I do at home to make sure that my child is successful?

### **Helping Your Child Learn Outside of School**

1. Provide time and space for your child to read independently. This reading time should be free from distractions such as television.
2. Ask your child what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your child to read.
3. It is also helpful when your child sees other people reading at home. You could share what you have read.
4. Start a family book club. Let different members of the family pick the book. This could be a good way to enjoy quality family time while experiencing the joy of reading together!
5. Be sure your child has a library card. Children should select books in which they are interested to develop a passion for reading. Many libraries have book clubs and family activities that make reading fun for the entire family.
6. Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.

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# Mathematics

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In mathematics, teachers will concentrate on teaching a more focused set of major math concepts and skills. This will allow students time to master key math concepts and skills in a more organized way throughout the year and from one grade to the next. It will also call for teachers to use rich and challenging math content and to engage students in solving real-world problems in order to inspire greater interest in mathematics.

## Grade Level Expectations

In grade one, students will work with whole numbers and place value—including grouping numbers into tens and ones as they learn to add and subtract up through 20. Students will also use charts, tables, and diagrams to solve problems. Activities in these areas will include:

- Quickly and accurately adding numbers together that total up to 10 or less and subtracting from numbers up through 10
- Understanding the rules of addition and subtraction (for example,  $5+2=2+5$ )
- Solving word problems that involve adding or subtracting numbers up through 20
- Understanding what the different digits mean in two-digit numbers (place value)
- Comparing two-digit numbers using the symbols  $>$  (more than),  $=$  (equal to), and  $<$  (less than)
- Understanding the meaning of the equal sign ( $=$ ) and determining if statements involving addition and subtraction are true or false (for example, which of the following statements are true?  $3+3=6$ ,  $4+1=5+2$ )
- Adding one- and two-digit numbers together
- Measuring the lengths of objects using a shorter object as a unit of length
- Putting objects in order from longest to shortest or shortest to longest
- Organizing objects into categories and comparing the number of objects in different categories
- Dividing circles and rectangles into halves and quarters

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Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop as they solve word problems in grade one.

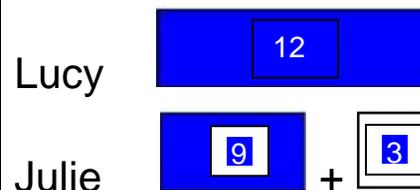
**MATHEMATICS**

<p><b>Kindergarten Mathematics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, sounds (such as claps), acting out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, and equations</li> <li>• Solve word problems by adding or subtracting numbers up through 10 using objects and drawings</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade One Mathematics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solve word problems by adding or subtracting numbers up through 20</li> <li>• Solve addition and subtraction problems for different unknown numbers (<math>20 - ? = 15</math>, <math>9 + 4 = ?</math>)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade Two Mathematics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solve one- and two-step word problems by adding or subtracting numbers up through 100</li> </ul>
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**Examples of First Grade Word Problems**

*In First Grade your child will use a variety of pictures and models to understand and solve addition and subtraction problems.*

<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ADDITION</b></p>	<p><i>6 bunnies sat on the grass. Some more bunnies hopped over. Then there were 14 bunnies. How many bunnies hopped over?</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUBTRACTION</b></p>	<p><i>14 bunnies were sitting on the grass. Some bunnies hopped away. Then there were 5 bunnies. How many bunnies hopped away?</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPARISON</b></p>	<p><i>Lucy has 12 apples. Julie has 9 apples. How many more apples does Lucy have than Julie?</i></p>



*Lucy has three more apples than Julie. Julie has three fewer apples than Lucy*

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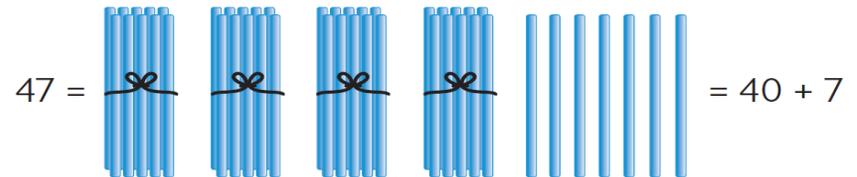
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Here are just a few examples of how students will work with numbers and learn to think of ten as a unit—important building blocks for understanding place value.

<b>Kindergarten Mathematics</b>	<b>Grade One Mathematics</b>	<b>Grade Two Mathematics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Count to 100 by ones and tens</li><li>• Understand that numbers from 11 to 19 contain a ten and some leftover ones (for example, <math>14=10+4</math>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand that 10 can be thought of as a bundle of ten ones—called a “ten”</li><li>• Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones (place value)</li><li>• Add and subtract numbers through 100 using what students have learned about place value</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand that 100 can be thought of as a bundle of ten tens—called a “hundred”</li><li>• Understand that the three digits of a three-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones (place value)</li><li>• Add and subtract numbers through 1000 using what students have learned about place value</li></ul>

*Students use models and pictures to show that 47 is the same as 47 ones, or 4 tens + 7 ones, and to better understand the relative size of the units.*

*Your child will use this understanding of place value to add one- and two-digit numbers together.*



$$47 + 2 = 49$$



$$47 + 20 = 67$$



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Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher—you are an important part of your child's education. Ask to see a sample of your child's work or bring a sample with you. Ask the teacher questions like:

- Is my child at the level where he/she should be at this point of the school year?
- Where is my child excelling?
- What do you think is giving my child the most trouble? How can I help my child improve in this area?
- What can I do to help my child with upcoming work?

### **Helping Your Child Learn Outside of School**

1. Look for everyday opportunities to have your child do mathematics. For example, if you open a carton of eggs and take out seven, ask, "*How many are left in the carton?*"
2. Play math games with your child. For example, "*I'm thinking of a number. When I add five to it, I get 11. What is the number?*"
3. Encourage your child to read and write numbers in different ways. For example, what are some ways that you can make the number 15? 15 can be  $10+5$ ,  $7+8$ ,  $20-5$ , or  $5+5+5$ .
4. Have your child create story problems to represent addition, subtraction, and comparisons. For example, "*I have seven pennies. My brother has five pennies. How many pennies does he need to have the same number as I have? He needs two more pennies.*"
5. Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult. This will help your child see that everyone can learn math.
6. Praise your child when he or she makes an effort and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

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