

How can I help my child at home?

Reading & Writing

- Read to your child and have him/her read to you every day for at least 15 minutes. Ask questions about the story, the characters and connections to his/her life.
- Watch a TV show with your child. Ask your child to retell the story in his or her own words by telling what happened first, second, third, etc. and about the characters. Now try it with a book.
- 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.
- Let different members of the family pick books to read together. Talk about what you like (events, characters, ideas), predictions on what will happen next, how the book connects to your own life, and if you would recommend it (with reasons).
- Practice sight words with flash cards, such as: of, his, her, any
- Pick a “sound or word of the day” each day starting with a different letter. Have your child name as many as they know, write the word and look for other things beginning with the same letter. Then, find the words in a book.

Mathematics

- Use everyday objects to allow your child to count and group a collection of objects
- Encourage your child to construct numbers in multiple ways. For example, what are some ways that you can make 10? Answers might include $5+5$, $6+4$, $8+2$, etc. Have your child explain his or her thinking.
- Have your child create story problems show addition and subtraction of small numbers. For example, “Ann had eight balloons. Then she gave three away, so she only had five left.”

Manchester Public Schools

45 North School Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Office of the Superintendent: (860) 647-3441

Office of Curriculum & Instruction: (860) 647-3447

Pupil Personnel Services: (860) 647-3448

<http://www.mpspride.org>

Bowers Elementary School

141 Princeton Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3313

Buckley Elementary School

250 Vernon Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3302

Highland Park Elementary School

397 Porter Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3430

Keeney Elementary School

179 Keeney Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3354

Martin Elementary School

140 Dartmouth Road, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3367

Robertson Elementary School

65 North School Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3372

Verplanck Elementary School

126 Olcott Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3383

Waddell Elementary School

163 Broad Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3392

Washington Elementary School

94 Cedar Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3332

Elisabeth M. Bennet Academy

1151 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3571

Illing Middle School

227 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3400

Manchester High School

134 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3521

Bentley Alternative Education

134 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3342

Manchester Regional Academy

665 Wetherell Street, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 647-3495

Manchester Preschool Center

60 Washington Street, Manchester, CT 06042
(860) 647-3502



A Parent Guide to District Curriculum



Grade 1

Adapted from Council of Great City Schools' Parent Roadmaps
<http://www.cgcs.org>

Initiatives and Changes

What are the Common Core State Standards?

The Common Core State Standards, adopted by Connecticut's State Board of Education in 2010, provide teachers, students and families with expectations of what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. These standards are designed to ensure that students graduate from high school and are prepared to meet the demands of college and the workforce.

What are the Common Core Shifts for English Language Arts and Mathematics?

English Language Arts:

- Regular independent reading using challenging fiction and non-fiction pieces.
- Effectively communicating (writing/speaking), especially arguing an idea or opinion supported by evidence.
- Applying reading skills to acquire knowledge of the world through non-fiction text.

Mathematics:

- Students are to learn more, but about fewer topics.
- Students will be instructed in highly rigorous topics.
- Students will be given instruction, practice and time to more deeply understand these topics.
- Knowledge and skills are strengthened within each grade and from grade to grade.
- Students will show their work, explain their thinking and defend their answers.

District Workshop Model

Manchester Public Schools is embracing the workshop model in the classroom, starting in the 2014-2015 school year, in grades K-8. Workshop is an approach to teaching major skills (math, writing, reading) in which teachers model concepts and skills, provide structured small group lessons, and allow for independent practice.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN...

English Language Arts

In grade one, your child will build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Your child 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, children will work on putting together clear sentences on a range of topics using a growing vocabulary. Activities in these areas will include:

Parts to a Story: What is the lesson or moral of the story? Asking and answering questions about characters, settings, major events and the order they happened. Identifying the feelings and experiences of different characters

Different Types of Books: Explaining differences between books that tell stories (fiction) and texts that provide information/facts (non-fiction)

Basic Rules of Spoken and Written English: sentence types (question, statement), punctuation, syllables, rhyming, and parts of speech (nouns, verbs)

Writing: Writing complete sentences; writing to describe an event, provide information on a topic, or share an opinion – showing some sense of beginning and ending; working with others to gather facts and information on a topic

Mathematics

In grade one, your child will learn to add and subtract within 20. Your child will continue to work with whole numbers and place value. Children will also use charts, tables, and diagrams to solve problems. Activities in these areas will include:

Counting: Extending counting to 120

Addition and Subtraction: Adding and subtracting within 10 (mentally) & 20 (on paper); adding and subtracting within 20; understanding the rules of addition and subtraction (for example, $5+2=2+5$); adding one and two digit numbers together

Word Problems: Representing and solving problems using addition and subtraction

Place Value: Understanding what the different digits mean in two-digit numbers; grouping numbers into tens and ones; using place value understanding to add and subtract

Comparison: Organizing objects into categories and comparing the number of objects in different categories; comparing two numbers (greater than, $>$ or less than $<$ or equal $=$); understanding what the equal sign ($=$) means, and determining if statements involving addition and subtraction are true or false (for example, which of the following statements are true? $3+3=6$ or $4+1=5+2$)

Measurement: Measuring lengths with non-standard units, for example using toothpicks or paper clips to measure an object