

# PARENT GUIDE TO

# SIXTH GRADE

## Third Nine Weeks

### Honors/STEAM

## READING LANGUAGE ARTS

This grading period, students read informational and paired texts to explore changing perspectives and understand how writers help readers see a topic in new ways.

Students will:

- Figure out the author's main point and the reasons that support it.
- Decide whether the evidence in a text is strong or weak.
- Notice how an author's words and tone help communicate a message.
- Compare two texts to see how different writers explain similar topics.
- Write short responses that clearly state a claim, use text evidence, and include more complex sentences.

## MATH

### Family and Caregiver Guide

In MODULE 4, Determining Unknown Quantities, students will learn math tools to solve real-life problems, including:

- how to use letters to stand for numbers (variables),
- solve basic math puzzles (equations),
- understand mathematical relationships using tables and graphs,
- how to use a bank account,
- how credit works, and
- how important school and job choices are for their future income.

## SCIENCE

- Look at how different forces like gravity, friction, magnets, and pushes or pulls affect objects around you.
- Use simple drawings or objects to figure out if forces on something are balanced (no movement) or unbalanced (movement happens).
- Talk about pairs of forces that happen together and are equal but opposite, like when you push on a wall and it pushes back (Newton's Third Law).
- Compare different types of energy stored in objects (like stretched rubber bands or food) with energy of motion (kinetic energy).
- Explore how energy changes form or moves from one place to another in things like circuits, food chains, playground rides, or plants making food.
- Discuss how energy travels in waves, like light and sound, using simple examples of waves moving up and down or back and forth.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

We are Learning:

- How the history of Europe shaped the modern world.
- How European governments are set up.
- What kinds of jobs and businesses make up Europe's economy.
- How Europe's location, land, and resources affect how people live.
- What caused the Holocaust, who it affected, & why we remember it.
- The history of Russia .
- How Russian and Eurasian governments have changed over time.
- What kind of economy Russia has today.
- How the land, climate, & natural resources shape life in Russia & nearby nations.

News and Resources All Year Long



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### QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



- How is my child adjusting to the independence required in middle school?
- Which subject(s) does my child seem most engaged with, and where do they need more support?
- How is my child managing multiple classes and assignments across subjects?
- What kind of learner is my child becoming – visual, hands-on, analytical?
- How does my child participate in class – do they ask questions, collaborate, or need encouragement?

### HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

#### Talk About What They're Learning

Ask questions that get them thinking deeply: "Why do you think that happened?" or "What evidence supports that?"

#### Encourage Healthy Social Skills

Friendships become more complex in 6th grade. Help your child practice empathy, kindness, and positive conflict resolution.

#### Model Stress-Management

Teach simple coping strategies like taking breaks, deep breathing, or writing down worries. Junior High can feel overwhelming—showing calm helps them stay grounded.

### DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



The below tools are accessible through DISD's [ClassLink Portal](#). Click the ClassLink Icon to the left and login with Student ID and Password.



### BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

#### Character Strong:

- Perseverance (January)
- Honesty (February)
- Cooperation (March)

#### Ways to Exhibit These Traits at Home:

- A child can show perseverance at home by finishing a difficult chore or homework task even when it takes extra time or effort.
- A child can show honesty at home by admitting to mistakes right away and telling the truth in all situations.
- A child can show cooperation at home by helping family members with shared tasks like cleaning, cooking, or organizing without being reminded.

News and Resources All Year Long



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