

# PARENT GUIDE TO

# SIXTH GRADE

## First Nine Weeks

### READING LANGUAGE ARTS

In our first reading and writing units, students are reviewing key reading skills and learning how to respond clearly in writing. We're focusing on fiction, poetry, and informational texts, and students are learning to support their answers with text evidence.

- Ask your student to tell you the main idea of what they read.
- Talk about how one event caused another.
- Ask how a character's actions changed the story.
- Discuss what lesson or message the author wants the reader to learn.
- Encourage your student to **use evidence** from the text when they explain their answers.
- Let them write about topics that matter to them.

### MATH

#### MODULE 1 Composing and Decomposing

In this module, your student will learn more about numbers and shapes and their relationships.

There are three topics in this module:

- *Factors and Multiples*
- *Shapes and Solids*
- *Decimals.*

Your student will use what they already know about area, number properties, and volume in this module.

#### MODULE 2 Relating Quantities

In this module, your student will learn more about ratio and proportional relationships. There are three topics in this module: *Ratios*, *Percents*, and *Unit Rates and Conversions*. Your student will use what they already know about equivalent fractions in this module. (Continues in Second Nine Weeks)

### SCIENCE

- Help your student compare solids, liquids, and gases by how they hold their shape, take up space, and how their tiny particles move.
- Explore and talk about different elements (basic building blocks of everything) and how some are metals, nonmetals, or special types used in everyday life.
- Compare how heavy or dense things are compared to different liquids.
- Look at different materials to see if they are pure, mixed evenly (like sugar in water), or mixed unevenly (like salad).
- Watch for signs that a new substance is made when things change, such as bubbles forming, temperature changing, something new forming, or color changing.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

During this grading period, students will get an introduction to physical and human geography, culture, government, and economics. Students will:

- Learn how land, water, climate, and resources affect where people live and work.
- Study cultures around the world.
- Learn about art, music, literature, and beliefs, and how they connect to different cultures.
- Compare different types of governments.
- Explore economies around the world.
- Learn about jobs and industries like farming, manufacturing, and services, and looking at indicators like life expectancy and income.

News and Resources All Year Long



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### QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



- How is my student adjusting to the transition into junior high school—academically and emotionally?
- What study habits or organizational skills are most important for success in your class?
- Is my student taking initiative and advocating for themselves when they have questions or need help?
- How is my student doing in core subjects like math, science, reading, and writing?
- Are there any patterns of missing assignments or incomplete work I should know about?
- What are your classroom expectations for behavior, and how does my student meet them?
- How can I support my student's learning at home without doing the work for them?

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

- Set up a quiet space and regular time for homework and studying each day.
- Encourage your student to use a planner or checklist to track assignments and due dates.
- Talk about how to handle challenges by asking for help and advocating for themselves.
- Check in regularly—not to do the work for them, but to ask what they're learning and how it's going.

### DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



ClassLink

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



Khan Academy  
(Free Resource)



### BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

#### Character Strong:

- Kindness Kickoff (August)
- Respect (September)
- Responsibility (October)

**Make a Kindness List:** Sit down together and brainstorm a list of small acts of kindness that your child could do during the week. Examples include:

- Complimenting someone's effort or appearance.
- Helping a family member with a chore.
- Writing a positive note to a friend.
- Holding the door open for someone.
- Sharing something with a sibling or classmate.

News and Resources All Year Long



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