

# PARENT GUIDE TO

# EIGHTH GRADE

## Second Nine Weeks

### READING LANGUAGE ARTS

Focus on informational texts, poetry, drama, and essay writing.

- Read and discuss news or magazine articles to see how ideas are organized.
- Talk about the main idea or lesson in short stories, shows, or movies.
- Notice strong or unusual word choices in music, ads, or social posts and discuss their effect.
- Encourage the student to read any writing aloud to be sure every sentence is clear and complete.
- Ask about upcoming writing projects and celebrate progress, not just grades.

### MATH

MODULE 2 [Developing Function Foundations](#), continued

- Your child will build a deeper understanding of proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
- They will focus on two topics: connecting proportions to linear relationships, and exploring linear relationships in more detail.
- They will use what they already know about ratios and proportions to help with these new skills.

MODULE 3 [Data Data Everywhere](#)

- Your child will build a deeper understanding of analyzing data.
- They will focus on two topics: finding patterns in data with two variables and learning about variability and sampling.
- They will use what they already know about statistics to help with these new skills.

[Grade 8 Bluebonnet Learning, Family Guide](#)

### SCIENCE

- Learn how the Sun's energy, water on Earth, and the air all work together to create weather and climate.
- Discover the life cycle of stars and how scientists use charts to group and compare different types of stars.
- Explore the main features of waves, like how tall they are (amplitude), how often they happen (frequency), and how long they are (wavelength), including light waves.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Students are studying the Constitution and the challenges and successes of the Early Republic. Students will learn:

- Compromises at the Constitutional Convention.
- Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.
- Key ideas in the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
- What Federalists and Anti-Federalists debated.
- How early presidents shaped our government.
- Domestic issues of the new republic.
- Foreign issues of the new republic.
- Causes and Effects of the War of 1812.
- Early Supreme Court cases.

News and Resources All Year Long



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### HOW CAN I HELP MY Exceptional Learner

#### Help Them Stay Organized

- Set up a quiet space with the tools they need — pens, notebooks, folders, and a planner.
- Check in weekly (not daily!) to review assignments or upcoming projects.
- Teach them how to use a calendar or checklist to manage due dates and priorities.

#### Support Their Social-Emotional Growth

- Junior High brings big emotions. Be a safe place to talk about frustrations or friendships.
- Teach problem-solving and coping skills — deep breathing, writing things down, or taking a break.
- Remind them that effort, not perfection, is the goal.

### LOOKING AHEAD COLLEGE & CAREER

#### Build Real-World Skills Now

- Encourage responsibility: chores, managing time, turning in homework on time.
- Support soft skills like communication, teamwork, and perseverance.
- Help them see the connection between what they're learning and the real world.

#### Explore Careers Without the Pressure

- Watch videos, visit local workplaces, or invite friends/family to share what they do for a living.
- Show your child that there are many paths to success — college, trade schools, certifications, military service, entrepreneurship, etc.

### 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.



(Free Resource)



### BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

#### Character Strong:

- Responsibility (October)
- Gratitude (November)
- Empathy (December)

By 8th grade, teens are ready to handle more grown-up tasks. Give them **real responsibilities** that affect the household, not just personal chores.

For example:

- Managing their own school deadlines with limited reminders.
- Preparing one family meal a week.
- Budgeting their allowance or money for a specific purpose (e.g., saving for something they want.)

News and Resources All Year Long



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