

# Parent's Backpack Guide to the Common Core State Standards

Adapted from Engage New York

What's Changing?	What to Look for in the Backpack:	What Can You Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your Child will <b>read more non-fiction</b> in each grade level.</li> <li>Reading more non-fiction texts will help your child <b>learn about the world through reading</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for your child to have more reading assignments based on real-life events, such as biographies, articles and historical stories.</li> <li>Look for your child to bring home more fact-based books about the world. Fifty percent of the selections in the K-6 core reading program are non-fiction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read non-fiction books with your child. Find ways to make reading fun and exciting.</li> <li>Ask your librarian what non-fiction books are grade-level appropriate and make sure your children have access to such books.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>read challenging texts very closely</b> so they can make sense of what they read and draw their own conclusions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will have reading and writing assignments that might ask them to retell or write about key parts of a story or book.</li> <li>Students will be asked to reread in order to understand more deeply what the author is saying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide more challenging texts for your child to read. Show them how to figure out the author's meaning by rereading difficult parts of texts and talking with you about them.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When it comes to writing or retelling a story, your child will <b>use "evidence" gathered from the text to support what they say</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for writing assignments that ask your child to draw on concrete examples from the text that serve as evidence. Evidence means examples from the book that your child will use to support an answer, response or conclusion. This is different from the opinion questions ("What do you think?") that have been used in the past.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask your child to provide evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>learn how to write from what they read</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for writing assignments that ask your child to make arguments in writing using evidence to support their opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage writing at home. Write together using evidence and details.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>have an increased academic vocabulary</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for assignments that stretch your child's vocabulary and teach the wealth of words available to express our thoughts and ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read often to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and children.</li> <li>Use 'academic' words in daily conversations with your child.</li> </ul>



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*"Every Student Succeeds"*

# Common Core Standards

## Parent Brochure

# Sixth Grade

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Sixth grade students provide a summary of reading without personal opinions or judgments. They write a variety of pieces, including research projects, and use technology to publish the work. When presenting, students place descriptions, facts, and details in a logical order.

### Reading

- Determine main idea and supporting details
- Provide a summary without personal opinions or judgments
- Determine how the structure of a text contributes to the main idea
- Explain how the point of view of the narrator or speaker is developed
- Distinguish among fact, opinion, reasoned judgment, and speculation in a text
- Read and understand grade-level literary and nonfiction texts

### Writing

- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Write informative texts that examine a topic and convey ideas
- Write narratives that include relevant descriptive details and well-structured event sequences
- Conduct short research projects and refocus the inquiry as needed
- Use technology to produce and publish writing; type three pages in a single sitting

### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in discussions, both one-on-one and with a group
- Find claims supported by reasons and evidence in a speaker's argument
- Plan and deliver an informative presentation
- Place descriptions, facts, and details in a logical order when presenting

### Language

- Use correct grammar and language
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Use a variety of methods to determine the meaning of unknown words
- Distinguish among words with similar meanings
  - Stingy, economical, thrifty

## MATHEMATICS

Sixth grade students use their knowledge of multiplication and division to solve ratio and rate problems. They finalize their understanding of division of fractions and begin the study of negative integers. They understand the use of variables in mathematical expressions, write expressions and equations that correspond to situations, and use expressions and equations to solve problems. Students begin the study of probability and statistics and use their geometrical foundations to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems
- Understand unit rate
- Divide fractions by fractions
- Fluently compute with multi-digit numbers and multi-digit decimals
- Find common factors and multiples of numbers
- Find the greatest common factor and least common multiple of two whole numbers
- Use understanding of positive numbers to understand rational numbers
- Understand positive and negative integers and be able to locate on a four-quadrant coordinate plane
- Order rational numbers
- Understand absolute value
- Add and subtract integers
- Apply properties of operations to add and subtract rational numbers
- Use understanding of arithmetic to solve one variable equations and inequalities
- Write expressions and equations to describe real world situations using variables
- Write and solve equations with whole number exponents
- Write an inequality to describe a real world or mathematical problem
- Represent and explain relationships between dependent and independent variables
- Solve real world problems involving area, surface area, and volume
- Draw (freehand, with ruler and protractor and with technology) geometric shapes when given specific conditions
- Ask a statistical question (How old are the students in my school?), collect and organize the data on a line plot, graph, histogram, dot plot, box plot, etc.
- Describe and summarize data by noticing the center, spread, and overall shape
- Display numerical data on a number line including dot plots, histograms, and box plots