Washoe County School District
Supplemental Family Guides to Learning
At Home

First Grade

Activities to support your child with the standards
**English Language Arts**

- Read with your child every day so he/she can hear fluent reading. When reading stories, stop and ask your child questions.
- Encourage your child to choose books to read aloud.
- Answer questions about stories your child is reading.
- Use parts of the story to explain thinking.
- Have your child read both orally and silently.
- Tell and write about events in your child’s life. Encourage your child to write about what happened first, next, and last.
- Use letter sounds to figure out how to spell words.
- Keep a personal journal or diary to tell your child’s own stories.
- Help your child find information on the Internet related to what they are learning in school.
- Encourage your child to create digital content, and share it with friends and family through tools like a family blog, and ask relatives to post comments.
- If you use social networking sites, consider creating collaborative posts with your child to help them understand appropriate online language and behaviors.

**Mathematics**

- Use objects (such as cheerios, Legos, pennies, etc…), and drawings, to count and solve problems.
- Solve real-life problems. For example, there are 12 apples in a basket. Some apples are green, and some apples are red. How many of each color apple could there be? Ask your child how they solved this problem using drawings or objects. Have your child show you another example or combination of green and red apples.
- Have your child measure items using objects. For example, measure the length of a table using spoons laying the spoons end to end. Then, measure the length of a book with spoons. Compare the lengths of the table and the book and discuss why the measurements are different.
• Tell and write time to the hour and half-hour using both digital and analog clocks (analog means clocks with hands). Consider having analog clocks and or watches around your child.
• Create and work with graphs with up to three categories (e.g. dog, cat, and bird); ask and answer questions about the data (e.g., How many animals does the graph show? How many more/less cats than dogs?).
• Encourage your child to use digital tools and apps that support development of mathematical concepts and skills.

**Social Studies**

• Discuss events that are happening at the school.
• Identify occupations in the community that help people and perform important duties.
• Use maps of the community or places you travel, including online maps and smartphone applications.
• Discuss how money is used.
• Practice trading items.
• Name the President of the United States and the Governor of Nevada.
• Practice decision-making at home.

**Science**

• Encourage your child to observe, ask questions, experiment, and seek their own understandings of natural and human-made phenomena around them.
• Hum softly and loudly, put your hand on your throat and feel the vibration. What other sounds can you make? (whistling, clapping and snapping fingers)
• Talk about animals, what structure they have and how it helps them function. (i.e., a giraffe’s long neck is necessary for eating). Explore online science resources, such as “digital field trips” to a zoo.
• Draw phases of the moon over a 2-4 week period.
• Watch stars in the sky at night, visit websites to view current happenings in space, and use smartphone apps for stargazing.