Family Learning Guide: Pre-K Literacy

Marking Period 2 = 11/2/20-1/29/21
Dear Families,

Thank you for reading this Family Learning Guide. We are excited to work with you as partners during these challenging times to ensure that all our students receive an excellent education.

As reflected in our district’s strategic plan – The District Model of Excellence or DME – we are working hard every day to provide all our students with the resources that they need to thrive.

We have developed this resource to support student learning – especially at-home learning – and we are excited to work with you and develop more tools and resources to support your children in their learning.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns and suggestions on how to make this guide more useful in the future.

Your partners at Hartford Public Schools

Vanessa Diaz-Valencia
SHACV001@hartfordschools.org
We are committed to excellence and equity for all our students. This means that we cannot and will not allow the pandemic to interrupt high quality instruction for our students.

The District Model of Excellence is our roadmap for providing every child in Hartford with access to a high-quality public school.

We are committed to **excellence** and **equity** for all our students. This means that we cannot and will not allow the pandemic to interrupt high quality instruction for our students.
This is a resource developed by the team at Hartford Public Schools to provide you – our families – with an advance look at what your children will be learning in the coming weeks. Learning requires partnership between families and schools. During the pandemic, this is even more true and we want to be your partner in this challenging time.

WHAT IS A FAMILY LEARNING GUIDE?

Introducing the Family Learning Guide

This is a resource developed by the team at Hartford Public Schools to provide you – our families – with an advance look at what your children will be learning in the coming weeks.

WHAT IS A FAMILY LEARNING GUIDE?

- Review the sample learning objectives so that you can reinforce them at home;
- Review the resources to support at-home learning so that you can make sure your children have the right supplies;
- Reach out to your school or the team at the Harford Public schools if you have any questions!

HOW SHOULD YOU USE IT?
What are the marking period dates for this Family Learning Guide?

11/2/2020 through 1/29/2021

What are the specific units covered in this Family Learning Guide?

1. Pre-K Literacy Unit 3 - Our Community
2. Pre-K Literacy Unit 4 - Animals
## Unit Topics:
- **Unit 3**: Our Community
- **Unit 4**: Animals

### WHAT ARE SOME OF OUR LEARNING GOALS FOR YOUR CHILD?

1. Your child can retell a favorite part of a story.
2. Your child can name characters, including their favorite character, in a story.
3. Your child can retell what happened at the end of a story.
4. Your child can draw or "write" to share or express their ideas.
5. Your child can label items in a drawing using scribbles and letter-like forms.
6. Your child can use letters to approximate what they want to express. For example: They may try and form a letter M for mom as part of a picture or story they are telling.
7. Your child can **recognize and name** most of the letters: Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff, Gg, Hh, Ii, Jj, Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq, Rr, Ss, Tt, Uu, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy, Zz
8. Your child can **make some letter-sound connections** for the letters: Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff, Gg, Hh, Ii, Jj, Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq, Rr, Ss, Tt, Uu, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy, Zz
9. Your child can identify words that have the same initial or beginning sound.

### HOW WILL WE TEACH YOUR CHILD?

- Integrated language arts activities across all curricular areas including: Social Emotional Development; Physical Development and Health; Early Language, Communication and Literacy; Creative Arts; Early Mathematical Discovery; Early Scientific Inquiry; Cognition
- Daily lesson and activity planning to meet CT ELDS (CT Early Learning and Development Standards)
- Developmental appropriate activities with limited times/tasks to sustain learning focus/attention
- Storytime with multicultural theme related books
- Text experiences related to theme topics
- Responses to text through speaking, drawing or related task
- Fundations Keyword-Letter Sound Follow-Along Lessons and Activities
- Integrated Mindfulness and Gross Motor Activities

### WHAT RESOURCES WILL BE NEEDED TO SUPPORT AT-HOME LEARNING?

- Access to a device and internet to follow along with the class announcements, activities, journals and teacher feedback on Seesaw App.
- Paper, writing utensils such as pencils or crayons, glue or tape, other household items for projects (often including reusable items), library books.
### Sample Texts

- *Lola at the Library*
- *Too Fire Dogs*
- *ROAR!*
- *Bear Snores On*

### Strategies/Activities to Help Your Child

- **During nightly reading** have your child tell you their favorite part or favorite character. Ask them why they chose that part or character.
- **After you read a story**, ask your child to close their eyes. Go to the end of the story. Ask them to open their eyes and look at the story page. Ask them if it is from the beginning, middle or end of the story. Then show them a picture from the beginning and middle of the story.
- **After you read a story**, retell story to your child using a beginning and middle. Ask them to tell the end.
- **Invite your child to practice “writing.”** Work with your child to draw and label a picture together even if they use shapes instead of letters.
- **Show your child the letters and sounds in names of your family members.** Have your child make family name cards with pictures and/or letters.
- **Say the alphabet with your child from A-Z.** Say the alphabet with your child but leave out some letters and wait for them to say what is next. A, B...C, D, E, F...G!
- **Go on a ‘Letter Hunt’ in your neighborhood/community on a walk or drive.** Have your child say the names of letters they see in signs.
- **Choose words that begin with the same sound**, like mop-mask, and ask them to tell you if they sound the same. Do the same with words that do not sound the same, like cat-rock. See if your child can tell the difference.
- **Name animals with your child and have them listen for the sound they hear at the beginning, for example the ‘ssssssss’ sound is at the beginning of snake.**