

Common Core California

English Language Arts/Literacy: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents		
What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Read as much fiction as non-fiction	Read more non-fiction. Understand how non-fiction is written and put together. Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction.	Provide more non-fiction texts on topics of interest. Read non-fiction books aloud or with your child. Have fun with non-fiction reading in front of your child.
Learn about the world by reading	Learn more about science and social studies through reading. Use "primary source" documents. Get smarter through the use of texts.	Provide texts on topics that interest your child. Find books that explain how things work and why. Discuss non-fiction texts and their ideas.
Read more challenging material	Re-read until they understand. Read books both at and above their comfort level. Handle frustration. Keep pushing and encouraging students to improve.	Know what books are grade-level appropriate. Provide challenging texts as well as books they can read easily. Read challenging books aloud and with your child. Show that challenging books are worth reading.
Talk about reading using evidence	Find evidence to support their arguments. Form judgments and opinions. Discuss what the author is thinking. Make predictions about what will happen next.	Talk about different texts. Demand evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements. Read aloud or read the same book as your child and discuss. Discuss predictions.
Write about text using evidence	Make arguments in writing using evidence. Compare multiple texts in writing. Learn to write well.	Encourage writing at home for real audiences and purposes. Write "books" together using evidence and detail. Review samples of exemplar student writing.
Learn more vocabulary words	Learn the words needed for college and careers. Get smarter at using important "academic language."	Read often and constantly with young children. Read multiple books on the same topic. Talk to your children, read to them, listen to them, sing with them, make up silly rhymes and word games.

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Mathematics: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents		
What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Build skills across grade levels	Keep building on learning year after year. Focus on the most important concepts for learning math well.	Be aware of what your child may have struggles with the previous year and how that will affect the next year's learning. Advocate for your child. Ask what support is available for "gap" skills, such as negative numbers, fractions, etc.
Learn more about less, deeper understanding of fewer concepts	Spend more time on fewer concepts.	Know what the priority work is for your child at his/her grade level.
Use math facts easily	Go more in-depth on each concept.	Spend time with your child on priority work. Ask for progress reports on priority work.
Think fast AND solve problems	Spend time practicing by doing lots of problems on the same idea.	Push and support children to know, understand and memorize math facts. Know the fluencies (i.e. times tables) your child should have. Prioritize learning what your child may find more difficult.
Really know it, really do it	Make the math work and understand why it does. Talk about why the math works. Prove that they know why and how the math works.	Ask questions and review homework to see whether your child understands the why as well as the what of answers.
Use math in the real world	Apply math in real world situations. Know which math skills to use for which situation.	Ask your child to "do the math" that comes up in daily life.