



Connecting Learning at School to Learning at Home

Reading:

- Students should read a minimum of 30 minutes per night.
- Is your student a reluctant reader? Encourage them to try out new genres, and to vary their reading material.
 - Audiobooks, magazines, newspapers (print and online), graphic novels
- Choose a book you can read together! Take turns reading a page or chapter aloud to one another, and stop and discuss the book as you read.
- Enquire about what your student is reading. Ask them questions about the characters, setting, and conflicts.
 - How does a character change over time? What motivates them to change?
 - How does the setting change? Does this affect the character's motivation?

Writing:

- Utilize flashdrafts - have your student focus just on getting their ideas out, rather than correcting it as they go.
- Encourage humor and thinking outside the box - think “unjournaling” rather than only the regular, go-to writing prompts
 - Make up a word, a creature, a new ice cream flavor! The sky’s the limit!
- Once a week, choose one piece of writing to revise and edit.
- Have your student read their writing aloud to ensure it makes sense. They can even record themselves reading, so they can go back and make corrections as they hear the story read.

Math:

- Review, review, review! Encourage your student to practice their math facts - quiz them and play games to help math fact fluency.
- Utilize educational apps on a phone or tablet - [commensensemedia.org](https://www.commensensemedia.org) lists apps by subject matter, and includes links to free programs.
- Tricky concept? Look for videos on [khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org), [nextvista.org](https://www.nextvista.org), and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)!
- Need a challenge? Encourage your student to dig deeper into real-life concepts: review sports statistics, brainstorm how to make the best basketball shot or score a goal, based

on geometry. Research how stocks, bonds, checking accounts and credit cards work, or make a household budget! Help your student estimate the cost of weekly groceries, or the tip at a restaurant! Use real life scenarios to help them understand math concepts.

**** These Reading, Writing and Math tips were shared with us by Angela Naughton, 5th grade teacher, Arroyo Upper Elementary School in San Carlos. ****