



# Grade 1 English Language Arts

## Major Learning Targets for This Grade

### Reading

- Students will use phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words.
- Students will be able to read grade-level text with understanding and fluency.
- Students will learn from, enjoy, and get facts and information from different writings.

### Writing

- Students will use phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words.
- Students will be able to write about a topic, supplying some facts, and providing some sense of opening and closing.
- Students will produce and expand complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations.

### Language

- Students will identify the correct meaning for a word with multiple meanings, based on the sentence or paragraph in which the word is used (e.g., deciding whether the word *bat* means a flying mammal or a club used in baseball).
- Students will learn to think about finer distinctions in the meanings of near-synonyms (e.g., marching, prancing, strutting, strolling, walking).

### Speaking and Listening

- Students will produce and expand complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations.
- Students will take part in conversations about topics and texts being studied by responding to the comments of others and asking questions to clear up any confusion.



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## College, Career, and Life Readiness

Students will be working to develop the following capabilities of a literate individual:

- Demonstrate independence.
- Build strong content knowledge.
- Respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Comprehend as well as critique.
- Value evidence.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

## How Can I Support My Child

### 1. Read with Your Child

- Keep reading to your child. It is important to continue this practice even after they have started reading on their own. Read stories, poems, and other materials in any language.
- Listen to your child read to you and take turns reading together.

### 2. Build on Language in Everyday Life

- Build listening skills and vocabulary by talking through your daily activities. Talk about what you are doing as you cook, drive, shop, or visit new places.

### 3. Allow a Productive Struggle

- Don't interrupt your child's reading to correct mistakes unless the mistake changes the meaning.
- Help your child to sound out new and difficult words.

### 4. Explore Words Together

- Cut out words and letters from magazines to play with or use magnetic letters on the refrigerator.
- As your child begins reading their own, point out new words and practice pronouncing them.
- As your child's reading takes off, point out parts of words that are important to the meaning, such as "un-", "-full", and "-less."

### 5. Talk about Reading

- Discuss the characters and the events in the story. Ask your child about relationships between different characters, how a character might solve a problem, or what happened in the beginning, middle, and end.
- Develop comparison skills. Ask how characters or subjects in one book are similar or different from other books your child has read.
- After reading, ask your child to name anything that they enjoyed or learned.
- Talk about the author's intention. "Did she try to teach us a lesson in this story?" "How did he want to make us feel?"
- Ask your child to name favorites and tell why. Discuss which books are mysteries, adventures, or other genres.
- Discuss key details in informational books. Ask your child to describe the connection between two ideas or pieces of information in a text.
- Talk about information provided by pictures and illustrations as compared to information provided by the words in the text.

### 6. Encourage a Love of Reading

- Look for books on topics your child enjoys.
- Make reading together an opportunity to enjoy time together.
- Allow your child to see you reading for enjoyment on your own.

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For more information, visit [scusd.edu/ela](http://scusd.edu/ela) or contact [Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu](mailto:Denise-Leograndis@scusd.edu), ELA Coordinator

SCUSD's Vision for Instruction and Assessment: *As a community of learners, we strive to create positive and engaging environments where a rigorous, student-centered curriculum is central. Teachers use inquiry-based instruction and formative assessment practices to support ALL learners in maturing socially and in becoming disciplinary thinkers.*