

Essential 3rd grade skills for 1st Trimester

MATH SKILLS

1. Add and subtract up to 4 digit numbers with regrouping.

Help idea~ Write out problems such as: $568 - 329 =$ or $2578 + 1765 =$

2. Make change to \$1, make change with the fewest coins possible.

Help Idea~ You see an item that costs \$4.57. Ask your child how much change they would get if they paid with a five dollar bill. Change should be given using fewest amount of coins.

3. Find 1,000 or 10,000 more and less than a given 5 digit number.

Help idea~ Ask your child: "What is 1,000 more than 4,689?" or "What is 10,000 less than 54,725?"

4. Calculate and measure perimeter of a shape (polygons).

Help Idea~ Draw a shape and give each side a measure in inches or centimeters. Ask your child to find the perimeter (add up all the sides).

5. Basic multiplication facts: 2s, 5s, 4s.

Help idea~ Make or purchase flash cards.

READING SKILLS

1. Reading Fluency

Help idea~ Allow your child to read aloud for at least 1 minute. Your child should sound smooth and the word errors should be few. If the reading is choppy and/or there are many errors your child needs a different book. Practice at the right level often. Ask your child what his/her Star Reading Level is and choose books according to this level. This level may change over the year. I check it 4 times during the year (Sep, Nov, Jan, and Mar.).

2. Ask and answer questions in literature using illustrations.

Help Idea~ Ask your child what they know about the characters, setting, and theme by looking at the pictures before reading the story.

3. Describe character, setting, and theme.

Help idea~ Ask your child who the main character is in a book, TV program, or movie. Ask what the setting of the story is (this is both place and time). Ask what the message of the story is and why.

3. Compare and contrast stories.

Help Idea~ Ask your child to compare (similarities) and contrast (differences) two stories. You could even use things as simple as two kinds of cereal, shirts, pets, etc.

SCIENCE SKILLS

1. Learn the main parts of plants.

Help idea~ Talk about the root, stem, leaves and seeds of plants. Ask your child to point to each part and tell you its purpose for the plant.

2. Identify common groups of plants

Help idea~ Talk about broad leaf and pines. What are some differences and similarities?

3. Earth's Movement: Earth's rotation on its axis gives us day and night. Earth revolves around the sun. The tilt of Earth gives us our seasons, and this takes 1 year.

Help idea~ Read books and discuss. Talk about the trees that change during the year.

4. Moon phases: Understand the moon phases from right to left (or eastward) across the sky. It changes how it looks because we move and the moon moves.

Help idea~ Read books or talk about why the moon looks different during the month.

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