



Helpful Hints for Your Understanding Teacher Vocabulary and Comments on Your Child's Report Card

Below are some frequently used vocabulary words or phrases that you may see written on your child's report card. We hope that this will help to explain in more detail, what your child's teachers are saying when they are asking for you to help support your child at home in certain areas. As always, your child's teacher, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. LaPorte, Ms. Davidson, and Mrs. Giunta are available to assist you if you still have additional questions. Our goal continues to be constant improvement for your child every day.

READING	
Phrase	Definition-What it means...
Fluency	The skill of reading texts accurately and quickly which allows readers to recognize and comprehend words at the same time.
Stretching Out Words	Trying to sound out words by stretching out the sounds in the word.
Comprehension	Understanding, remembering, and communicating with others about what has been read. Comprehension strategies help readers to make sense of a text.
Sight Words	Words that are known to the reader and can be used to learn similar words.
Retell the story/Summarize	Saying back what the story was about in your own words
Make a prediction	Thinking what will happen next
Make a connection	Connecting with the text or character. How does this text fit with another text? Does this remind you of something that happened to you?
Read with Stamina	Reading for a longer period of time, staying focused in a book for a longer period of time.
Challenging Texts	Books that are harder to read
Independent Reading	Reading alone
Avid reader	Someone who loves to read
Decoding	Figuring out how to read words by sounding out, chunking, skipping the word then going back to fill in a word that makes sense.
Inferential Thinking/ Reading Skills	Understanding what is not written in the text. Information needs to be figured out based on the clues or what is happening in the text.
Literacy	Reading, writing, and listening
Reading Rate	The speed at which you read
Reading Intonation	Changing your voice according to the punctuation

WRITING	
Phrase	Definition-What it means...
Expanding Our Ideas	Writing more about the topic/idea by adding details
Conventions/Mechanics	Spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, paragraphing
Using a range of details	Use details that include dialogue, precise actions, and internal thinking
Grammar	Verb tenses, Singular and Plural nouns. Combining words to form sentences
Varied vocabulary words	Writing that includes different- more sophisticated vocabulary words
Focused entries	Writing that stays on one topic
Relevant details	Using details that matter to the story
Sequential Story	Writing a story in time order (First, next, then, finally)
Volume	Writing long entries
Writing with Meaning	Writing entries that show the meaning of the piece. What do you want readers to know from this story?

MATHEMATICS	
Phrase	Definition-What it means...
Sequence	Putting things in order
Skip-Counting	Counting by a number that is not 1
Computation Skills	Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing
Content	What is being learned
Problem Solving Skills	The ability to read and solve math word problems
Explanations	Explaining in words how you solved the math problem

SOCIAL STUDIES/SCIENCE	
Phrase	Definition-What it means...
Compare and Contrast	What is the same and what is different
Express their opinion	How they feel about something or a topic
Cite evidence or specific examples	Give examples from the text that prove what you are trying to say
Improve collaboration with peers	Work more productively with other students on group assignments or experiments