***Learning at Home: A Comprehensive Guide***

Hello! This is a guide to learning at home. I hope you will find it useful.

**Disclaimer**

I want to emphasize that all of this is optional. I care the most about your family’s physical/mental health during this time. If it’s too stressful to do it all, I have no issue with that. However, I would like everyone to at least attempt the packet, as this will help maintain your child’s knowledge to help them move forward to 1st grade. **I am mainly focused on maintaining your child’s knowledge rather than introducing new concepts**, although if you do the packet faithfully new concepts will be introduced. However, these new concepts are ones that will be covered in every grade moving forward - which is why I am mostly focusing on maintaining knowledge.

**Supplies**

Basic supplies went home at the first Packet Pickup. If you need any replacement supplies please let me know, I have quite a bit on hand at the school. I will NEVER send home something that requires supplies I have not provided. It’s my job to help your child have the tools they need to succeed. These supplies cannot be returned to school, as it would be a contamination issue.

**The Packet**

Every two weeks I have provided a learning packet with a schedule for 10 days of missed school. It’s an average of two paper activities per day, one in reading and one in math. There are several terms used in the packet schedule that I would like you to understand:

* **Read Aloud**: Reading any book to your child. Ask them questions as the book progresses about what’s happening, their opinions, and what they predict will happen next. When finished, ask them about the characters and the setting. If they can do this, ask them to retell you the story - what happened first, next, last.
* **Sight Word Practice**: The same sight word practice we have been doing since December. Ideas for games you can play with these can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a9XGhOmaa-fzBHeUbWeOXbBXx_qIrzMwrf_tc-R_uN8/edit?usp=sharing).

Need new sight words? Contact me and I’ll make sure they’re in your next packet.

* **Nonsense Word Practice**: There is a list of nonsense words included. Ideas for games you can play with these can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DbXci6k1gfQqMPixyCs_a6WLF3WbKWTS6f-66LhYmGM/edit?usp=sharing) .
* **Whiteboard**: Whenever I refer to a whiteboard, it will be referencing the white piece of paper in a sheet protector that I sent home. You might have a whiteboard at home already - if so, that’s great! I also included the sheet protector “whiteboard” for those who don’t have access to one.
* **Fluency Strips:** These are sentences included in the packet. They use sight words and are great for practicing basic reading when used often!
* **CVC Blending cards** - These are the bright pink and orange cards on the ring. You can do several things with these. 1 - Without your child looking at the card, say the word. Tell them to say all the sounds (cat becomes c-a-t). 2 - Have your child touch the dots and say the sounds out loud. Then blend the sounds together (c-a-t becomes cat). 3 - If they are doing well at the previous activities, tell them to say the sounds in their head and just say the word out loud.
* **Addition Practice** - These are the addition cards on a ring. You can also do several things with these. I know a lot will struggle with this to begin with - it’s okay to take most off and only leave a few on so you’re only working on a few at a time. 1 - Have your child write it on their whiteboard and solve it. 2 - Have your child memorize answers just like flashcards. 3 - Make sure your child doesn’t see the card, then tell it to your child like a story problem, then have them write it on their whiteboard and solve it. (example: 1+4 is the card, I would say “I have 1 marble, then Mrs. Marcia gave me 4 more marbles. How many marbles do I have?)
* **Journal**: This references the blank notebook I sent home. There will be suggestions on how to use this included on the packet schedule.
* **Watch**: If you have internet access, find the video on YouTube and watch it together. Search the title of the video and you should find it.
* **Extra**: These are worksheets in the back of the packet that are extra, in case your child finishes quickly and wants more to do. Library, PE, Music, and our Counselor are now including materials in this packet. I consider these to be extra, please attempt to do the packet first.

Do you have to return this packet? The short answer - no. The long answer?

I would strongly encourage you to return whatever work your child completed during the two weeks. I love to see how they are doing and what they are struggling on so I can make their future work packets more specific to their needs. I also love to see how involved you are in your child’s learning. However, I realize this is a trying time for everyone, and that some weeks are better than others. Your child will not be penalized for not turning a packet in.

**SeeSaw/Zoom**

Your child has received a QR code to sign in to SeeSaw at home, once the SeeSaw student app has been downloaded on a phone or tablet. They can send me pictures, videos, and drawings they make at home, as many as they like. I may also assign a few lessons on this platform - which are completely optional to do, but are pretty fun. This is a great way for me to keep connected with what’s going on at home, and for your child to feel I’m still involved in their education in some small way.

Another way of keeping our classroom community going is weekly Zoom session.These Zoom sessions won’t focus on academics, but rather our classroom community and social learning. These will take place on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I hope you can make it!

**Contact**

Thank you so much for your support and understanding during this trying time. I will be calling everyone once a week (Thursdays/Fridays) to check in and make sure we’re all staying in contact. If you want to contact me before then for any reason, I am reachable by

* SeeSaw
* Email: smurphy@lonerockschool.org
* Call or text: (406) 318-7282

Thanks again,

Ms. Murphy

Kindergarten Teacher

Lone Rock School