



## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

### Dear Parents,

Your child will be participating in the following English Language Arts units of study this quarter:



### Alphabet Books and the Children Who Read Them

### The Amazing Animal World



### Reading Literature and Informational Text

When reading, students will ask *who, what, when, where, why, and how* questions about important details. They will use the illustrations and details to describe ideas that are important, and to identify the main topic in literary and informational text. They will identify words and phrases that suggest feelings, and will explain differences between books that tell stories and books that give information.

### Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will recognize the first and last letter in a word and first and last word on a page. They will be able to match words with the same vowel sounds and practice blending individual sounds to create one syllable words (e.g., /c/ -/a/-/t/ = cat). Students will read grade level texts with purpose and understanding, reading high-frequency and self-correcting errors and/or re-reading when necessary.

### Writing

With guidance and support from adults, students will write pieces that explain a topic making sure to include facts and a sense of closure. Students will complete research and writing projects. They will use suggestions and questions from peers to improve their writing.

### Listening and Speaking

When discussing a topic or listening to a presentation, students will follow agreed-upon rules for discussion. They will speak in complete sentences as they describe familiar people, places, things, and events and ask questions to clear up any confusion about the topic being discussed.

### Language (Conventions of Standard English and Vocabulary)

Students will write and expand declarative (.) and interrogative (?) sentences using correct end punctuation. They will be expected to use common and proper nouns, spell known words and words with common spelling patterns, and spell unknown words by sound. They will sort words into categories such as colors or clothing and begin to use illustrations to help them determine the meaning of unknown words.

### Handwriting & Keyboarding

Students will practice forming upper and lowercase letters correctly and writing legibly on lined paper. When using the keyboard, they will practice using their left hand to depress keys on the left side of the keyboard and their right hand for keys on the right side. They will learn to use the mouse to make an insertion point in a document.