

What are the Common Core Learning Standards and what do they mean for you and your child?



Information for RHSCD parents – November 2013

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Please take 3 minutes.....

to click on this link and view a short video that clearly explains what the common core standards are all about.

<http://vimeo.com/51933492>



New York is not alone.

We are one of 45 States that have adopted the Common Core Learning Standards.



*“These Standards are not intended to be new names for old ways of doing business. **They are a call to take the next step...** It is time to recognize that standards are not just promises to our children, but **promises we intend to keep.**”*



The new standards will...

- Prepare students to succeed in college and the workforce
- Ensure that every child—regardless of race, ethnicity or zip code—is held to the same high standards and learns the same material
- Provide educators with a clear, focused roadmap for what to teach and when

The Common Core Standards are....

- a set of common expectations for all students
- standards for every grade level
- a single set of clear standards for math and ELA
- a tool to help students and parents to set clear/realistic goals for success
- a first step in providing a high quality education that prepares students for success in college and careers

5 Facts: Making Common Sense of the Common Core



Click on the link below to learn more about CCLS.

<http://www.nea.org/home/56587.htm>

“The Common Core State Standards ask teachers to make 12 major “shifts” or changes in their classrooms - six shifts in ELA and six shifts in mathematics.”

A Closer Look: ELA/Literacy Shifts

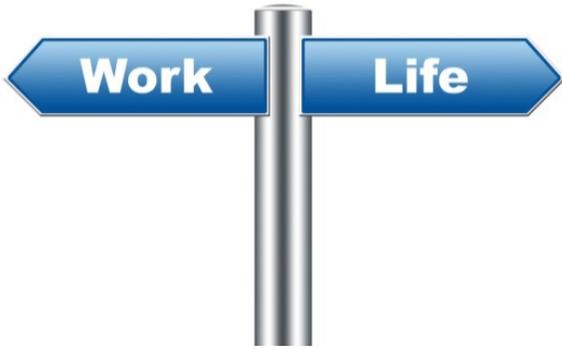
- Read as much non-fiction as fiction
- Learn about the world by reading
- Read more challenging material closely
- Discuss reading using evidence
- Write non-fiction using evidence
- Increase academic vocabulary



A Closer Look: Mathematics Shifts



- Focus: learn more about less
- Build skills across grades
- Develop speed and accuracy
- Really know it, Really do it
- Use it in the real world
- Think fast AND solve problems



What is college and career readiness?

This document from Achieve the Core, will give you more details on college and career readiness.

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59699&adminActivate=1>

College Readiness



- College readiness means that graduates have the skills they need to do well in college.
- “College” doesn’t just mean a four-year degree. It can mean any program that leads to a degree or certificate.
- Being “ready” means that students graduate from high schools with key skills in English and mathematics.



Career Readiness

- “Career” readiness means that high school graduates are qualified for and are able to do well in long-term careers.
- “Career” doesn’t just mean a job. It means a profession that lets graduates succeed at a job they enjoy and earn a competitive wage.

What to Expect



The Common Core Learning Standards require classrooms to include...

- Students interacting with each other around fiction and non-fiction text
- Students building knowledge through content rich text
- Students applying content to real-life scenarios
- Students writing opinions, narrative, and informational text on a regular basis



Backpacks: What you should see

- Real-world examples that engage our learners
- Math homework that asks students to write out *how* they got their answer
- Math homework that ask students to use different methods to solve the same problem
- Writing assignments that require students to use *evidence* from text
- Books that are both fiction *and* non-fiction

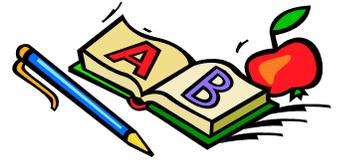
This video is for parents and families and gives more information about the Common Core Assessments

<http://www.engageny.org/resource/video-for-parents-and-families-about-the-common-core-assessments>



Kindergarten

Skills and Strategies



ELA

- Naming upper-and lower-case letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them
- Comparing the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, such as fairy tales and folktales
- Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them using details from the text
- Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened
- Stating an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing (e.g., My favorite book is . . .”)
- Taking part in classroom conversations and following rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)
- Speaking clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things, and events
- Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud
- Understanding and using question words (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how) in discussions
- Learning to recognize, spell, and properly use those little grammatical words that hold the language together (e.g., a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are)

More resources for Kindergarten ELA can be found by clicking below:

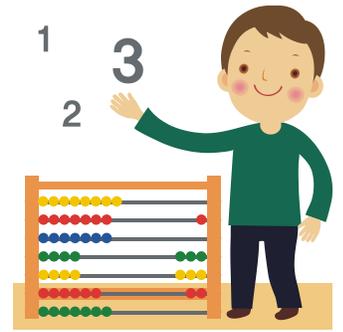
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>



Kindergarten

Skills and Strategies

Math



- Counting objects to tell how many there are
- Comparing two groups of objects to tell which group, if either, has more; comparing two written numbers to tell which is greater
- Acting out addition and subtraction word problems and drawing diagrams to represent them
- Adding with a sum of 10 or less; subtracting from a number 10 or less; and solving addition and subtraction word problems
- Adding and subtracting very small numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $3 + 1$)
- Correctly naming shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a “diamond” is still a square)

More resources for Kindergarten Math

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Grade 1 Skills and Strategies ELA



Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in 1st Grade ELA.

- Using phonics (matching letters and sounds) and word analysis skills to figure out unfamiliar words when reading and writing
- Describing characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
- Getting facts and information from different writings
- Writing about a topic, supplying some facts, and providing some sense of opening and closing
- Participating in shared research and writing projects (e.g., exploring a number of “how-to” books and using them to write a sequence of instructions)
- Taking part in conversations about topics and texts being studied by responding to the comments of others and asking questions to clear up any confusion
- Describing people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly and with complete sentences
- Producing and expanding complete simple and compound statements, questions, commands, and exclamations
- Identifying the correct meaning for a word with multiple meanings, based on the sentence or paragraph in which the is used (e.g., deciding whether the word *bat* means a flying mammal or a club used in baseball)
- Learning to think about finer distinctions in the meanings of near-synonyms (e.g., *marching, prancing, strutting, strolling, walking*)

More resources for Grade 1 ELA

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Grade 1

Skills and Strategies

Math

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in 1st Grade math.

- Solving addition and subtraction word problems in situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing (e.g., a taking from situation would be: “Five apples were on the table. I ate some apples. Then there were three apples. How many apples did I eat?”)
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 10 or less, and quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 10 or less (e.g., $2 + 5$, $7 - 5$)
- Understanding what the digits mean in two-digit numbers (*place value*)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract (e.g., $38 + 5$, $29 + 20$, $64 + 27$, $80 - 50$)
- Measuring lengths of objects by using a shorter object as a unit of length
- Making composite shapes by joining shapes together, and dividing circles and rectangles into halves or fourths

More resources for Grade 1 Math

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>



Grade 2

Skills and Strategies

ELA

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in Grade 2 ELA.

- Paying close attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in stories and books to answer *who, what, where, when, why, and how* questions
- Determining the lesson or moral of stories, fables, and folktales
- Using text features (e.g., captions, bold print, indexes) to locate key facts or information efficiently
- Writing an opinion about a book he or she has read, using important details from the materials to support that opinion
- Writing stories that include a short sequence of events and include a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Participating in shared research projects (e.g., read books on a single topic to produce a report)
- Taking part in conversations by linking his or her comments to the remarks of others and asking and answering questions to gather additional information or deepen understanding of the topic
- Retelling key information or ideas from media or books read aloud
- Producing, expanding, and rearranging sentences (e.g., “The boy watched the movie”; “The little boy watched the movie”; “The action movie was watched by the little boy”)
- Determining the meaning of the new word formed when a known prefix or suffix is added to a known word (happy/unhappy; pain/painful/painless)

More resources for Grade 1 ELA

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>



Grade 2

Skills and Strategies

Math

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in 2nd Grade math.

- Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a “one-step” problem would be: “Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?”)
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., $11 + 8$); quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 20 or less (e.g., $16 - 9$); and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year
- Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (*place value*)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract three-digit numbers (e.g., $811 - 367$); adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $77 - 28$)
- Measuring and estimating length in standard units
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length (e.g., “The pen is 2 cm longer than the pencil. If the pencil is 7 cm long, how long is the pen?”)
- Building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades

More resources for Grade 2 Math

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>



Grade 3 Skills and Strategies ELA

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in 3rd Grade ELA

- Reading closely to find main ideas and supporting details in a story
- Describing the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in stories (e.g., first, second, third; cause and effect)
- Comparing the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic
- Writing opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details
- Writing stories that establish a situation and include details and clear sequences of events that describe the actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters
- Independently conducting short research projects that build knowledge about various topics
- Asking and answering questions about information he or she hears from a speaker or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that build on what others have said
- Reading stories and poems aloud fluently, without pausing to figure out what each word means
- Distinguishing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as *something's fishy* and *cold shoulder*
- Spelling correctly and consulting dictionaries to clarify meanings of words

Click on the link below to view Grade 3 ELA sample test questions
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59698&adminActivate=1>



Grade 3

Skills and Strategies

Math

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in Grade 3 math.

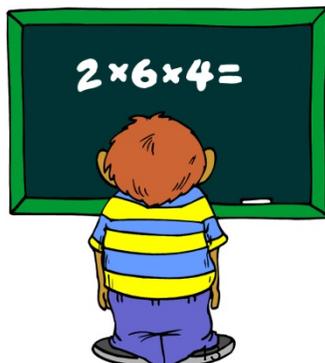
- Multiplying and dividing up to 10×10 quickly and accurately, including knowing the times tables from memory
- Solving word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9×80)
- Understanding fractions and relating them to the familiar system of whole numbers (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{3}{1}$ and 3 are the same number)
- Measuring and estimating weights and liquid volumes, and solving word problems involving these quantities
- Reasoning about shapes (e.g., all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares)
- Finding areas of shapes, and relating area to multiplication (e.g., why is the number of square feet for a 9-foot by 7-foot room given by the product 9×7 ?)

More resources for Grade 3 math

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Click on the link to read and view 3rd grade math sample test questions

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59698&adminActivate=1>



Grade 4

Skills and Strategies

ELA

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in Grade 4 ELA.

- Describing the basic elements of stories such as characters, events, and settings by drawing on specific details in the text
- Paying close attention to key features of informational books and articles: these include understanding the main and supporting ideas; being able to compare and contrast information; and explaining how the author uses facts, details, and evidence to support particular points
- Comparing ideas, characters, events, and settings in stories and myths from different cultures
- Writing summaries or opinions about topics supported with a set of well-organized facts, details, and examples
- Independently conducting short research projects on different aspects of a topic using evidence from books and the Internet
- Paraphrasing and responding to information presented in discussions, such as comparing and contrasting ideas and analyzing evidence that speakers use to support particular points
- Reporting orally on a topic or telling a story with enough facts and details
- Writing complete sentences with correct capitalization and spelling
- Relating words that are common in reading to words with similar meanings (*synonyms*) and to their opposites (*antonyms*)

More resources for Grade 4 ELA

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Grade 4

Skills and Strategies

Math

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in Grade 4 math

- Using whole-number arithmetic to solve word problems, including problems with remainders and problems with measurements
- Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately (numbers up to 1 million)
- Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers in simple cases (e.g., multiplying $1,638 \times 7$ or 24×17 , and dividing 6,966 by 6)
- Understanding and applying equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$)
- Adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions in simple cases (such as $2\frac{3}{4} - 1\frac{1}{4}$ or $3 \times \frac{5}{8}$), and solving related word problems
- Understanding simple decimals in terms of fractions (e.g., rewriting 0.62 as $\frac{62}{100}$)
- Measuring angles and finding unknown angles in a diagram

More resources for Grade 4 math

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Click on the link to read view Grade 4 math sample test questions

<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59698&adminActivate=1>



Grade 5

Skills and Strategies

ELA

Here are just a few examples of the skills and strategies students will develop in Grade 5 ELA

- Summarizing the key details of stories, dramas, poems, and nonfiction materials, including their themes or main ideas
- Identifying and judging evidence that supports particular ideas in an author's argument to change a reader's point of view
- Integrating information from several print and digital sources to answer questions and solve problems
- Writing opinions that offer reasoned arguments and provide facts and examples that are logically grouped to support the writer's point of view
- Writing stories, real or imaginary, that unfold naturally and developing the plot with dialogue, description, and effective pacing of the action
- Coming to classroom discussions prepared, then engaging fully and thoughtfully with others (e.g., contributing accurate, relevant information; elaborating on the remarks of others; synthesizing ideas)
- Reporting on a topic or presenting an opinion with his or her own words, a logical sequence of ideas, sufficient facts and details, and formal English when appropriate
- Expanding, combining, and reducing sentences to improve meaning, interest, and style of writing
- Building knowledge of academic words with an emphasis on those that signal a contrast in ideas or logical relationships, such as *on the other hand*, *similarly*, and *therefore*
- Producing writing on the computer

Click on the link to read and view Grade 5 ELA sample test questions:
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59698&adminActivate=1>

More resources for Grade 5 ELA
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>

Grade 5

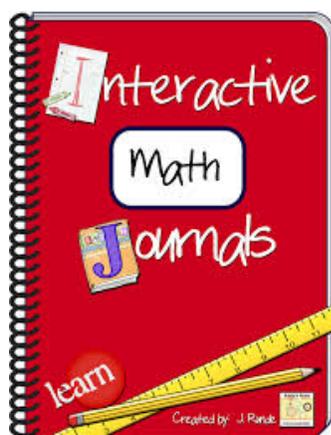
Skills and Strategies

Math

- Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (e.g., $2\frac{1}{4} - 1\frac{1}{3}$), and solving word problems of this kind
- Multiplying fractions; dividing fractions in simple cases; and solving related word problems (e.g., finding the area of a rectangle with fractional side lengths; determining how many $\frac{1}{3}$ -cup servings are in 2 cups of raisins; determining the size of a share if 9 people share a 50-pound sack of rice equally or if 3 people share $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of chocolate equally)
- Generalizing the place-value system to include decimals, and calculating with decimals to the hundredths place (two places after the decimal)
- Multiplying whole numbers quickly and accurately, for example $1,638 \times 753$, and dividing whole numbers in simple cases, such as dividing 6,971 by 63
- Understanding the concept of volume, and solving word problems that involve volume
- Graphing points in the coordinate plane (two dimensions) to solve problems
- Analyzing mathematical patterns and relationships

Click on the link to read and view Grade 5 math sample test questions
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59698&adminActivate=1>

More resources for Grade 5 math
<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=59697&adminActivate=1>



How can parents help at home?

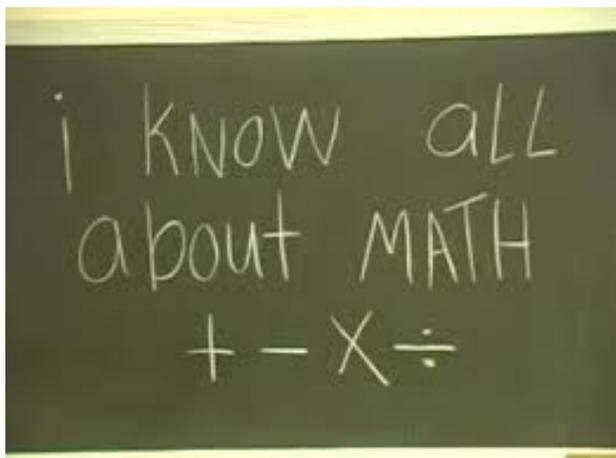


ELA expectations for students and ideas for parents

What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Read as much fiction as non-fiction	Read more non-fiction	Supply more non-fiction texts
	Understand how non-fiction is written and put together	Read non-fiction books aloud or with your child
	Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	Have fun with non-fiction in front of your child
Learn about the world by reading	Learn more about science and social studies through reading	Supply series of texts on topics that interest your child
	Use "primary source" documents	Find books that explain how things work and why
	Get smarter through the use of texts	Discuss non-fiction texts and their ideas
Read more challenging material	Re-read until they understand	Know what is grade-level appropriate
	Read books both at and above their comfort level	Provide challenging texts as well as books they can read easily
	Handle frustration	Read challenging books with your child
	Keep pushing to improve	Show that challenging books are worth reading
Talk about reading using evidence	Find evidence to support their arguments	Talk about texts
	Form judgments and opinions	Demand evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements
	Discuss what the author is thinking	Read aloud or read the same book as your child and discuss
	Make predictions about what will happen next	Discuss predictions
Write about text using evidence	Make arguments in writing using evidence	Encourage writing at home
	Compare multiple texts in writing	Write "books" together using evidence and detail
	Learn to write well	Review samples of exemplar student writing
Know more vocab words	Learn the words they will need to use in college and career	Read often and constantly with young children
	Get smarter at using the "language of power"	Read multiple books on the same topic
		Talk to your children, read to them, listen to them, sing with them, make up silly rhymes and word games

Math expectations for students and ideas for parents

What's the shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Build skills across grade levels	Keep building on learning year after year	Be aware of what your child struggled with last year and how that will effect ongoing learning
		Advocate for your child
		Ensure that support is given for "gap" skills, such as negative numbers, fractions, etc.
Learn more about less	Spend more time on fewer concepts	Know what the priority work is for your child at their grade level
Use math facts easily	Go more in-depth on each concept	Spend time with your child on priority work
		Ask your child's teacher for reports on your child's progress on priority work
Think fast AND solve problems	Spend time practicing by doing lots of problems on the same idea	Push children to know, understand and memorize basic math facts
		Know all of the fluencies your child should have
		Prioritize learning the fluencies your child finds most difficult
Really know it, really do it	Make the math work, and understand why it does	Ask questions and review homework to see whether your child understands <i>why</i> as well as <i>what</i> the answer is.
	Talk about why the math works	Advocate for the time your child needs to learn key math skills
	Prove that they know why and how the math works	Provide time for your child to work on math skills at home
Use math in the real world	Apply math in real world situations	Ask your child to do the math that comes up in daily life
	Know which math skills to use for which situation	



CCLS Vocabulary Parents Need to Know

Application	Students will choose the correct concept to apply to mathematical problems
Arguments	Writing a student uses to convince someone of something
Balanced Literacy	Students will read a true balance of informational & literary text
Close Read	A strategy to achieve in depth reading comprehension. It requires readers to read and re-read to uncover layers of meant, directly examine pieces of text for meaning, and reflect on the central idea of the text as a whole
Coherence	Connecting the learning within and across grade levels and content areas
Deep Understanding	Knowing both the what and the why behind the learning
Domain-specific Words or Phrases	Vocabulary specific to a particular field of study (domain)
Dual Intensity	Practicing and Understanding
Emergent Reader Texts	Texts consisting of short sentences comprised of learned sight words and common vocabulary words; may also include rebuses
Evidence	Facts, figures, details, quotations derived from a widely acceptable source/text
Fluency	Speed and accuracy in reading or reciting mathematical calculations
Focus on deeper understanding	Learning more on fewer topics; going deeper
Focus Question	A query narrowly tailored to a specific task or purpose
Informational Text	Written work about real-life events or facts
Judgment	Writing a student uses to give an opinion about a reading
Knowledge in the Disciplines	Students will build knowledge about the world (content areas) primarily through text, rather than through activities
Performance Indicator	A description of what students should know and be able to do
Rubric	A scoring tool that identifies what the quality of a student's work should look like
Shift	A change in how teachers teach and how students learn
Standard	A clearly defined goal for learning
Text	Any written work
Text-based Answers	Students engage in rich and rigorous evidence-based conversations about text
Writing from Sources	Students use evidence from various sources to write to inform or to make an argument

Click on the link below to learn more about the Math
Common Core Learning Standards



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVT2m21lecq>

Research shows that family involvement promotes student success!

Students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and pass their classes
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills
- Go on to postsecondary education

This a link from National PTA to help your child at home with math

<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>



To help your student succeed:

- Stay involved, informed and engaged
- Look through your child's backpack each day
- Learn about the standards and how they affect your child's education
- Read with your child every day
- Review and discuss homework
- Communicate with teachers
- Attend school meetings and functions



Some strategies to use with your child

- Did you talk about anything you read in class today?
- Did you use evidence when you talked about what you read?
- Did you learn any new words in class today?
- What do they mean?
- How do you spell them?
- How did you use evidence in school today?
- Where did you get it?
- How often did you use math today?
- How did you use it?



What works best?

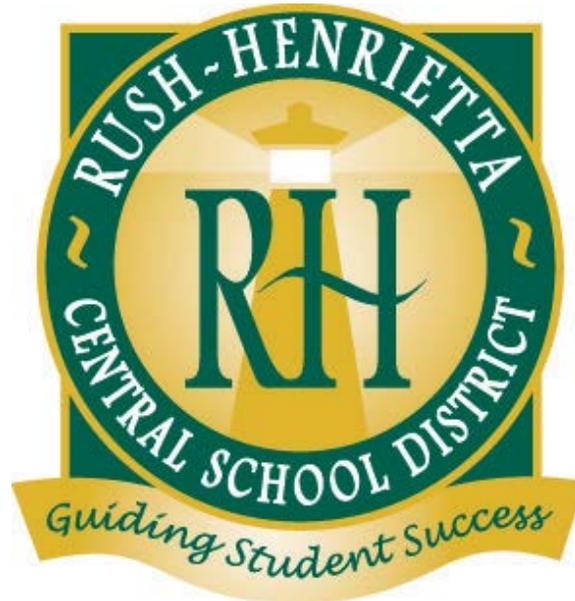


Some Questions to Ponder....

- Do I help my child with homework? How often? How closely do I review it?
- Do I communicate with my child's teacher(s)?
- Do I celebrate my child's success in school? How do I address poor performance?
- Do I have an after school routine with my child?



PARENT GUIDES to Student Learning



<http://www.rhnet.org/instruction.cfm?subpage=260>

Click on the link above to view the Rush Henrietta parent guides to student learning.

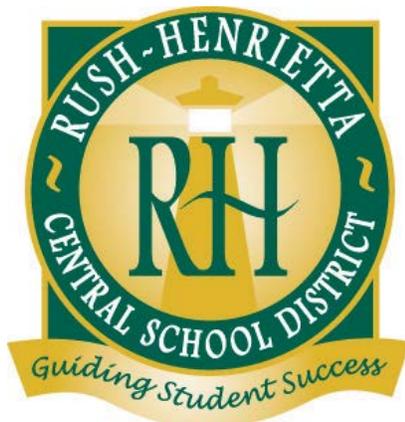
This is a tremendous resource for parents!

<http://www.engageny.org>

The screenshot shows the EngageNY website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the EngageNY logo and the tagline "Our Students. Their Moment." Below the logo are several icons representing different resources: Common Core Curriculum & Assessments, Teacher/Leader Effectiveness, Data Driven Instruction, Video Library, Network Teams, and Parent & Family Resources. A large banner features a photo of a young girl with her arms raised, and text that reads "Just Released! 2013 Test Guides for English Language Arts and Mathematics in Grades 3-8". Below the banner are three columns of featured resources: "Featured Classroom Resources" (including Year-Long Draft Curricular Maps, Grades K-12 ELA Curriculum, and Common Core Instructional Shifts), "Latest News and Events" (including Secure Online Growth Reporting System and Just Released! 2013 Test Guides), and "Featured Professional Development Resources" (including Secure Online Growth Reporting System and Test Guides for English Language Arts and Mathematics).



You are the most important teacher in your child's life!



Credits:
Council of the Great City Schools
www.cgcs.org/page/328
Achieve The Core
www.achievethecore.org
Engage New York
www.engageny.org
Vimeo
www.vimeo.com
The National Education Association
www.nea.org
National Parent Teacher Association
www.pta.org

