

Dear Grade 5 Families:

As your student is coming to the end of Benchmark Advance Unit 2 we wanted to share information to help you support the development of reading and writing at home. In this unit your student learned about:

**Unit Topic:** Developing Characters' Relationships

**Key Concepts:**

- Realistic fiction is a genre of literature in which authors create characters who could exist in real life, flaws and all, as well as plots that could actually happen.
- Authors use their craft to communicate a character's traits to readers, and how these traits are valued.
- Certain character traits, such as bravery and inquisitiveness, are valued across much of literature.
- Characters in stories can teach readers real-life problem-solving and relationship skills.

**Learning Goals:**

| Phonics & Word Study  | Reading Comprehension   | Writing  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● R-controlled vowels</li><li>● Closed syllables</li><li>● Open syllables</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Summarizing the text</li><li>● Comparing and contrasting characters</li><li>● Analyze visual elements &amp; figurative language</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Write an opinion text about characters and use evidence</li><li>● Verb tenses</li><li>● Linking ideas in writing</li></ul> |

The bullets above are not exhaustive of all skills and standards covered in this unit. For additional details, review the FCPS Family-Facing Curriculum site: [fcps.edu/academics/curriculum](https://fcps.edu/academics/curriculum)

**Student Literacy Progress:**

In this Unit, your child completed the following assessments.

- **Benchmark Unit 2 Assessment:** *This assessment measures how they are progressing with applying their knowledge of grade-level standards to new texts that they read independently. Unit assessments include both reading and writing questions. Your child's results on this assessment can be viewed in Benchmark Universe (accessed through Schoology) ([directions to view assessment](#))*

The assessments results above provide teachers with a snapshot of how students are progressing in grade level expectations and include questions that cover multiple progress report standards. These scores are one of many data points that will be considered when assigning progress report scores. They inform teachers of areas where students may need additional instruction and practice, so they can continue to work towards mastering grade level standards. You can expect performance on the assessments to increase over time as the students continue to learn and practice their grade level skills.

In addition to these formal assessments, your child also worked to build knowledge on the unit topic, apply strategies while reading texts, and demonstrate comprehension through writing. Please review your child's unit magazine that will also show you how they are progressing in Language Arts.

**Home Activities:**

- Review the Student Magazine and Activity Calendar.
- Talk about the texts your child read at school.
- Try some of the daily activities from the calendar.
- <https://mclass.amplify.com/homeconnect/>