

Dear Families:

As your student is coming to the end of Benchmark Advance Unit 1, we wanted to share information to help you support the development of reading and writing at home.

Unit Topic & Key Concepts:

Unit 1: Cultivating Natural Resources

- All animals, including humans, directly or indirectly depend on plants to convert the sun's energy into food.
- As scientific knowledge and technology progresses, the ways in which people develop natural resources changes.
- Human development of resources has a lasting impact on the natural world.
- There are costs and benefits to developing resources.

Learning Goals:

Phonics & Word Study	Reading Comprehension	Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short vowels• Long vowels• R-controlled vowels er, ir, ur (spelled er, ear, ir, ur, ure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main idea and key details• Determine author's point of view and purpose• Integrate information from multiple sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write an informative essay using evidence from sources• Using conjunctions• Combining sentences for meaning, interest, and style

For additional details, review the FCPS Family-Facing Curriculum site: fcps.edu/academics/curriculum

Student Literacy Progress:

For Unit 1, see the attached student magazine highlighting your student's work. In addition, your child completed the following assessments:

- *Benchmark Unit 1, Week 2 Assessment to measure how they are progressing with learning standards related to reading comprehension. Your child's results on this assessment can be viewed in Benchmark Universe (accessed through Schoology) ([directions to view assessment](#))*

These 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 your child's teacher of areas where they 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.

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/>