

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: Animal Adaptations

- Over time, groups of living things develop and pass down certain features or traits that help them survive in their environments.
- An adaptation is an inherited feature or trait that helps a living thing survive where it lives.
- Different animals have different adaptations for survival depending on where they live, what they eat, and what they need protection from.

### Learning Goals:

Phonics & Word Study	Reading Comprehension	Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long a spelled a_e, ai, ay, a</li><li>• Long o spelled o_e, oa, ow, o</li><li>• Long u spelled u_e, ue, ew, u</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Main idea and key details</li><li>• Compare and contrast author's presentations</li><li>• Draw inferences</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Write an informative essay using evidence from sources</li><li>• Form and use plural nouns</li><li>• Subject-verb agreement</li></ul>

For additional details, review the FCPS Family-Facing Curriculum site: [fcps.edu/academics/curriculum](https://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/>