

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: Observing Nature

- Knowledge of the natural world is based on observation and inquiry.
- Plants and animals, including humans, interact with and depend upon each other and their environment.
- Interactions with the natural world bring up strong feelings and emotions in people.
- Nature's beauty and encounters with nature are recurring themes in literature. Characters reveal themselves through their responses to nature.

Learning Goals:

Phonics & Word Study	Reading Comprehension	Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Long a (spelled a_e, ai, ei, ea) and short a● Long e (spelled e_e, ea, ee, ey, y, ie, e) and short e● Long o (spelled o_e, oa, ow, oe, o) and short o	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Main idea and key details● Compare and contrast narrative point of view● Summarize the text● Integrate information from multiple texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Write an informative essay using evidence from sources● Prepositional phrases● Recognize and correct sentence fragments

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/>