



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

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Dear Catholic School Parents,

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I would like to draw your attention to a terrific resource our office created this summer, entitled the *Common Core Learning Standards Parent Matrices in both English Language Arts and Mathematics*. These matrices are tools developed specifically for parents so that you can support your child's learning. They explain all of the learning standards and offer suggested activities you can use to help your child's learning at home. You can access these matrices on our website: <http://buildboldfutures.org/>. The commentary below is a guide to help you navigate this website:

Specific Instructions: Once on our website, click on the "Elementary" tab, then click the "Resources for Parents" tab to select the matrix you would like to view in ELA or Math and the grade level. When you open the matrix, you will find the following headers:

Parent Notes: You can use this box to write notes about this standard. These notes may include dates when your child covered this standard in class, any feedback from the child's teacher about this standard, what you notice when you work with this standard, etc.

Standard Code: This allows you to see the specific standard.

Ex. Reading for Literature Grade 4 Standard 1(RL.4.1)

What does this standard mean? This explains what students need to be able to do in order to meet the standard.

Ex. Students must be able to support what they say about a book by explicitly referring to events and details from the book.

What can I do at home? These are specific ways you can work with your child at home.

Ex. Ask your child . . . "What happened in the book that shows you that?"

"Can you find a page that has an example of that?"

Resources: These resources are links to websites that give your child further practice with the standard as well as directions for how to use the websites.

Ex. <https://learnzillion.com/lessons/4819-comprehension-skill-video-the-legend-of-keesh-day-1>

Read the text with your child. Then watch the video to help him/her review this skill.

We suggest the following tips for using these matrices:

- Be sure to check with your child's teacher so you can work at home on the same standards your child is learning in class or on standards with which your child might need extra practice.
- Set aside a designated time each day/week to work on this with your child.
- Make this time working with your child fun! Create and post a chart somewhere in your house and track the time you spend working together using stickers, check marks, etc.

I trust you will find this Parent Resource useful and thank you for all that you do to support your children and our Catholic schools!

Sincerely,

Timothy J. McNiff, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools