



Fifth Grade Parent Newsletter #1

This week we are reading “Frindle” by Andrew Clements. We will focus on some vocabulary words in this story. It would be helpful if you will reinforce the meaning of these words at home with your child. Also, on this newsletter you will find our spelling words for the week. Please practice these words at home as well. The words in italics are our challenge spelling words.

Our comprehension focus this week is identifying the characters and plot and using our prior knowledge to increase our understanding of the story. Our grammar focus is identifying four types of sentences (declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory) and interjections.

Let’s have a great week!

Spelling Words: distance, method, anger, problem, butter, petals, enjoy, perhaps, figure, channel, admire, comedy, husband, tissue, mustard, shuttle, advance, drummer, regular, denim, *avalanche*, *monopoly*, *reluctant*, *adequate*, *tangerine*

Vocabulary Word	Meaning
acquainted	made aware; informed
assignment	something assigned, a piece of work to be done
essential	absolutely necessary; very important
expanded	made larger; increased in size
guaranteed	made certain that something would happen as a result
procedures	ways of proceeding; methods of doing things
reputation	what people think and say the character of someone or something is
worshipped	paid great honor and reverence to

SCHOOL to HOME Connections

Chapter 1 Whole Numbers

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your child will study numbers to 10,000,000. Some of the skills your child will practice are:

- comparing and ordering numbers using place-value charts
- rounding numbers to the nearest thousand
- estimating sums, differences, products, and quotients

Activity

Estimation is a powerful tool for mental math and has many practical uses in everyday life as well. Be alert for opportunities for your child to practice estimating after finishing this chapter. For example, encourage your child to find 7-digit numbers from the newspaper.

- Ask your child to order these numbers from least to greatest.
- Have your child choose any two of these numbers and estimate their difference. Discuss with him or her why estimation may be useful when dealing with large numbers. (Hint: You can tell if your answer is close to the right quantity, it allows you to make calculations very quickly, you're less likely to make mistakes and so on.)

Vocabulary to Practice

1 million = 1,000,000

Rounding is approximating a number to the nearest ten, hundred, thousand, and so on.

$$7,499 \rightarrow 7,000$$

$$7,500 \rightarrow 8,000$$

For **front-end estimation with adjustment**, use the values of the leading digits.

$$3,815 + 2,398 \rightarrow 3,000 + 2,000 = 5,000$$

Estimate what is left over.

$$815 + 398 \rightarrow 800 + 300 = 1,100$$

1,100 \rightarrow 1,000 (to the nearest thousand)

Adjust the estimate.

$$5,000 + 1,000 = 6,000$$

Compatible numbers are pairs of numbers close to the original number pairs that are easy to compute with.

