



Fifth Grade Parent Newsletter #23

This week we are reading “Talk with an Astronaut.” 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. Let’s have a great week!

Our comprehension focus this week will be on identifying and using the information found in graphic sources in the text. Our grammar focus will be identifying and using *this, that, these, and those* in the correct context.

Spelling Words: geology, thermometer, astronaut, atmosphere, biology, thermal, disaster, meteorology, technology, hemisphere, zoology, sociology, biosphere, thermos, asterisk, thermostat, astronomy, spherical, ecology, mythology, psychology, anthropology, thermoelectric, astronomical, microbiology

Vocabulary Word	Meaning
accomplished	things that have been done with knowledge, skill, or ability; achievements
focus	the central point of attraction, attention, or activity
gravity	the natural force that causes objects to move or tend to move toward the center of the earth
monitors	screens connected to a computer, which show information and instructions
role	a part played by a person in real life; role model, person whose patterns of behavior influence someone else’s actions and beliefs
specific	definite; precise; particular

Math in Focus

SCHOOL **to** HOME

Connections

Chapter 10 Percent

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your child will learn about percent. Some of the skills your child will practice are:

- relating and comparing percents, decimals, and fractions
- expressing fractions as percents
- finding the number represented by a fraction
- solving real-world problems

Activity

Percent is a way of expressing a part of a whole, and is commonly used to express interest rates, sales tax, discount rates, and so on. Encourage your child to look out for these instances. Help him or her to appreciate the importance of calculating with percents using real-world scenarios. For example,

- Your family has a meal for \$35 at a pizza restaurant and you want to tip 15% of the bill. Let your child calculate the amount to tip.
- Show your child a few receipts from your shopping trips and let him or her calculate how much you would have saved if all the items were tax-free.
- If the regular price of a book is \$15, and there is a 10% discount on it, what would you pay for the book?

Vocabulary to Practice

Percent means 'out of 100'. The symbol for percent is %.

$$75\% = \frac{75}{100} = 0.75$$

Sales tax is the tax to pay upon buying a product.

A **discount** is the difference between the regular price and the reduced selling price. It is the amount you save.

Interest is the amount that a bank pays you for depositing your money with them.

