



ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

Foster Dual Language Pk-8
Jefferson County Public Schools

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December
2021

Principal's Page

Dear Foster Families,

Happy December!

We are beginning a series of informational nights about Dual Language. The first one will be December 1st, and it will be on zoom. The topic is assessment with a focus on literacy in both languages. There is more information shared in this newsletter and we hope you will join us!

Foster hosted a very successful vaccination clinic for children ages 5-11 in November; which offered access in a safe place. Big thanks to Lauren Cochenour and Kim Benage for working so hard to help it be successful, as well as to the wonderful volunteers. Thank you also to the middle school video production crew who created an informational video under the guidance of Carla Coverdell. We will host another clinic on December 9th: 3:30-6:30PM for the second dose as well as a first for those who choose to participate.

Open enrollment, a time when families are able to choose their school for the following year, is approaching. If your child is currently in our school PK-7, you will not need make any changes in the system for your child to be rolled-up to the next grade at Foster. If you have an incoming PK, or Kindergarten student, you **MUST** enroll in the first round of choice enrollment, which is from December 13th and closes January 14th. All 8th graders should take this opportunity to decide where they will go for high school. While Foster feeds into Arvada High School, there are many options in Jeffco and finding the right fit is important.

We have a few tours and a middle school informational night coming up - please see the attached flyer for more information.

Here is a link to the page for open enrollment: <https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/schools/enrollment/enrolljeffco>

12/7-1/14 . . . Kg Registration

12/13-1/14 . . . Rnd 1 Choice Enrollment

10 Vision/Hearing Screening

15 Wubter /Festival 5:30-7PM

17 Felx Day—no school

12/22-1/4 No School



Construction Update:

- Our new flex classroom behind the gym is ready to occupy!
- The new 1st/2nd grade playground should be finished in early December. This includes an awesome new structure and swings that are ADA accessible.
- On the west side of the building, the crew is installing the storm drain. We will have some land in that area for which we can dream about next steps.
- We will be getting entry doors that are more solid in early December, but our real store-fronts will not arrive until February.
- Landscaping will be ongoing and completed this spring. It will be a beautiful campus we can all be proud of!

I hope you will all join us for our next big in-person community event on December 15th from 5:30-7:00 - the Foster Winter Festival! This is a fun event where we will eat tamales, dance to music, and celebrate our new space. More information to come soon.

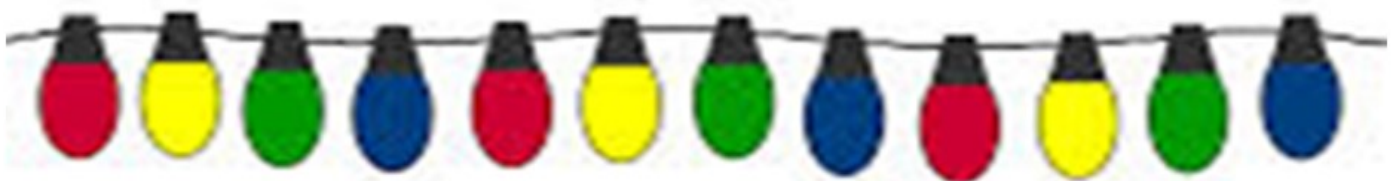
We will have a flex day on December 17th, where we invite some students in for testing. There will be no school this day, but childcare is available if needed through Project Prepare.

Hope you all have a wonderful month!

Leigh Hiester
Principal

Foster School Accountability Committee

Our Foster School Accountability Committee will be meeting on Monday, February 7th, from 3:00-3:40 in the cafeteria. We will be talking about our dual language program, progress on the UIP, budget and more. All are invited to attend!



Happy
Holidays!



Preschool December Newsletter

Dear preschool families,

We have some celebrations to share with you! Many of our students are becoming problem solvers in the classroom and in the playground. They are showing more cooperative play skills; sharing, taking turns, using their words to join in the play of others and using their words to let other friends know when they need to stop doing something that they do not like. Yay! Way to go preschoolers!

We ended Unit #2 on November 12th and jumped into our new Study Unit on November 15th. Our Study Unit#3 is from November 15th through December 16th and will focus on the past, present, and future.

Inquiry Study# 3: *Past, Present, and Future: What is different about today?*



During this unit, students have been starting to expand their understanding of the past, present and future. Students have been looking at these concepts through the lens of a historian. The conversations in the classroom have been and will continue to be about what happened today, what happened yesterday, and future events. Through investigating these different ideas, students will gain an understanding of what history is. Students will continue to engage in learning experiences that develop literacy and math skills at individual levels of readiness as will continue to build understanding around the key Social Studies content of this Inquiry Study.

Key Vocabulary:

past, present, future, sequence, time, change, environment, buildings, memory, yesterday, today, tomorrow, and historian.

Literacy

We will continue to use Estrellita, our supplemental curriculum in Spanish to build on phonological awareness. Students have been learning about the vowels: a, e, i, o, u in random order. With this next unit, we will focus on the next four sounds in the chart: m (mano), p (pez), s (sombrero), l (luna). We continue to encourage you to practice with your student the initial sound chart that was sent home. Students have been learning about isolating syllables in words. For example, in class we clap our hands as we break down a word in syllables. We will also continue to work on rhyming words, letter recognition, and initial sounds.

Math

In math, we are working on subitizing and number identification. For example, as students line up, students are asked to tell the teachers how many fingers she is holding in her hand. Some of the students are able to identify the number of fingers shown, while others need to count. We have been playing bingo with numbers from 1-9. We will continue to work on patterns, measurements, graphs, classification, and 2D shapes and 3D shapes.



Important Dates:

November 29th-December 16th	My Story Presentations
December 3rd	PTA Meeting 9:30 am-10:30 am
December 7th-January 17th	Round 1 Choice Enrollment
December 10th	Vision and Screening
December 17th	Assessment Day. No school
December 22th-January 3rd	Winter Break- No school
January 4th-5th	Teacher PD-No school

Ms. Anilu and Ms. Mari



Hello Kindergarten Families!

We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving break! Kindergarteners are settled into their routines and continue to find new things to get excited about.

We are starting the second module of our Reading and Writing unit, ***We Are Special!*** We will continue to develop basic reading and writing skills as the unit continues. The first two weeks of the module, Ms. Alma will teach reading in Spanish, while Ms. Shannon will teach writing in English. Then we will switch for the last two weeks of the module and Ms. Alma will teach writing in Spanish and Ms. Shannon will teach reading in English. We will send the parent letter as soon as the module starts.

In Math, we continue our unit, **5-Groups in Numbers 6-10**. Students begin to explore the structure of quantities by breaking a quantity into two parts, highlighting partitions that involve a group of five. Students continue to build fluency with the number sequence, including rote counting forward to 20 and backward from 5 and sequencing quantities and numerals in the range 1-10. They connect their growing understanding of addition and subtraction to the idea of adding one as moving to the next number in the number sequence and subtracting one as moving back to the previous number in the sequence. Students also need to be able to write the numbers from 0-20.

We shared our timeline projects and have wrapped up our Social Studies Unit, ***Comparing My Story To Your Story***, and had wonderful conversations with some grandparent that shared how their school and life was when they were a child. Thank you for sharing!

Our next unit will be in Sciences, ***Weather and Climate***. Students will understand that weather is the combination of sunlight, wind, snow or rain, and temperature in a particular region at a particular time. People measure these conditions to describe and record the weather and to notice patterns over time. For example, sunlight warms Earth's surface and what clothing we should wear during which seasons. Students will be keeping track of the daily weather with their own weather chart.

As another holiday breaks approach, we ask you to continue to read, write and count with your child every day while you are away. Focus on the first sounds in words, the correct formation of lowercase letters and basic addition and subtraction using common household items.

Important dates

December 10 – Vision/hearing screening

December 17- Assessment day no school for students

December 22 to January 4 – Winter break

Sincerely,
Ms. Shannon and Ms. Alma



Hey 1st Grade Grownups!

Thank you to those who joined us at the Children's Museum. We had lots of fun!

First graders are working really hard in all of the units. We finished Module 3 for literacy before break and we are now working on Module 4. Students are writing in Spanish with Ms. Rosa and reading in English with Miss Brie. At the end of Module 4 we will send home Into Reading My Book 2.

In math, we are working on learning more and more about Place Value.

In science, we have started our External Features Animal Unit.

Just a reminder that students need to wear jackets to be able to go outside, they will not be able to go outside if they forget their jackets at home. Also, please make sure your students bring their charged iPads every day. We encourage your students to read at home, explore their iPads, and practice counting to 120.

Enjoy Winter Break!

Miss Brie and Mrs. Rosa



Second Grade News, December 2021

Wow! It's hard to believe that we are already into December. Second graders were very busy during the short month of November! In science, We learned all about animal habitats, animal adaptations and ended the unit by creating a diorama of a habitat. If you would like to see their great work, it is on Flipgrid and students can show you the amazing creations.

Literacy:

Our new curriculum is going well. Students learn new vocabulary and sight words in Spanish and English daily. Have them tell you what the 5 sight words are for the week because they should know them well. Writing is a challenge for most students, especially since they write in both languages every day, but we have some great authors in our classes! The students are very motivated to learn and that is exciting for us to see. Our Module 3 for November was, ***Meet in the Middle***. Students learned how to solve problems and come to an agreement. For December we move into Module 4, ***Once Upon a Time***.

Math:

In Unit 3 students build common vocabulary for shapes and length measurements by analyzing visual models and real world situations. They will use attributes to identify and draw shapes (triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes) they see in their everyday lives. Moving from non-standard to standard measurement units (inches, centimeters, feet, and meters).

Social Studies:

First, students use maps, globes and other geographic sources to locate features that exist in all communities: physical features, political features, and cultural/human features. Next, students identify examples of renewable and non-renewable resources in our world. Students describe the actions people can take to address consumption of these resources. These actions include: recycling, reducing, reusing or throwing away.

Extra note:

It would be very helpful if students continue to build fluency with math facts 1-20 addition. There is a Quizlet link in Google Classroom for students to access.

We are very grateful to have such wonderful families. Thank you for all you do! Happy Holidays and we look forward to an exciting new year!



Hello third grade families!

Thank you so much for all of your support so far this year. From making sure your student's chrome-book is charged for each day of school, to sending snacks, to volunteering, to supporting your students at home, it is all much appreciated and noticed!

Below you will find information about curriculum as well as a variety of announcements.

Take care,

Ms. Paola (pamoore@jeffcoschools.us) & Ms. Julie (jmenning@jeffcoschools.us)

Literacy (Reading: Spanish/Writing: English)

In Module 4, students will, "build their knowledge about plays, with a focus on the drama genre. We will read texts and view videos about the features of classic and contemporary plays. Children will also write a story that could be performed as a play."

Math (English and Spanish)

In unit II students will build upon previously learned patterns, models, and relationships to understand and apply facts in the context of real world problems, while reasoning to learn the facts of 6, 7, 8, and 10.

In this unit, students apply their understanding of multiplicative properties (associative, commutative, distributive) as they reason through facts and solidify their understanding through application in real world problems.

Content (Science & Social Studies)

Students in this unit use geographic and primary sources to learn about the characteristics of different regions and how culture is influenced by local geography. This foundation creates the "stage" for students to investigate change over time within the unit's regional area. As students investigate change, they explore the roles of different people influencing the development of the region.

Miscellaneous announcements:

On Fridays we often have tinker/makerspace time. If you would like to donate clean, recycled materials any week, we would greatly appreciate it!

BRING IT HOME! Learning fun for the whole family!

Discuss the Topic

Set aside time daily for your child to share with you what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to help build your child's knowledge about the topic:

- Talk about the ideas your child has added to the Knowledge Map each week.
- Ask about the texts your child is reading, and what he or she has learned from them.
- Share with your child your own questions about the topic, and work together to find the answers.

Explore the Genre

The genre focus in this module is drama. Discuss with your child the characteristics of this genre.

Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together.

Look for texts that:

- Spark your child's curiosity.
- Tie to the module topic.
- Include interesting characters, settings, and conflicts.
- Offer opportunities to perform one or more scenes.

Build Vocabulary

Use these ideas to help your child build a rich vocabulary.

The Big Idea Reinforce the topic words *audition, rehearse, ability, and actor* in everyday conversations with your child. Use prompts like these: When is it good to **rehearse**? What is your best **ability**?

What Does It Mean? Have your child keep a growing list of the Critical Vocabulary words. Quiz each other on their meanings.

Word Hunt Look for words with the prefixes *in-* and *im-*, the suffixes *-er/-or*, and the Latin roots *aud* and *vis* in books, magazines, online texts, and environmental print.



Fourth Grade News:

We hope you had a great break and got some much-needed rest. Our students had a great time on our field trip to see the movie "Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone". Thank you so much to our chaperones.

We just finished our Opinion writing in Spanish and Reading about meeting challenges in English. Our next units will be Spanish reading about Myths and Legends and our English writing unit is about Investigations.

In Math, we will continue with division and learning the beginnings of Algebra. Please make sure your students are practicing their multiplication because several students are really struggling. If they don't have the basics of multiplication, division is really difficult for them.

In Social Studies, we are learning what Colorado was like before it became the state of Colorado.

Professor Stephanie & Professor Vicky



5th Grade

Teacher Note:

The weather is changing so make sure your student has necessary items to be warm outside at recess.

Our Learning

Reading: Wild West and Nonfiction Text

Writing: Letter and Informational Text

Math: Addition and Subtraction with Fractions

Science: Earth's Systems

Social Studies: Early Colonies

Reminders:

Band and Orchestra:

Monday 1:50

Wednesday 10:20

Students brought home a practice log. Students are to be practicing at home. This also means that they should return their instrument on band and orchestra days.

Dates to Remember

Winter Party 12/21

Winter Break 12/22-1/4



Hello Foster Middle School families!

Please remember to check your emails for our weekly Newsflash for up-to-date information about what's going on in middle school. These are sent out every Friday at 5pm. You can also find them on our [middle school website](#), which is updated weekly.

We are in need of Kleenex and Clorox wipes in our classrooms.

The school counselor, Ms. Nicole, has started some ICAP (Individual, Career and Academic Planning) lessons with students. In November, all students completed a Strengths Explorer. Ask your student what strengths they learned about and possible career pathways connected to their unique strengths.

Important Dates: December 22nd: End of 2nd Quarter



Social Studies

6th and 7th Grade are learning about the development of societies. The focus of classwork will be oratory skills.

8th Grade is looking at the expansion of the United States from multiple perspectives. We are analyzing historical documents through the lens of our student government as a way to write a revisionist history by critically thinking about the past. Students will simultaneously be proposing bills and voting them into law that have the potential to change their school experience.



Math

6th Grade: Areas of polygons

Students are calculating areas of composite figures that can be decomposed into rectangles and triangles.

7th Grade: Modelling with Expressions, Equations and Inequalities.

Students just started to evaluate expressions which is the first part of this unit. Expressions is a basic knowledge to later succeed in equations and inequalities. It also requires knowledge of the order of operations and the distributive property..

8th Grade: Transformations, Congruence, and Similarity

Students are completing this geometry unit. They have worked on translation, rotation, reflection and dilation.. Now learning to recognize angles in complex shapes by applying *properties of angles formed by parallel lines cut by transversals*

8th Grade: Algebra Students are studying linear equations and solving system of equations by graphing





English Language Arts

6th grade: We wrote narratives and now we have been reading short narratives and exploring how characters respond to challenges and identifying the them. Next, we will explore non fiction texts and then begin to analyze point of view and different perspectives.

7th grade: We are working on writing fiction or fantasy stories with an emphasis on sensory language to help develop our setting and deepen our characters. Next, we will explore different points of view and perspectives.

8th grade: We are working on writing narratives that comment on a social issue, teach a lesson and/or develop a specific point of view. Next, we will explore how characters respond to conflicts and analyze point of view.



Spanish Language Arts

6th Grade: Traditions

Students are reading about different cultures from around the world and discovering the importance of sharing these traditions from generation to generation.

7th Grade: From Tourists to Travelers

Students are completing a unit on tourism where they are creating travel itineraries to a Spanish speaking country.

8th Grade:

Students have just completed a long unit on myths and legends. The culminating project for this unit had students convert a myth or legend into a Readers' Theatre script which they performed in small groups for their classmates.

All Grades:

Spelling: Students have been working hard on learning the rules for writing accent marks in Spanish including:

- Finding the stressed syllable in words
- Classifying words into palabras agudas, llanas/graves y esdrújulas

Using accent marks when writing

Grammar:

We have been focusing on learning the rules around conjugating verbs in Spanish including:

- Present tense regular and irregular verbs: to talk about things that happen usually, habitually
- When to use ser vs. estar (D.O.C.T.O.R. & P.L.A.C.E.)

Present progressive: Used for expressing what's happening at the moment.

Please send a notebook with your child for this class. They will be leaving it in the classroom.



Electives

Our videography class interviewed Dr. Benage regarding Covid vaccinations for kids. You may view the video on our school website. Students are now working on creating a student broadcast for the school; while broadcasts won't be made public due to privacy and security precautions, students will have access and can share their product with families. We ask that no student products be shown on social media sites.

In PE, students in the personal health and wellness course continue to focus on a variety of ways to develop and maintain healthy, active lifestyles. Through workouts, sports play, fitness planning and assessment students are learning how to take care of their physical and

Band/Orchestra/Diversity

In Diversity class we have been learning a lot about identity. Right now we are exploring our identity within our communities and especially within Foster. Our big project this quarter has been to partner with 1st graders. Each middle school student was partnered with a few first graders and they spent a month building relationships with them.. Now we are hard at work creating a bilingual story written just for our 1st grade buddies.. Also, to help enhance our community and our feeling of connectedness to school, we are now volunteering on Fridays. Ask your student about their story and their Friday volunteer roles!



Happy
Holidays!



From the Library

Foster Library is open and available to students and staff for checkout of materials. We are so excited to be back in business! All students (PK-8) have a weekly checkout time with their class. Books are checked out for a two-week period. When books become overdue, checkout is suspended until book(s) are returned or paid for. We hope you will enjoy having additional books at home. Reading at home every day for at least 20 minutes will support growth and learning in literacy. Reading in both Spanish and English will benefit your child's movement toward being fully bilingual. Enjoy!!



Title I libraries throughout the district are examining and expanding their collections to ensure titles are available which support and represent diversity and equity. Digital Teacher Librarians are partnering with Title I, Department of Equity and Diversity, Mental Health and other groups Creative to review and select materials which will ensure we have titles which connect with all students. We will be using district policies to make selections for our school libraries.

Commons License, <https://www.whplibrary.org/our-library-collection/>

Foster has \$5,000 budgeted for this effort.



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Each month, our school and Jeffco address a specific Digital Citizenship topic to ensure our students know and understand how to utilize digital tools in a safe and responsible manner. Families receive monthly resources to support various topics, which we hope are helpful in extending this topic into the home setting. December's topic is Privacy and Security; students will learn to protect personal information and develop an understanding of their data privacy rights.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES OF 5th through 8th GRADERS



Lenovo is offering a warranty, which can be purchased by families to cover the cost of accidental damage. This warranty helps families pay for losses/damage as needed. You will need the serial number of the device issued to your child, which can be found on the back of the device. While third and fourth grade students also have Chromebooks, these are not insurable as they are on loan. There are several warranty options available; this document provides additional information:

<https://thenounproject.com/term/device-insurance/1759247/>

Device Insurance Icons, Creative Commons License 1.0 [DHE Accidental Damage Protection Warranty - Lenovo](#)





We are back in the art room!!!



Good afternoon Foster families. As you can see,
I am a little excited about being back in the art room
and back to some pretty amazing creations.

While the students are able to create great work
in their own classroom,
there is absolutely something
about being back in the art room
that fosters a creative mind.

We have started to work with clay
(Thanks to Mr. Tom for taking care of the kiln)
and larger format drawing and painting.

In addition, the hallway in front of the art room
is starting to look like an art hallway!





FitBits: News from the Foster PE Department

Ms. Sammy Chumacero: K-8 PE Teacher
samanta.chumacero@jeffco.k12.co.us



First trimester's learning focused on fitness, health and how exercise impacts one's quality of life and overall wellness.

Students in K-5 grades participated in lessons about the heart, muscular system and skeletal system.

Intermediate students focused on the health enhancing fitness components, fitness goal setting and assessment and identifying different activities that can help improve their overall health.

Primary students focused on the function of the heart, how to keep their hearts healthy and began studying strength and flexibility activities.

During the second trimester, students will continue their focus on health and wellness by completing units in nutrition and healthy decision making.

Other updates:

-trimester grades for K-5 students are ready and have been sent home with your student, feel free to reach out to me with any questions

-second quarter middle school electives end December 21st

-the gym continues to get closer to being finished! We now no longer have a fire-wall up and will hopefully have access to our closet spaces and equipment soon!





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colorado!

TIPS for parents of Kindergartners

Play with letters, words, and sounds! Having fun with language helps your child learn to crack the code of reading. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Talk to your child.

Ask your child to talk about his day at school. Encourage him to explain something they did, or a game he played during recess.

■ Say silly tongue twisters.

Sing songs, read rhyming books, and say silly tongue twisters. These help kids become sensitive to the sounds in words.

■ Read it and experience it.

Connect what your child reads with what happens in life. If reading a book about animals, relate it to your last trip to the zoo..

■ Use your child's name.

Point out the link between letters and sounds. Say, "John, the word *jump* begins with the same sound as your name. *John, jump*. And they both begin with the same letter, J."

■ Play with puppets.

Play language games with puppets. Have the puppet say, "My name is Mark. I like words that rhyme with my name. Does *park* rhyme with *Mark*? Does *ball* rhyme with *Mark*?"

■ Trace and say letters.

Have your child use a finger to trace a letter while saying the letter's sound. Do this on paper, in sand, or on a plate of sugar.

■ Write it down.

Have paper and pencils available for your child to use for writing. Working together, write a sentence or two about something special. Encourage her to use the letters and sounds she's learning about in school.

■ Play sound games.

Practice blending sounds into words. Ask "Can you guess what this word is? *m - o - p*." Hold each sound longer than normal.

■ Read it again and again.

Go ahead and read your child's favorite book for the 100th time! As you read, pause and ask your child about what is going on in the book.

■ Talk about letters and sounds.

Help your child learn the names of the letters and the sounds the letters make. Turn it into a game! "I'm thinking of a letter and it makes the sound *mmmmmm*."

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*Practical, research-based information on how to help
English language learners read ...and succeed!*



A Union of Professionals
American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO



TIPS for parents of First Graders

Give your child lots of opportunities to read aloud. Inspire your young reader to practice every day! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Don't leave home without it.

Bring along a book or magazine any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's office. Always try to fit in reading!

■ Once is not enough.

Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.

■ Dig deeper into the story.

Ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Say something like, "Why do you think Clifford did that?"

■ Take control of the television.

It's difficult for reading to compete with TV and video games. Encourage reading as a free-time activity.

■ Be patient.

When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Remind to child to look closely at the first letter or letters of the word.

■ Pick books that are at the right level.

Help your child pick books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences.

■ Play word games.

Have your child sound out the word as you change it from *mat* to *fat* to *sat*; from *sat* to *sag* to *sap*; and from *sap* to *sip*.

■ I read to you, you read to me.

Take turns reading aloud at bedtime. Kids enjoy this special time with their parents

■ Gently correct your young reader.

When your child makes a mistake, gently point out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Many beginning readers will guess wildly at a word based on its first letter.

■ Talk, talk, talk!

Talk with your child every day about school and things going on around the house. Sprinkle some interesting words into the conversation, and build on words you've talked about in the past.

■ Write, write, write!

Ask your child to help you write out the grocery list, a thank you note to Grandma, or to keep a journal of special things that happen at home. When writing, encourage your child to use the letter and sound patterns he is learning at school.

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TIPS | for parents of Second Graders

Find ways to read, write, and tell stories together with your child. Always applaud your young reader and beginning story writer! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Tell family tales.

Children love to hear stories about their family. Talk about a funny thing that happened when you were young.

■ Create a writing toolbox.

Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Find opportunities for your child to write, such as the shopping list, thank you notes, or birthday cards.

■ Be your child's #1 fan.

Ask your child to read aloud what he or she has written for school. Be an enthusiastic listener.

■ One more time with feeling.

When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often kids are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.

■ Invite an author to class.

Ask an author to talk to your child's class about the writing process. Young children often think they aren't smart enough if they can't sit down and write a perfect story on the first try.

■ Create a book together.

Fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book. Ask your child to write sentences on each page and add his or her own illustrations.

■ Do storytelling on the go.

Take turns adding to a story the two of you make up while riding in a car or bus. Try making the story funny or spooky.

■ Point out the relationship between words.

Explain how related words have similar spellings and meanings. Show how a word like *knowledge*, for example, relates to a word like *know*.

■ Use a writing checklist.

Have your child create a writing checklist with reminders such as, "Do all of my sentences start with a capital? Yes/No."

■ Quick, quick.

Use new words your child has learned in lively flash card or computer drills. Sometimes these help kids automatically recognize and read words, especially those that are used frequently.

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*Practical, research-based information on how to help
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READING
rockets



A Union of Professionals
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TIPS for parents of Third Graders

Read about it, talk about it, and think about it! Find ways for your child to build understanding, the ultimate goal of learning how to read. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Make books special.

Turn reading into something special. Take your kids to the library, help them get their own library card, read with them, and buy them books as gifts. Have a favorite place for books in your home or, even better, put books everywhere.

■ Get them to read another one.

Find ways to encourage your child to pick up another book. Introduce him or her to a series like *The Boxcar Children* or *Harry Potter* or to a second book by a favorite author, or ask the librarian for additional suggestions.

■ Crack open the dictionary.

Let your child see you use a dictionary. Say, "Hmm, I'm not sure what that word means... I think I'll look it up."

■ Talk about what you see and do.

Talk about everyday activities to build your child's background knowledge, which is crucial to listening and reading comprehension. Keep up a running patter, for example, while cooking together, visiting somewhere new, or after watching a TV show.

■ First drafts are rough.

Encourage your child when writing. Remind him or her that writing involves several steps. No one does it perfectly the first time.

■ Different strokes for different folks.

Read different types of books to expose your child to different types of writing. Some kids, especially boys, prefer nonfiction books.

■ Teach your child some "mind tricks."

Show your child how to summarize a story in a few sentences or how to make predictions about what might happen next. Both strategies help a child comprehend and remember.

■ "Are we there yet?"

Use the time spent in the car or bus for wordplay. Talk about how *jam* means something you put on toast as well as cars stuck in traffic. How many other homonyms can your child think of? When kids are highly familiar with the meaning of a word, they have less difficulty reading it.

www.ColorinColorado.org

*Practical, research-based information on how to help
English language learners read ...and succeed!*





Foster PK-8

A Dual Language Option School

Foster Dual Language PK-8 is an option school that provides a unique opportunity that brings together Spanish and English speaking students in an effort to develop full bilingualism in both groups. Students have the opportunity to learn a second language without compromising their first language or academic learning. Our Dual Language program supports the development of the three pillars of Bilingual education: bilingualism and biliteracy, high academic achievement, and sociocultural competence.

THE PROGRAM:

- Offers a full day Pre-School program where 90% of the day is in Spanish for all students
- Develops children who will be more competitive in the global economy and more collaborative in our multicultural society
- Takes advantage of the optimal window of learning a second language during the primary years
- Supports families with a cultural, ethnic, or multilingual heritage
- Produces critical thinkers and problem solvers who can use a communication-rich approach to succeed in the information age
- Nurtures understanding and cooperation of the different cultures living side by side in Jefferson County
- Gives students an edge in high school, college, and the workplace
- Provides a pathway toward attaining the Biliteracy Seal, which is a recognition for students who have studied and attained a high level of proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation
- Incorporates STEM experiences, Problem/Project Based Learning (PBL) and one to one devices into every day learning school wide.

TOURS:

November 10th	9:30-10:30am
December 2nd	1:30-2:30pm
December 16th	9:30-10:30am
January 7th	9:30-10:30am

MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO NIGHT:

December 9th 5:30-6:30pm

www.jeffcofosteres.ss12.sharpschool.com/





Free Mental Health Support For All Students



I want to understand my feelings because I matter

If you've ever said, "I'm struggling. I want help," you are in the right place. The purpose of "I Matter" is to promote youth emotional and mental health.

To begin, you will need to take a survey. Try to be as honest as possible: your answers are completely confidential and will help match you with a clinician who can best support you. No matter your responses, you will be eligible for 3 free counseling sessions.

Get started below. If you're 11 or younger, your parent or guardian will have to fill out the survey with you.

Parents, if you feel your child is struggling and needs help, you are in the right place to talk to a mental health professional for free. Seeking support for your child is not a sign of failure—it's a sign of strength. Start by filling out the survey below.

[Parent Survey](#)

[Student Survey](#)

iMatterColorado.org





Edgewater and Foster

- * **Who:** Families, Community members and Teachers
- * **What:** Family Information Night: MAP Assessment

* **When:** December 1, 2021
5:30- English Session
6:00- Spanish Session

- * **Where:** Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ydq-qsvw-iyo>



- **Why:** To give our families and communities the information they need to understand what the MAP assessment is, how to interpret the data and how to connect with teachers around the data.

