

## Dear Families,

Thank you for a great first six-weeks filled with wonderful discussions, insights, and stories! Watching our students' share parts of their lives by writing about small moments in time was an encouraging and exciting way to begin our year, and we know they will only continue to grow as readers and writers.

The aim of this reading unit is to sharpen student's ability to read more complex nonfiction by focusing on their fluency, summarizing texts with information that is relevant to central idea, citing the texts accurately, and reading to discern more than one idea in the text. Students will learn several note-taking strategies in order to effectively gather and sort incoming information, to process information, to develop ideas about what they're learning, and to prepare to talk and write about a claim of a specific topic. This unit is designed to complement the writing unit where the students will focus on writing using claim-evidence-and reasoning as well as research-based information writing. Though this unit focuses on nonfiction, students should be encouraged to continue reading fiction at home or during a designated time during the school day to maintain their reading rate, fluency, and level through continued practice.

Students will complete a reading and revising/editing common assessment during this grading period. Teachers will continue using these assessments to drive instructional decisions, measure growth in reading and writing, and to evaluate their students' ability to transfer the skills that have been taught in their classes. Through this, students will be practicing skills that will simulate the high-stakes testing that will come later this year.

Please continue to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 6th Grade ELAR Teachers