

# High Expectations

8th Grade

## Your Eighth Grader's Academic Success Begins with You

Your involvement in your student's academic success, at every stage, opens the door to opportunities and increases their options for the future.

Do you know what your student is expected to learn in school this year? Part of being an engaged parent is knowing about key academic milestones and how you can support your student in meeting them. Here are some of the key academic skills your student will need to master in the eighth grade and ideas for ways you can supplement the learning at home.

### Academic Skills

- Find and summarize the central idea of a text.
- Analyze why the author would write a particular piece of text.
- Determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and incorporate them into vocabulary.
- Understand connections between proportional relationships.
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Solve mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres.

### Activities to do at Home

- Practice measuring the perimeter of common household items like picture frames and practice estimating the area of various rooms in your home.
- Ask your student to search the newspaper (either hard copy or online version) to find examples of article that are fact-based (news article) and those that are opinion-based (editorial). Ask your student to analyze the language to determine the difference between the two texts.
- Have your child write out the lyrics to their favorite song. Ask them to look up the definitions of any unfamiliar words and encourage them to incorporate the new words into their vocabulary.
- Start talking to your student about his career aspirations and ask him what he will need to do to achieve his goals. Visit [ExpectMoreArizona.org](http://ExpectMoreArizona.org) to explore the College and Career Planning section which has tools and resources for your student as he begins to think about postsecondary education.



## Ways to Create a High Expectations Culture in Your Home

- Make student academic success a family priority. That means school comes before extracurricular and social activities.
- Set completing college or other postsecondary program as the ultimate academic goal for your student.
- Commit to be actively engaged in your child's education at every stage – from birth through postsecondary – and take ownership for being a partner in your student's success.

Note: Every child develops at his/her own pace. These are recommended age specific guidelines for academic skill development.

The above Academic Skills are based on the Common Core Standards. Please talk with your child's teacher to get more specific information about each of these skills. A full list of common core standards by grade level is available at [www.azed.gov](http://www.azed.gov).



Visit [ExpectMoreArizona.org](http://ExpectMoreArizona.org)

for more specific resources and activities and sign up to receive more information via email.