



# BIRMINGHAM

## CITY SCHOOLS

BUILDING LEADERS. IMPACTING THE WORLD.

### Parent Letter

#### BCS K-5 Students Curriculum and Instruction Response to COVID -19

We at Birmingham City Schools believe that education continues at home and parents are our partners in education. Therefore, links for online resources and learning opportunities will be on the District's website ([www.bhm.k12.al.us](http://www.bhm.k12.al.us)).

#### What Can Parents Do Now?

- Know your child's username and passwords to technology programs used at school. They will need this information to sign on at home.
- Know your child and teacher's email addresses.
- Read all information provided to you by your child's school and teacher.
- Check in with your child's teacher regularly.
- Continue to monitor effective study habits at home.
- Help your child understand social distancing (avoiding close contact with others to prevent spread of disease).

In the event that schools are closed, here are educational activities that could be done at home to ensure that learning continues.

#### If technology is available in the home:

- Go to the Birmingham City Schools Website and click on COVID-19 Curriculum and Instruction Resources. We strongly recommend that students use these district-wide curriculum programs to extend their learning at home.

#### If technology is not available in the home:

- Assign a topic based on what you are studying in social studies or science and have students to do a research project on that topic.
- Create a list of writing prompts for students to write about in their daily writing journal.
- Give each child a reading log to complete each day with their parent's signature showing they are reading for 20 minutes per/day.
- Say a word aloud and have students to tell you the sounds they hear in that word (i.e. – say the word soap, the child should say /s/ /oa/ /p/
- Practice reading sight words using flash cards. Have students to build sentences using different sight words.
- Do an "eye spy" challenge where students find as many words in the house (on cereal boxes, magazines, books, etc.) as they can, list on paper, and discuss.
- Look for shapes and patterns in real life
- Have your child measure ingredients for a recipe you are making
- Play cards or board games that involve counting and number patterns



- Help your child learn multiplication, division, addition or subtraction facts

#### **Guidance for multilingual families:**

- Encourage listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities in English and other languages used in the home. Your participation in learning experiences in any language has a direct impact on the successful performance of your child. Through multiple activities, experiences, and literature is best practice for encouraging the joy of learning in any language.
- It is encouraged to use bilingual resources such as books, flash cards, dictionaries, online tools, and other materials.

#### **Physical Education:**

- Challenge your students to stay active while at home and build their sports techniques through fitness-based components with the fitness calendars that the Alliance for a Healthier Generation and S & S sports created together.
- Action for Healthy Kids developed the 40 Tips for an Active Family to get families moving together. The idea is that you would cut out each tip and place them in a bag or jar. Then every evening, the children would draw an activity from the bag or jar and that would be the family's activity the next evening.

#### **General Music Lessons and Instructions:**

General music cultivates a student's ability to carry out the processes of creating, performing, responding, and connecting. In General Music, standards are organized by grade level, taking into consideration the students' increasing level of maturity and intellectual growth. These concepts will be experienced through the following skills: performing (singing and playing instruments), creating, reading/writing, and listening/responding/evaluating.

- Play a recording and distinguish high/low, loud/soft, same/different. Explore and achieve awareness of music contrasts in a variety of music selected for performance.
- List 3 of your favorite songs and 3 of your least favorite songs and tell why you prefer.
- Demonstrate how a specific music concept is used in music. Example: Respond with purposeful movement to the steady beat of a piece of music.
- Introduction to tempo
- Online Resource: <https://youtu.be/ixV42D5QVSA>

