

Welcome Back



The school year has finally begun and Catapult Learning is looking forward to a great partnership with you to improve your children's academic achievement. Catapult Learning shares your commitment to help your children reach their full learning potential. In the months ahead, you can look forward to fun, enriching and interactive learning activities for your children to complete in school and at home. Please feel free to stop by the Catapult Learning classroom throughout the year to check on your child's progress, observe instruction, or speak with the Catapult teacher. You can look forward to receiving monthly updates via this newsletter and other scheduled events during the school year including parent/teacher conferences and Catapult Learning Month. 🍎

Catapult Learning: Who We Are and What We Do

Catapult Learning is the leading provider of educational services to public, private and religious schools nationwide.

For more than 35 years, Catapult Learning has partnered with private and religious schools to provide educational support services that meet a wide variety of student needs.

Catapult Learning partners with districts to provide tutoring services to private and religious school students at no cost to you, the parents. Catapult Learning has qualified teachers who provide supplementary instruction in reading and math. Students receive personalized instruction based on their individual needs.

We are looking forward to an exciting school year working with you and your children!

Instructional Services 🍎: Catapult Learning's instructional programs are designed to improve student achievement among low-performing students. Our research-based programs are aligned to the National Reading Panel, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and state standards. Each instructional program integrates an effective combination of:

- Individualized assessment
- Small groups with direct instruction
- Guided and independent practice
- Student motivation

Parent Involvement 🍎: Our parent involvement services include opportunities to participate in our instructional programs, workshops, and parent/child home activities. All of our services are designed to foster parents' ability to support their children's learning. Parents can look forward to:

- Progress reports sent home several times a year
- Parent meetings / workshops offered throughout the year
- Catapult teachers available to offer support and encouragement through parent-teacher conferences

Mrs. Bonetto-Math

Mrs.Kuznicki-Guidance

Mrs.Fellowes- RN



Back to School, for Parents!

When the back-to-school bell starts ringing, parents often hear and read school-related terms that are unfamiliar to them. Below are three terms and descriptions related to reading instruction that may help give you a better understanding of what's happening in your child's classroom and what it all means for your young learner.

Screening: Benjamin Franklin famously said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." In the classroom, this quote translates to the use of reading *screening* for all students. Screenings usually take place within the first few weeks of school. Rather than waiting for students to fail at school, screenings give teachers a chance to identify students who are at risk of having difficulty. Scores on screenings help teachers identify students who may need extra help through small group or one-on-one instruction. For example, most kindergarten screenings include alphabet recognition and letter-sound knowledge.

Differentiated reading instruction: A teacher who provides *differentiated reading instruction* is one who meets the instructional needs of all the students in the class by planning different instruction based on the results of an assessment she's given. For example, while all the students in the class may be working to develop their fluency skills, students may be working with different books, and some may still be working on their sight words. Some students may be working in pairs while others are working one-on-one with the teacher.

Leveled text: Many teachers use *leveled texts* in their classrooms. Most of the books used in elementary classrooms are leveled, or placed in a certain category, based on certain criteria such as number of words and sentence length. There are several common leveling systems; some use letters to indicate levels and others use numbers. The levels correspond to different grade level materials. If your child's school uses leveled texts, ask your child's teacher what leveling system she uses.

As a parent, it can be challenging to keep up with the language of schools. These three terms are just a few of the many reading-related words you'll hear this year. We encourage parents to work closely with teachers and ask questions. You'll be glad you did!



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