

THE SCHOLAR'S ASCENT

Seedling Parent Partnership Packets

Monthly Take-Home Activities for K-5 Families

Reminiscent Road Media LLC • Founded by Dr. Ijezie-Desbois, PharmD

thescholarsascent.org

Welcome, Partner in Learning!

These monthly packets are designed to extend your child's learning journey into the home. Each packet includes conversation starters, family activities, and vocabulary games that make learning joyful and connected. Spend just 15-20 minutes a day to make a lasting impact.

Component	How to Use
Conversation Starters	Use at dinner, in the car, or before bedtime. One per day is plenty!
Family Activities	Choose 2-3 per week. Adapt to your child's grade level.
Vocabulary Games	Play daily for 10 minutes. Games work for all ages with modifications.
Progress Check	Review together at the end of each week. Celebrate effort, not just results.

September: New Beginnings

Theme: Setting the Stage for Success

Conversation Starters

Week	Conversation Starter
Week 1	"What are you most excited about this school year? What's one thing you're nervous about?"
Week 2	"If you could teach your class anything you know really well, what would you teach?"
Week 3	"Tell me about someone new you met this week. What makes them interesting?"
Week 4	"What was the hardest thing you did this month? How did you handle it?"

Family Activities

Reading Together: "Goal-Setting Story Night"

- **Grades K-2:** Read a picture book about trying new things. Have your child draw their biggest goal for the year.
- **Grades 3-5:** Read a chapter together from a book about a character facing a challenge. Discuss: What goal did the character set?
- *Time needed: 20-30 minutes*

Math Game: "Grocery Store Budget Challenge"

- **Grades K-2:** At the store, have your child count items and compare prices (which costs more/less?).
- **Grades 3-5:** Give a \$20 budget for snacks. They must plan, add up costs, and calculate change.
- *Time needed: During regular shopping trip*

Science Experiment: "Seed Observation Journal"

- **Materials:** Bean seeds, wet paper towel, plastic bag, tape, journal/paper
- **Activity:** Plant seeds in a wet paper towel, tape to a sunny window. Observe and draw daily for the month.
- **Discussion:** "Just like this seed, you're growing too! What will you grow into this year?"

- *Time needed: 10 minutes setup, 5 minutes daily observation*

Vocabulary Games & Word Play

Word of the Day Chain	Alphabet Adventure
Each family member learns a new word. At dinner, everyone teaches their word. By month's end, you'll know 30+ new words!	Pick a category (animals, foods, places). Go A-Z naming items. First person who gets stuck picks the next category!

September Word List

Level	Words to Practice
K-1	goal, plan, friend, learn, grow, try, help, share, listen, think
2-3	responsibility, determination, cooperation, curious, organize, schedule, achieve, improve
4-5	aspiration, perseverance, collaboration, initiative, strategy, accountability, reflection, resilience

October: Curiosity & Discovery

Theme: Exploring the World Around Us

Conversation Starters

Week	Conversation Starter
Week 1	"What's something you learned this week that surprised you?"
Week 2	"If you could visit any place in the world to learn about it, where would you go and why?"
Week 3	"What question have you been wondering about? Let's look up the answer together!"
Week 4	"What's one thing you're getting better at? How can you tell?"

Family Activities

Reading Together: "Mystery & Discovery Night"

- **Grades K-2:** Read a mystery picture book. Pause before the ending and have your child predict what happens.
- **Grades 3-5:** Start a mystery chapter book series. Keep a "clue journal" together tracking evidence.

Math Game: "Pumpkin Math"

- **Grades K-2:** Estimate how many seeds are in a pumpkin. Scoop them out and count by 2s, 5s, and 10s.
- **Grades 3-5:** Measure the pumpkin's circumference, weight, and height. Calculate seed-to-weight ratios.

Science Experiment: "Leaf Classification Lab"

- **Materials:** Collected fall leaves, paper, glue, markers, magnifying glass
- **Activity:** Collect 10-15 different leaves. Sort by shape, size, color, and texture. Create a classification poster.
- **Discussion:** "Scientists sort things into groups to understand them better. How else could we sort these?"

October Word List

Level	Words to Practice
K-1	discover, explore, change, season, observe, wonder, search, pattern, sort, compare
2-3	investigate, experiment, hypothesis, classify, examine, evidence, predict, conclude
4-5	analysis, observation, methodology, classification, correlation, inference, variable, systematic

November: Gratitude & Growth

Theme: Appreciating Our Journey

Conversation Starters

Week	Conversation Starter
Week 1	"Name three things you're grateful for about school. Why are they important to you?"
Week 2	"Who is someone at school who has helped you? How could you thank them?"
Week 3	"What's something that was hard at first but is getting easier? What changed?"
Week 4	"If you could give advice to a younger student starting school, what would you say?"

Family Activities

Reading Together: "Gratitude Journal Creation"

- **All Grades:** Create a family gratitude journal. Each day in November, everyone writes or draws one thing they're thankful for. Read entries aloud at Thanksgiving dinner.

Math Game: "Thanksgiving Dinner Planner"

- **Grades K-2:** Help set the table -- count plates, cups, and silverware. How many do we need if 2 more guests come?
- **Grades 3-5:** Plan a Thanksgiving meal with a budget. Research prices, double recipes, and calculate total cost.

Science Experiment: "Kitchen Chemistry"

- **Materials:** Baking soda, vinegar, food coloring, dish soap, measuring cups
- **Activity:** Explore chemical reactions while baking. Test what happens when you mix baking soda and vinegar. Discuss acids vs. bases.

November Word List

Level	Words to Practice
K-1	thankful, kind, share, family, give, care, warm, feast, gather, love

2-3 gratitude, generosity, compassion, tradition, harvest, community, volunteer, appreciate

4-5 philanthropy, benevolence, reciprocity, heritage, abundance, commemorate, cultivate, stewardship

December: Reflection & Celebration

Theme: Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Conversation Starters

Week	Conversation Starter
Week 1	"What are you most proud of from this semester? Why does it matter to you?"
Week 2	"What would you like to learn more about next year? How can we make that happen?"
Week 3	"If you could create a holiday tradition for our family, what would it be?"
Week 4	"What are three goals you want to set for the new year?"

Family Activities

Reading Together: "Year in Review Scrapbook"

- **All Grades:** Create a scrapbook page for each month of the year. Include drawings, photos, and written memories. What was the best book read this year?

Math Game: "Holiday Gift Budget"

- **Grades K-2:** Sort coins and practice counting money. Make a wish list and practice adding prices.
- **Grades 3-5:** Create a gift-giving budget. Research prices, compare options, calculate totals with tax, and track spending.

Science Experiment: "Crystal Growing"

- **Materials:** Borax, pipe cleaners, string, jar, boiling water (adult supervision)
- **Activity:** Create crystal ornaments by dissolving borax in hot water and suspending pipe cleaner shapes. Observe crystal formation over 24 hours.
- **Discussion:** "How do crystals form? Why does temperature matter?"

December Word List

Level	Words to Practice
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K-1	celebrate, reflect, wish, hope, joy, peace, gift, sparkle, wonder, dream
2-3	accomplishment, milestone, resolution, transformation, dedication, progress, triumph
4-5	retrospective, aspiration, metamorphosis, culmination, perseverance, introspection, trajectory, renaissance

Growing Scholars, One Family at a Time

Thank you for investing time in your child's learning journey. These monthly packets are just the beginning -- consistency and connection are the keys to lasting growth.

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