

# PARENT BRIEFING

## Module

## Computer Technology

- Explore computer ergonomics and simple troubleshooting techniques.
- Examine the safety procedures and practices of home computing.
- Install and test various computer components.
- Examine the various types of computer memory and devices used to store computer data.
- Investigate the concepts and workings of the Internet.

### Session Focus

- History of Computers  
Safety Procedures  
Computer Introduction
- Computer Devices  
Operating Systems
- Types of Memory  
Install a Memory Upgrade  
Computer Memory
- I/O Ports  
Printer and Optical Mouse
- Computer Storage  
Install a CD-R/RW/DVD
- IEEE 1394 Standard  
Install an Expansion Card
- Computer Ergonomics  
Internet  
Operating a Computer

### Dear Parent,

As parents and teachers, we realize it can be hard to get a child to discuss what he or she is learning in school. We hope the information provided on this page will assist you in communicating with your child about what he or she is learning.

For the next few days, your child will be learning about the basic components of a computer and how to perform routine upgrades and maintenance to a computer system by completing the *Computer Technology* Module. As your child's best teacher, your participation in the learning process is extremely important.

### Words students will learn in this Module include:

- central processing unit
- ergonomics
- hardware
- input device
- integrated circuit
- operating system
- output device
- Plug and Play
- random access memory
- read-only memory
- software

### Questions for discussion

During the course of this Module, your child will be assessed on key concepts and activities. You might want to discuss these concepts with your child.

He or she will be asked to:

- Describe the purposes of input and output devices. (*An input device feeds data into the computer. An output device displays computer information in one form or another.*)
- Explain the difference between memory and storage. (*Memory refers to the physical memory of the computer and comes in the form of chips or memory modules. Storage refers to the data that is held on hard disk drives, tape backups, and removable disks.*)
- Explain the goals of ergonomics. (*The goals of ergonomics are to make the work environment fit the worker while preventing injury and increasing the comfort and productivity of the worker.*)



Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_