



Dear Parents,

We are having a great year in second grade! Here are some strategies, resources, and questions you can use with your second grader at home to help ensure his or her success.

Reading & Writing

Vocabulary to Know:

- Predictions
- Conclusions
- Text Features
- Table of Contents
- Headings
- Pictures
- Captions
- Maps
- Background Knowledge
- Apostrophes
- Short Vowels
- Long Vowels
- R-Controlled Vowels

Writing in Second Grade:

- Start a journal: Use it to remember the trips, weekends, and special times your family has spent together. Your child can both write and illustrate the journal — in fact, you can pick a favorite entry from the journal and work with your child to write a longer piece or story about that event, illustrating it with photographs or drawings.

Tip for Parents: *Tell Family Tales*

- Children love to hear stories about their families. Talk about a funny thing that happened when you were young.

Questions to ask your child while he/she is reading:

- Based on the title, what do you think this story or text will be about?
- How do you think (character) will handle (event)?
- What do you think (character) will do differently next time?
- What information do you learn in the captions of this picture?
- How do the pictures or maps help you understand the words?
- Why does the author put a heading on the sections? How does it help you?
- What is a different heading the author could have used for this section?

Math

Vocabulary to Know:

- Fraction
- Halves
- Fourths
- Eighths
- Thirds
- Sixths
- Penny
- Nickel
- Dime
- Quarter
- Cents
- Symbol
- Dollar
- Symbol
- Symmetry
- Circle
- Sphere
- Square
- Cube
- Rectangle
- Rectangular Prism

Skills to Practice:

- Naming and writing fractions
- Counting a collection of coins
- Identifying how circles/sphere, square/cube, rectangle/rectangular prism are alike and different
- Drawing lines of symmetry in figures

Tip for Parents:

Show your children how math is used in the real world. Help them make a recipe that uses fractions. Give them some change from your pocket or purse and have them count it. Help your children look for and identify shapes around their home.

Questions to ask your child about math:

- Why are the words part, whole, and equal important to fractions?
- Can you create a figure with a line of symmetry?
- How is a circle and sphere alike? Different?
- How is a rectangle and rectangular prism alike? Different?
- How is a square and cube alike? Different?

Science

Vocabulary to Know:

Questions to Ask:

- Life Cycles
- Interdependent
- Living
- Nonliving
- Habitat
- Organisms
- How do animals change as they grow?
- How do plants change as they grow?
- How does an animals' habitat provide for its needs?

Hands-On Learning at Home:

- Have your child go outside and collect sticks, rocks, leaves, moss, sand, and other nature items in a shoe box or plastic container. Have them build an animal habitat and discuss what kinds of animals could live there (e.g. a beaver, a squirrel, etc.).

Social Studies

People & Vocabulary to Know:

- George Washington
- Carver
- Helen Keller
- Thurgood Marshall
- Rosa Parks
- Jackie Robinson
- Cesar Chavez
- Benjamin Franklin
- Abraham Lincoln
- Presidents' Day
- Independence Day

Library Book Recommendations to Read to Your Child:

- The Undefeated*, Written by Kwame Alexander and Illustrated by Kadir Nelson
- Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History*, Written by Vashti Harrison with Kwesi Johnson

Important Dates to Remember

March 5: Early Release Day/Parent Teacher Conference Day

April 4-April 13: Spring Break