

# SECOND GRADE NEWSLETTER

November 2016

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Becoming Experts: Non Fiction Reading	Throughout the month of November, students will be immersed in Non-Fiction texts. The unit is divided into three parts. The first part focuses students' attention on growing knowledge as they pay attention to details, putting parts of text together, and questioning texts. The next part works to tackle both the tricky word work and vocabulary development students need to navigate NF reading. The last part of the unit sets readers up to grow knowledge across texts as they read topic sets of texts, comparing, contrasting, and connecting information across texts. Please make sure your child reads every evening for at least 25 minutes in both fiction and nonfiction text to continue growth in reading levels.
Writing	All About Book	Wow! We have accomplished so much within the first two months of school! We are very proud of the students and how hard they have worked in the genre of Narrative writing. We are beginning to write Informational All-About books. The students will be writing A LOT of books! Some will be on things they know well and are experts on, and others will be research-based using books, computers and interviews. Your child can write nonfiction paragraphs every day! Just look at the world around you! It is all real! Please support your child by making sure he/she has a main focus for the paragraph and include lots of details!
Math	Number Concepts	Mathematicians will continue working on Number Concepts. This unit focuses on even and odd numbers, place value, expanded form, different names for numbers, and patterns within numbers. Students will be working in centers to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them using strategies learned in class. Take a look at their notebooks and workbooks to get helpful tips to assist your child in problem solving skills.
Science	Earth Materials	For the month of November, we are continuing to study earth's materials. We will be tackling complex text and deconstructing juicy sentences. We will be studying parts of language to help us understand those juicy sentences. For example, we will notice that the phrase 'just as' is used in a sentence to help us compare two different things. (Ex: <u>Just as</u> rose quartz has a pink coloring from minerals inside it, amethyst has a purple coloring from the minerals inside it.) We will continue to focus on science content vocabulary through read aloud. Ask your child to tell you about what they are learning about rocks. Read library books about rocks with them to reinforce what they are learning and to build their knowledge.
Social Studies	Rules, Rights and Responsibilities	We will be continuing on in our journey to discover the true importance of government and democracy. This month's focus will be on voting and the democratic process. They will also participate in immersive groups where they explore the concept of voting through media sources, short texts and inquiry style work. At home, take a trip to the library with your child or to a museum to further foster their curiosity in our nation's founding concepts.

## Focus of the Month: Social Studies Close Reading

Children will participate in the close reading of texts to thoughtfully research how voting is the foundation of our democratic nation. We will also be looking closely at what is going on in our Presidential election through close reading of articles and watching of videos. You can continue this work at home by reread a story or article a few times with your child asking them: "what was this mostly about? What did you learn? What part was confusing?"