

SECOND GRADE NEWSLETTER

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
<u>Reading</u>	<u>Rolling Up your Sleeves in Reading</u>	Children will continue to grow like beanstalks during reading this month. We will be working on sounding out tricky words, using meaning to drive our comprehension and our fluency, as well as strengthening our reading behaviors. At home, please have your child reading independently for at least 20 minutes a night and have book conversations with them. Ask them to tell you specific details about their books including character names, setting, problems, solutions, and retelling what is happening throughout their stories and chapters.
<u>Writing</u>	<u>Narrative Writing</u>	Your child has selected moments that matter to them and are working on adding details by using their senses to bring their story to life. This month, we will be reading Mentor Texts closely to emulate the wonderful writing styles that published authors use. A Mentor Text is a well-known book/author that we read, and reread so that your child knows it well. Your child will be using a checklist to ensure that he/she is accountable for revising and editing their work. Be sure to discuss your child's writing with them and ask them ways they can improve parts of their stories. Did they include their senses, dialogue, actions, internal thinking and show their story? Work with him/her on adding details that make their stories ALIVE!
<u>Math</u>	<u>Number Concepts</u>	In this unit of study, we are being introduced to Number Concepts. The focus of this unit is getting to know even and odd numbers, understanding place value, expanded form and exploring different ways to write numbers. We will also explore counting patterns within 100 and 1,000. Practice skip-counting with your child by 2s, 5s, 10s, etc. within 100 and 1,000. Help your child discover how counting patterns can help them take short cuts in real life like counting large numbers of objects.
<u>Science</u>	<u>Earth Materials</u>	For the month of October, we will continue to study earth materials such as soil and rocks. We will continue to focus on science content vocabulary through read aloud. It will be helpful to take your child on a nature walk to collect and study different rocks. Get a book from the library to help you identify what you collected. We will even be taking a class trip to the Museum of Natural History on October 11 to the Gem and Mineral Exhibit to get an up-close look at different rocks and learn how they are constructed.
<u>Social Studies</u>	<u>Rules, Rights and Responsibilities</u>	We will be using a mentor text, <u>If I Ran for President</u> by Catherine Stier, to incorporate language skills, while we learn about laws and democracy through the eyes of government officials. They will participate in centers that allow them to explore language and its uses. For example, they will be deconstructing and reconstructing sentences and thinking about the parts of the sentence, what each part means and how they fit together. Continue to encourage your child to be a good citizen at home and school.

Focus of the Month: Close Reading

This month and throughout the school year, our students are going to be doing Close Reading across all academic areas. Close Reading is a careful and purposeful rereading of a text. This is when a child reads any text and is really focus on what the author had to say, what the author's purpose was, what the words mean, and what the structure of the text tells us. Close reading requires that students actually think and understand what they are reading. 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?"