



# SECOND GRADE NEWSLETTER

June 2017

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Non-Fiction	As we conclude the last month of school, second grade readers will be revisiting <b>nonfiction texts</b> . We will be reading about writing in preparation for writing lab reports and conducting experiments. Children will be studying, researching, and taking a deeper dive into topics and creating All About Books that correlate to their reading. The children will be reading <b>nonfiction</b> texts, including articles, with a Scientist's lens, asking themselves questions to gain knowledge and information while they research.
Writing	Writing as Scientists	Second graders are performing experiments in science and connecting it to writing. Students are writing about their experiments in the form of a Lab Report by developing a testable question, formulating a hypothesis, testing it and collecting data through observations, determining results and then developing a conclusion for the experiment. Then, students will select a topic from one experiment and write an All About Book or an Informational Essay about their topic choice. At home, push his/her thinking about why things happen. <b>Ask your child, "What caused the outcome or effect?" and "What could have changed the outcome or effect?"</b> You can also perform research at home about a topic of your child's choice!
Math	Data/Addition and Subtraction with Regrouping	In this unit of study, students will be working on interpreting and constructing <b>picture graphs and bar graphs to solve problems</b> . They will be collecting data to make picture graphs and bar graphs. They will also be working on 3-digit addition and subtraction. Students will be required to apply place value concepts when using a break a part strategy for 3-digit addition and subtraction. They will be recording 3-digit addition and subtraction using the standard algorithm with possible regrouping of both ones and tens. At home, please show your child how graphs are important in our world.
Science	Plant Diversity	For the month of June, we will continue to study and learn about <b>plants</b> in science through science experiments, inquiry tasks and close reading of science texts. It would be helpful to continue taking nature walks with your child looking at different types of trees and plants. Please discuss with your children the different things you notice about the trees and plants. Also please ask your children to share with you the science experiments that we are conducting in class.
Social Studies	Maps & Geography	In June, we will integrate two units of study: Maps & Geography Unit and the Urban, Suburban & Rural Unit, and explore how they connect through content, close reading, and language instruction. Both individually and in small groups, students will be able to take a deep dive into the content through both media and text sources, as well as absorb proper language usage in juicy sentence word play. Next, we will be exploring both the geography and demographics of a suburban and rural community. Children will then do research projects on the community of their choice in order to become a knowledgeable expert.

## Focus of the Month: S.T.E.M: Math, Science, Engineering, Technology

This month our focus is Math, Science, Engineering, and Technology. We are conducting experiments as a part of our **Plant Diversity unit** that mostly focuses on plants and how they grow. We are coating the leaves of a corn plant with Vaseline to see how it affects the growth of the plant, growing seeds in light and in darkness to compare where they grow better and putting white carnations into water with food coloring to see how plants absorb water. As we conduct these experiments we are making use of our technology to conduct research and learn more about plants. Your child is learning about the scientific method (Question, Hypothesis, Materials, Procedure, Data, Results and Conclusion) and using this method in conducting these experiments in a careful scientific manner. Please come to our **Third Thursday celebration on June 15** to see our science fair and look at all the wonderful work your child has done. Please discuss the scientific method with your child, ask what he/she knows and look up some simple experiments you can do at home using this universal method of conducting experiments. Continue this work over the summer, incorporating what they know about graphing and charting to record your findings where it is applicable. Encourage your child to draw conclusions about the experiments just like real scientists do. Then go online and see what other scientists have learned about the same subject!