

## Second Grade Tips

### Language Arts Tips

- Have your child help you write thank-you cards, grocery lists, shopping lists, etc.
- Give your child a small diary (or make one with sheets of paper). Encourage him to write daily.
- Get a family dictionary. Help your child look up unfamiliar words.
- As you read with your child, ask her to sound out difficult words. After you've read it once or twice, ask your child to read it to you. Help her along the way. Encourage her efforts.
- As you start a new book, have your child point out and discuss the title, author, and table of contents.
- Select an easy recipe from a cookbook. Help your child make the recipe by reading it and following the directions. Have your child serve it to the family and explain how he did it.
- Read a variety of children's books with your child: poetry, science, fiction, history, biography, etc.
- Introduce as many reading materials as you can to your child: telephone books, newspapers, catalogs, magazines, dictionary, notes, owners manuals, pre-selected junk mail, encyclopedia, bulletin board notices, food packaging, atlas, cookbook, etc. Help your child know about the information found in each one.
- After you take a trip, encourage him to write a letter to his grandparents or other relative about it. Work with him on spelling, punctuation, revising, capitalization, and grammar. Encourage all his efforts, then mail it.
- Encourage any relative to write letters or notes to your child. Have them send it through the mail. Give your child some envelopes so she can respond.
- Severely limit TV and video game use.
- Ask open-ended questions of your child (such as "Tell me from start to finish what you did at the park," or "Tell me all you have to do to complete the school project.") Have him relate as much detail as possible.
- After a child reads a book, ask him to tell you the title, author, main characters, a brief description of the story, a major event in the story, how the book ends, what he learned if anything, and what were the hardest words.
- Teach and sing songs with your child: such as Row, row, row, your boat and other common songs.

### Math Tips

- Ask your child to draw a map of your neighborhood – streets, houses, buildings, shops, etc.
- Help your child count to 1,000.
- After your child learns the value of coins (penny, nickel, dime, quarter, etc.), play a coin thinking game after you get change at a store. "I have three coins. They're worth 7 cents. What are they?" etc.
- Play a game flipping a coin. If it's tails, your child gets a point. You get the point if it's heads. Flip it 10 times and see who gets the most points. After a while, expand it to flipping 50 times. Have your child keep track of the score with a paper and pencil. Ask him to estimate how many tails he'll get.
- While grocery shopping have your child read the prices, weigh the produce, try to compute costs, add up the purchase as he goes along, etc.
- Put a thimble full of dry rice on a plate. Ask your child to estimate how many individual grains there are. Have him group by tens and then count them by tens.
- Ask your child to locate all the different shapes in your house. Have him explain what they are (such as heart shaped, egg shaped, as well as the common shapes).
- Have your child keep track of the books he's read. Put the list on the refrigerator. How many has he read up to now? How many will it be if he reads 10 more? 15 more? If he had read 9 less books, what would be the total?
- Have your child tell you the time by half-hour and five-minute intervals (such as "it's half past six", or it's ten minutes till seven").
- After learning the use of measuring tools (ruler, yardstick, tape measure), have your child measure objects in your home – books, chairs, family members, etc. Have him put several together and measure them. Try putting several toothpicks together end to end, ask her to estimate the length, then have her measure it. When necessary, talk about  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , inches.

## West Contra Costa Unified School District



## Student Standards for Second Grade

The West Contra Costa Unified School District, in partnership with families, staff, students, and the community, develops educational programs to meet the needs of all students.

This brochure is designed to introduce families and caregivers to the WCCUSD Standards in Language Arts and Mathematics. These grade-level standards were adopted by the school board during the 1998-99 school year. Students are assessed every year to monitor their progress in meeting these standards.

Our school district is committed to working with families to assure student mastery of these mandated standards.

### Board of Education

Karen Leong Fenton  
George Harris III  
Patricia Player  
Glen Price  
Charles Ramsey

## Second Grade Language Arts

### **Standard 1 - Reading: Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development**

Students understand the basic features of a reading. They select and know how to translate letter patterns into spoken language using phonics, syllables, and word parts. They apply this knowledge to achieve fluent oral and silent reading.

- Decoding (ability to sound out words and get the meaning) and Word Recognition
- Vocabulary and Concept Development

### **Standard 2 - Reading: Comprehension**

Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate material. They draw upon a variety of comprehension strategies as needed, including generating and responding to essential questions, making predictions, and comparing information from several sources.

- Structural Features of Informational Materials (titles, table of contents, chapter headings)
- Comprehension and Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Text

### **Standard 3 -Literary Response and Analysis**

Students read and respond to a wide variety of significant works of children's literature. They distinguish between the structural features of text and the literary terms or elements (i.e., theme, plot, setting, and characters).

- Narrative Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Text

### **Standard 4 - Writing: Writing Strategies**

Students write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. Their writing considers both the reader and purpose. They successfully use the stages of the writing process (i.e., pre-writing, drafting, revising, and editing successive versions).

- Organization and Focus
- Penmanship (create readable papers with legible handwriting)
- Research (dictionary, thesaurus, atlas)
- Revising and Evaluating Strategies

### **Standard 5 - Writing Applications**

#### ***(Different Types and Their Characteristics)***

Students write compositions that describe and explain familiar objects, events, and experiences. Student writing uses standard English and the writing process.

### **Standard 6 - Written and Oral English Language Conventions**

Students write and speak using standard English.

- Sentence Structure (distinguish between complete/incomplete sentences)
- Grammar (identify and use nouns and verbs correctly)
- Punctuation (use commas in letter greetings and closure, dates, words in a series)
- Capitalization (proper nouns, months, days of the week, titles, initials of people)
- Spelling

### **Standard 7 – Listening and Speaking: Strategies**

Students listen and respond critically to oral communication. They speak in a manner that guides and informs the listener's understanding of key ideas, using appropriate phrasing, pitch, and loudness.

- Comprehension
- Organization and Delivery of Oral Communication

### **Standard 8 – Speaking Applications**

#### ***(Different Types and Their Characteristics)***

Students deliver brief recitations and oral presentations about familiar experiences or interests that are organized around a coherent theme. Student speaking uses standard English, organization, and delivery

## Second Grade Mathematics

strategies.

### **Number Sense**

- Students count, read, write and understand place value for whole numbers up to 1000.
- Students estimate, calculate and solve problems involving addition and subtraction of two-and three-digit numbers.
- Students solve simple problems involving multiplication and division, and memorize multiplication tables of 2's, 5's, 10's.
- Students understand that fractions and decimals can refer to parts of a whole and recognize fractions as  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{5}$  and  $\frac{1}{12}$ .
- Students demonstrate and solve problems by representing, adding and subtracting amounts of money with coins and bills.
- Students use estimation strategies in computation and problem solving that involve numbers that use the ones, tens, hundreds and thousands places.

### **Algebra and Functions**

- Students show and interpret number relationships to create and solve problems involving addition and subtraction.

### **Measurement and Geometry**

- Students understand that measurement is accomplished by identifying a unit of measure, repeating that unit and comparing it to the item to be measured (measure to the nearest inch/centimeter).
- Students identify and describe circle, triangle, square, rectangle, sphere, pyramid, cube, and rectangular prism.

### **Statistics, Data Analysis and Probability**

- Students collect, record, organize, display and interpret numerical data on bar graphs and charts with tally marks.
- Students demonstrate an understanding of patterns and how they grow, and describe them in general ways (e.g. 4, 8, 12,...).