

Dear Parents,

It's exciting that summer is here already! We hope that you thoroughly enjoy and relax during your summer break. Summer is time for family bonding, making memories, and being carefree. It is also a time for learning but in a more informal way. Reading a book by the pool or exploring on a family nature walk are great ways to promote learning along with practicing real world math

As we look into the future, we are eager to have a productive and fun second grade year with your child. In order to assist your child in retaining the skills that they have learned in first grade, it is encouraged that they continually be practiced on a daily basis over the two month academic break. We recommend that about 20 minutes of the day, 4 days a week be devoted to reviewing skills. This will ease the transition into second grade and allow your child to feel confident when school begins. We ask you to keep a record of your child's reading and math activities.

Reading:

There is a summer reading log included to document your child's reading. It includes the date, time, and title of the book. The hope is to read at least 4 days a week with 20 minutes of reading time. You can use books from home, library books, or any online reading program including Epic books (<https://www.getepic.com/sign-in>), Readworks (<https://www.readworks.org/>), or summer reading websites which have a variety of sources for you. (<https://blog.reallygoodstuff.com/11-free-reading-websites-for-kids/>).

I have also included a list of books for your child to read. They can choose from a variety of fiction and nonfiction as well as reading levels. Reading to your child is a great way to keep their interest during the summer.

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/book-lists/ultimate-summer-reading-for-1st-to-2nd-grade.html?eml=Teachers/smpd/20210427/Pinterest/TeachersPage/TCS/Beta/SummerReading/UltimateSummerReadingBookList1stand2ndgrade>

Math:

The children can continue to practice their math facts and keep a log of doing it on a daily basis. I have included a calendar with fun math activities for them to try. We are encouraging them to try real world activities.

STEAM:

Choosing a variety of projects is a great way to incorporate science/technology/engineering/art/math or commonly known as STEAM. There are some websites where you can find activities.

<https://www.steampoweredfamily.com/>

<https://www.makeandtakes.com/summer-steam-projects>

There are many more websites you can enjoy to get ideas from as well:

www.Scholastic.com

www.splashlearn.com

abcya.com

roomrecess.com

www.arcademics.com

www.mathplayground.com

www.mathgames.com

www.math-aids.com

Readworks: <https://www.readworks.org/summer-reading>

Clever: www.clever.com/in/diobpt

Freckle: www.freckle.com

Highlights: <https://www.highlights.com/parents>

XMath: <https://xtramath.org/#/home/index>

Once again, real world problems and applications are the best way for your child to stay engaged this summer such as cooking, baking, measuring distance to ride a bike, taking surveys of favorite ice cream and using tally charts.

Summer Learning Ideas – Getting Ready for Second Grade

Read to your child and talk about what you read. Make connections and talk about beginning, middle and end. Ask questions, such as: Who are the main characters? When did the story take place? Where did the story take place? Retell (summarize) the story in their own words. Recall story events in the correct sequence. Make predictions - What could happen next? Compare/Contrast - How are the characters, places, etc., the same or different?

Visit the library and have your child choose books they like that are at their appropriate reading level.

Continue reviewing first grade sight words by reading and writing them. Introducing new vocabulary words.

Dictate simple sentences. Encourage editing for capital letters at the beginning of the sentence and proper nouns, as well as periods, question marks, and exclamation points. Encourage children to reread their writing to make sure that it makes sense. Practice correct letter formation using Zaner-Bloser font.

Encourage story writing and/or keep a journal with words and illustrations. You can also write letters to your child and have them write back to you.

Practice writing first and last name, phone number, and home address.

Play with rhyming words.

Practice simple addition and subtraction facts through 20, building on strategies such as counting all, counting on, skip counting, etc.

Talk about time: today, tomorrow, yesterday, days of the week, and months of the year. Practice telling time to the hour and half hour using an analog clock, identifying the hour hand and the minute hand.

Practice identifying and counting coins.

Play with shapes, building with blocks. Discuss symmetry.

Practice using a ruler, scale, and thermometer.

Practice fractions by sharing snacks, cutting sandwiches into parts, or cooking.

Encourage counting to 200, skip counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's while doing an activity, such as jumping rope.

Make learning and practicing skills easy with simple games and conversation. Have fun together!

We hope you and your family enjoy the summer break (and continue learning in creative, fun ways!) Please do not hesitate to contact us by email. Please visit our classroom webpages to download the summer packet and for additional information about the summer packet or new grade level curriculum.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Laura Heyder
Grade 2 Teacher

Jeanne Vitetta
Grade 1 Teacher

Summer Reading List

Students Entering 2nd Grade

By maintaining an active literacy life over the summer, you ensure your child the best start to the next grade level! 😊 Happy Reading and Writing!

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS: PLEASE DON'T BECOME CONCERNED OVER READING LEVELS

- In Elementary school, each child is developing on their own continuum, and it is useless to assess your child's strengths as a reader by his/her reading level alone. To develop strength as a reader, *children need lots of time to read lots of books* that are "just right" for their abilities.

FAQ: WILL HAVING MY CHILD READ HARDER BOOKS HELP THEM GET STRONGER AT READING?

Nope! *Exactly the opposite can happen!*

- It is **critically** important that children **not** read books that are too difficult for them. Research has shown that reading books that are at the "frustration level" can actually stunt a readers' growth, or send them backwards in their development.
- When in doubt, help your child select books that feel "friendly/familiar" to other books they have enjoyed. Also, check out series books - many of the books in this packet are part of a series. Not only is it fun to follow familiar characters through new adventures and experiences, but reading through a book series can help readers grow!

FAQ – MY CHILD REALLY CAN READ HARDER BOOKS THROUGH – AND WANTS TO! THEY CAN READ ALL THE WORDS ON THE PAGE WITHOUT MAKING MISTAKES. THEY EVEN SEEM TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON THE IN STORY. ARE YOU SURE I SHOULDN'T GIVE THEM MUCH HARDER BOOKS?

Good question, but proceed with caution!

- "Harder books" often deal with themes and issues that are more mature. These texts, while perhaps "readable" or "decodable" by your child, may not be developmentally appropriate for your child's age. Also, please keep in mind that just because readers can read each word on the page smoothly and without error, does not mean that they are able to comprehend the sophisticated themes and layered plot lines that these texts may contain.
- If your child is desperate to read a harder book, read it aloud together! 😊 Their ability to comprehend a story by listening to it read aloud is much higher than their ability to understand it alone. Plus, it's a lovely way to bond with your child over your shared love of reading!

Have a safe and happy summer!

Please help your child select books that you are 100% confident your child can read independently *with ease*, and that are clearly written for readers the age of your child. You will see the results of this important, careful book selection work in September! 😊

GREAT WEBSITES FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS: <http://www.hornbookguide.com>, <http://www.cbcbooks.org/readinglists/>, <http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/> and <http://www.nsta.org/recommends/>

<u>LEVEL G - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Biscuit (series)	Capucilli, Alyssa	X	
Harry Books (series)	Ziefert, Harriet	X	
I Took my Frog to the Library	Kimmel, Eric	X	
The Carrot Seed	Krauss, Ruth	X	
Just for You	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Mine's The Best	Bonsall, Crosby N.	X	
More Spaghetti, I Say!	Gekman, Rita Golden	X	
A New House For Mole And Mouse	Ziefert, Harriet	X	
Nicky Upstairs And Down	Ziefert, Harriet	X	
Sheep In A Jeep	Shaw, Nancy	X	
Titch	Hutchins, Pat	X	
Zoo-Looking	Fox, Mem	X	
Just Grandpa and Me	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Barnyard Math With Farmer Fred	Hill, Sandi		X
Boats	Rockwell, Anne		X
Caring For Our Lizard	Graves, Kimberlee		X
A Day At Greenhill Farm	Nicholson, Sue		X
A Day in The Life Of A Teacher	Hayward, Linda		X
Houses	Williams, Rozanne L.		X
I'm A Caterpillar	Morzollo, Jean		X
It started As An Egg	Graves, Kimberlee		X
Saving Money	Thayer, Tanya		X
Wild Weather	Kenah, Kathering		X

<u>LEVEL H - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
The Cake That Mack Ate	Robart, Rose	X	
Captain Cat	Hoff, Syd	X	
Chrysanthemum	Henkes, Kevin	X	
Danny And The Dinosaur (series)	Hoff, Syd	X	
Goodnight Moon	Brown, Margaret W.	X	
Just Me...(series)	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Owl Babies	Waddell, Martin	X	
Sammy The Seal (series)	Hoff, Syd	X	
We Are Best Friends	Aliki	X	
You'll Soon Grow Into Them, Titch	Hutchins, Pat	X	
Mouse Books (series)	Kraus, Robert	X	
ABC I Like Me!	Carlos, Nancy		X
Building a House	Barton, Byron		X
Butterflies	Ashley, Susan		X
Diving Dolphins	Wallace, Karen		X
I Want To Be A Firefighter	Liebman, Dan		X
Mail Carrier	Gorman, Jacqueline		X
Sun Up, Sun Down	Gibbons, Gail		X
Surprise Puppy!	Walker-Hodge, Judith		X
Tale Of A Tadpole	Wallace, Karen		X
Whatever The Weather	Wallace, Karen		X

<u>LEVEL I - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Froggy Books (series)	London, Jonathan	X	
Father Bear Comes Home	Minarik, Else H.	X	
Happy Birthday, Sam	Hutchins, Pat	X	
Hattie And The Fox	Fox, Mem	X	
Henny Penny	Galdone, Paul	X	
Just Grandma And Me	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Leo The Late Bloomer	Kraus, Robert	X	
Messy Bessey (series)	McKissack, Patricia	X	
Mrs. Brice's Mice	Hoff, Syd	X	
The Quilt	Jonas, Ann	X	
Who Took The Farmer's Hat?	Nodset, Joan L.	X	
Airport	Barton, Byron		X
All The Colors Of The Rainbow	Fowler, Allan		X
Bees	Ashley, Susan		X
Charlie Needs A Cloak	dePaola, Tomie		X
A Day In The Life Of A Police Officer	Hayward, Linda		X
A Day In The Life Of A TV Reporter	Hayward, Linda		X
Dogs On The Farm	Schuh, Mari C.		X
Rockets And Spaceships	Wallace, Karen		X
Teacher	Gorman, Jacqueline		X
Wild Baby Animals	Wallace, Karen		X
A Girl Named Helen Keller	Schmidt, Karen		X
Spooky Riddles	Brown, Marc		X

<u>LEVEL J - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Beezy (series)	McDonald, Megan	X	
Danny And The Dinosaur (series)	Hoff, Syd	X	
Bear (series)	Asch, Frank	X	
Henry And Mudge (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
Little Bear (series)	Minarik, Else L	X	
Curious George (series)	Rey, Margaret	X	
Poppleton (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
Fox (series)	Marshall, Edward	X	
Mr. Putter and Tabby (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
The Snowy Day	Keats, Ezra Jack	X	
Mouse Soup, Owl at Home, etc	Lobel, Arnold	X	
There's An...(series)	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Where The Wild Things Are	Sendak, Maurice	X	
Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!	Dussling, Jennifer		X
Celebrating Chanukah: Eight Nights	Kupperstein, Joel		X
Celebrating Chinese New Year	Drew, Rosa		X
Dinosaur Dinners	Davis, Lee		X
Going By Bus	Ashley, Susan		X
Guinea Pigs	Macken, JoAnn Early		X
Slinky, Scaly Snakes	Dussling, Jennifer		X
The Statue Of Liberty	Penner, Lucille Recht		X
Veterinarian	Gorman, Jacqueline		X

<u>LEVEL K - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Arthur's Early Chapter Books (series)	Hoban, Lillian	X	
Clifford (series)	Brickwell, Norman	X	
Golly Sisters (series)	Byars, Betsy	X	
Frog And Toad (series)	Lobel, Arnold	X	
If You Give a Mouse a... (series)	Numeroff, L	X	
Madeline (series)	Bemelmens, Ludwig	X	
Little Bill (series)	Cosby, Bill	X	
Nate The Great (series)	Sharmat, Marjorie W.	X	
Camp Knock Knock (series)	Douglas, Ann	X	
Three Days On A River In A Red Canoe	Williams, Vera B.	X	
Betsy Ross And the Silver Thimble	Greene, Stephanie		X
Chicken Aren't The Only Ones	Heller, Ruth		X
Dinosaur Time	Parish, peggy		X
The Emperor's Egg	Jenkins, Martin		X
Fire Fighter	Royston, Angela		X
First Flight: The Story Of Tom Tate And The Wright Brothers	Shea, George		X
A Girl Named Helen Keller	Lundell, Margo		X
Keep The Lights Burning, Abbie	Roop, Peter And Connie		X
Looking At Maps And Gobles	Bredeson, Carmen		X

<u>LEVEL L - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Amelia Bedelia (series)	Parish, Peggy	X	
Cam Jansen (series)	Adler, David A,	X	
Geroge And Martha (series)	Marshall. James	X	
Judy Moody (series)	McDonald, Megan	X	
Miss Nelson Books (series)	Allard, Harry	X	
Pinky And Rex (series)	Howe, James	X	
Black Lagoon (series)	Thaler, Mike	X	
Ginger Brown (series)	Wyeth, Sharon	X	
Deputy Dan (series)	Rosenbloom, Joseph	X	
Horrible Harry (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
Song Lee (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story Of Balto	Standford, Natalie		X
Dinosaur Days	Milton, Joyce		X
Dolphin	Morris, Robert Ada		X
From Flower to Honey	Nelson, Robin		X
From Idea to Book	Marshall. James		X
Hungry, Hungry Sharks	Cole, Joanna		X
The Snow Walker	Wetterer, Margaret K.		X
Thinking About Ants	Brenner, Barbara		X
Whales: The Gentle Giants	Milton, Joyce		X
What's It like To Be A Fish?	Pfeffer, Wendy		X

Summer Reading

Need suggestions for beach reading or books to bring to camp? Check out these hand-picked titles that are ideal for the season. ☺

Picture Books

***Thunder-Boomer!* written by Shutta Crum, illustrated by Carol Thompson (Clarion)**

A satisfying picture book captures all the drama and power of a summer storm even as it rewards readers with a smaller-scale, homey story. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Poetrees* written and illustrated by Douglas Florian (Beach Lane/Simon)**

The popular poet-illustrator celebrates the utility and diversity of trees in poems and freely rendered multimedia art. Grade level: K–3. 48 pages.

***Pond Circle* written by Betsy Franco, illustrated by Stefano Vitale (McElderry)**

Accompanied by creative oil paintings on wood, Franco's cumulative text builds excitement in this exploration of the food chain in a pond. Grade level: Preschool–2. 32 pages.

***My Garden* written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow)**

Pastel-colored sweets and a random collection of everyday items fill a little girl's imaginary garden. Grade level: Preschool–2. 32 pages.

***Sky Magic* selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illustrated by Mariusz Stawarski (Dutton)**

Striking and boldly colored images fuel this collection of poetry dedicated to the sky, from day to night. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Hooray for Summer!* written and illustrated by Kazuo Iwamura (NorthSouth)**

In this old-fashioned picture book translated from the Japanese, three little squirrel children play outside until a sudden thunderstorm blows in. Grade level: K–3. 28 pages.

***Ready for Anything!* written and illustrated by Keiko Kasza (Putnam)**

Despite the nice weather, melodramatic Raccoon ponders what could go wrong if he and his friend Duck go on a picnic. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Killer Ants* written by Nicholas Nirgiotis, illustrated by Emma Stevenson (Holiday)**

Nirgiotis brings readers into the ant world via its scariest inhabitants but also includes plenty of fascinating information and colorful close-up illustrations. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***The Patterson Puppies and the Rainy Day* written and illustrated by Leslie Patricelli (Candlewick)**

The puppy siblings cure their rainy day blues by throwing an indoor beach bash. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.

***The Lion & the Mouse* illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Little, Brown)**

Pinkney's detailed pencil and watercolor art beautifully conveys Aesop's fable of kindness rewarded. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.

***All the World* written by Liz Garton Scanlon, illustrated by Marla Frazee (Beach Lane/Simon)**

Simple rhyming text and spacious illustrations tell the story of a West Coast family's day, which concludes with a celebration. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.

***Robot Zot!* written by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by David Shannon (Simon)**

Household appliances become the fierce opponents of Robot Zot during his quest to save his betrothed, a lady toy cell phone. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.

***Henry Aaron's Dream* written and illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick)**

In this picture book biography, Tavares describes Aaron's rise from a boy who "didn't have a bat" to a baseball star. Grade level: 1–5. 40 pages.

***The Circus Ship* written and illustrated by Chris Van Dusen (Candlewick)**

Humorous illustrations and poems from a variety of perspectives reinvent the true story of a circus shipwreck. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.