

# Second Grade Summer Reading

Dear Families,

Experts agree that children who read during the summer months gain reading skills while those who do not often slide backwards (RIF). Don't let your child experience the "summer slide"! Choose books from the following list or head to the library and explore the shelves. Children should read for at least 15 minutes each day. A general rule for selecting books at the appropriate reading level is to choose a page and ask your child to read it aloud. If he or she does not know more than 5 words on the page, the book may be too difficult for them to read independently. Don't let that discourage you - consider reading a "too difficult" book aloud to your child. Your child is never too old to enjoy being read to. This opens the door for quality time and interesting conversations.

Here are some Reading activities that will help your student maintain the progress they have made and get them ready for the next year. There is no calendar to follow, just a list of suggested activities to do on a regular or as needed basis. Please be sure that your child reads a minimum of 3 books this summer (2 fiction and 1 non-fiction). Each child entering 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is required to take an AR quiz on two of the books and turn in one of the following projects on the third book that they have read from the list below.

Research shows that children who continue to read during the summer months gain reading and vocabulary skills and progress during the summer break, while those who do not often slide backwards. Don't let your child experience the "summer slide"! Choose books from the following list or head to the library and explore the shelves. Children should read for at least 15 minutes each day. A general rule for selecting books at the appropriate reading level is to choose a page and ask your child to read it aloud. If he or she does not know more than 5 words on the page, the book may be too difficult for them to read independently. Don't let that discourage you - consider reading a "too difficult" book aloud to your child. Your child is never too old to enjoy being read to. This opens the door for quality time and interesting book talk with your child.

## **Nonfiction Titles:**

Any titles by Seymour Simon

Any titles by DK Publishing Magazines such as Ranger Rick & National Geographic Kids

Check out a fun biography & learn about someone's life

## **Fiction Titles:**

### **Any books in the following series:**

Judy Moody (Series) by Meg McDonald  
Amelia Bedelia (Series) by Peggy Parish  
Flat Stanley (Series) by Jeff Brown  
Junie B. Jones (Series) by Barbara Park  
Ramona (Series) by Beverly Cleary  
Magic Tree House (Series) by Mary Pope Osborne  
Cam Jansen (Series) by David A. Adler  
Amber Brown (Series) by Paula Danziger  
Curious George (Series) by H.A. Rey  
The Magic School Bus (Series) by Joanna Cole  
Nate the Great (Series) by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

## **Reading Activities:**

- Practice the list of attached high frequency (sight) words.
- Read daily to increase fluency
- Play and practice on the computer. The following sites are effective:

<http://www.jumpstart.com/>, <http://www.bookadventure.com/Home.aspx>,  
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>, <http://www.starfall.com/>

**Choose one of the following projects to turn in the first day of school.**

**Reading Projects:**

Create a vest using a large brown paper bag. The vest should have drawings and statements about the book. For example: a picture of the main character, two to three summary sentences about the book, and a picture of the setting.

or

Write a brief summary (3-5 sentences) about the book you read. Include an illustration to match your summary.

or

Create a paper Story Quilt. The blocks of the quilt should represent the following: Characters, Problem, Solution, Setting, Main Idea, and your Favorite Part. Be sure to label each block.

**Sight Word List**

on	catch	always	way	good	become
in	no	day	and	put	everything
take	want	nothing	up	be	stays
get	help	use	eat	her	this
too	saw	small	your	home	into
many	them	could	old	horse	paper
live	food	under	also	new	some
out	people	who	work	down	inside
now	there	together	around	find	grow
water	family	other	their	things	any
enough	ever	every	own	sure	were
away	car	does	oh	before	wait
friends	house	our	school	very	afraid
again	few	how	read	soon	done

# Second Grade Math Summer Enrichment

Dear Families,

According to some research from Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) doctoral student Kathleen Lynch, many parents and their children don't think about math as existing outside of the classroom. "Parents often think that their kids learn math in school, and that it's sort of the school's domain," says Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) doctoral student Kathleen Lynch. Math practice is essential over the summer in order for students to remain fluent with math facts, problems solving steps, formulas, etc.

Incoming second graders should know their math facts 0-20 by memorization. For example:  $2+2=4$  or  $8+8=16$ . These facts should be practiced daily until memorized. This will help with the upcoming school year objectives for two and three digit adding, subtracting and regrouping.

Below I have listed some effective ways to keep your child engaging in math activities over the summer. Please refer to this list to help you find creative ways to work with your child through some math activities that will help refresh their memory of previously taught concepts and help them become more proficient with daily math skills. I suggest that you incorporate one of these math activities every day. It is easy to do...you can even do it while driving in the car.

- **Highlight the math in everyday activities.** When shopping, help kids calculate change or discounts. When watching a baseball game, talk about what players' statistics mean. When cooking, try halving or doubling a recipe, and assist kids in figuring out the new proportions.
- **Read short math stories together.** Studies have shown that reading math-focused stories to children, such as Bedtime Math books or the Family Math series, can help boost math scores in school.
- **Play math games.** Games like Yahtzee, Racko, Sudoku, Blokus, Monopoly, and Set all rely on skills necessary for math, such as counting, categorizing, and building. Even playing with blocks and assembling jigsaw puzzles can help kids learn spatial skills and recognize patterns.
- **Find small ways to practice math at home.** Small amounts of practice with basic formulas can help engage student's in math over the summer. Problem-of-the-day math calendars are a great way to practice basic math problems on a small scale. You can also use the links below to help you find daily math problems.