



LANGUAGE ARTS

2

FOR FAMILIES

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

Children in second grade are beginning to ask more difficult questions as their learning continues to grow. They are increasingly independent listeners, speakers, readers and writers. In second grade, children are reading more difficult books and writing longer stories. They can read a variety of texts, including newspapers, comics and stories, and are able to focus their writing on a central topic and include details such as people, places, dates and events. This information is a snapshot of learning in English language arts (ELA) for Grade 2. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, [click here](#) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Become an increasingly confident reader.
- Identify the main parts of a story, including details about the characters, where the story takes place (the setting) and what happens in the beginning, middle and end (plot).
- Read a book and describe the main idea and details about the people, places and things in it.
- Explain how and why something happens in a story read aloud or on their own.
- Write a paragraph about a topic and include supporting details such as important people, places, dates or events.

What to do at home:

- Listen to your child read aloud.
- Help your child learn the meaning of new words by looking at the sentences around them and thinking about what makes sense.
- Discuss why an author may have written a book and what happened in the story.
- Talk with your child about the information they learned from a book about real people, places and things.
- Learn and use new words in conversations with your child and discuss their meanings.
- Encourage your child to write stories or observations about the world.

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important to your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's curiosity with questions like these:

- What do you notice or wonder about in your community?
- What new words or things have you discovered today?
- How can you solve the problems you see?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't always have the answer. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class? Why?
- What was the best thing that happened today? What was the worst?
- What challenged you today? What did you have trouble understanding?

Fostering Comprehension

As children continue to strengthen their reading skills, they benefit from reading independently and with adults. Sharing a variety of print materials – books, comics, etc. – helps them explore new words and ideas. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- What kind of book is this?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?
- What do you notice about the characters?

AFTER READING

- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!

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