

# What My Second Grader is Learning



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 	MATH 	SCIENCE  & SOCIAL STUDIES 
<b>AUGUST-OCTOBER</b>  	<p>Students will learn how text features, such as the table of contents, pictures, and graphs, can be used to deepen understanding of a topic and practice comprehension strategies while studying plant life cycles.</p> 	<p>Students will expand their knowledge of place value to three-digits, and be able to read, write, add and subtract numbers up to 1000.</p> 	<p>Students will learn why plants need animals to survive and will be able to explain how Earth's systems (biosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere) shape the surface of the planet using clay models.</p> 
<b>OCTOBER-DECEMBER</b>  	<p>Students will learn how to summarize, identify key details, and build strategies for determining the definition of unknown words while reading about advances in technology.</p> 	<p>Students will use models, drawings, and other strategies to add and subtract within 1000.</p> 	<p>Students will learn what it means to be a citizen of their school and community and discuss laws, rules and consequences, both in their classroom and in the U.S.</p> 
<b>DECEMBER-FEBRUARY</b>  	<p>Students will learn how to visualize key details, analyze text structure, and discuss characters' responses to events and challenges while reading about extreme weather.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to select appropriate tools to measure length, determine the difference of two lengths, and solve measurement word problems.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to create maps depicting different landforms on Earth, paying close attention to classifying the different types of water bodies.</p> 
<b>FEBRUARY-APRIL</b>  	<p>Students will learn to write opinion pieces, infer and draw connections, make connections between different texts and analyze a character's point of view while comparing and contrasting fables, folktales and fairytales from around the world.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to tell time to the five minute mark, count money, and create different types of data charts.</p> 	<p>Students will learn to make connections between the properties of objects around them and what the object is used for.</p>  <p>Students will learn how communities are unified and share principles, goals, and traditions despite the various backgrounds and cultures of community members.</p> 
<b>APRIL-JUNE</b>  	<p>Students will learn to compare and contrast, summarize multi-paragraph texts, and write an informational piece with peer-editing and peer-revising while studying different continents, regions, countries, and cultures with a specific emphasis on Mexico and Canada.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how to divide a variety of shapes such as triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes into equal parts and learn about area and multiplication.</p> 	<p>Students will learn how to locate and recognize the nations and regions where their families lived before coming to Washington, D.C.</p> 

# Activities to Practice with My Second Grader



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**AUGUST -  
OCTOBER**



Take a nature walk and take pictures of three different plants. Use the internet to try to find the names of plants observed.



Label 3 paper plates either "hundreds," "tens" or "ones," then line the plates in order and place one dice on each. Roll the dice on each plate to create a three-digit number.



Visit the U.S. Botanical Gardens children's area to explore how plants depend on animals to survive. Visit [bit.ly/USBotanicalGardens](http://bit.ly/USBotanicalGardens) for more information.



Keep a reading journal to record how much time you spend reading each day! List titles and your favorite characters from each story. Include character traits that you admire.



Visit the National Zoo! Record observations (like color, shape, and size) for three of your favorite animals. Keep your observations objective. For example, "the lion is furry."



**OCTOBER -  
DECEMBER**



Roll a pair of dice, add the numbers, and then practice adding an additional 10 or 100.



Plan a trip to the National Mall! Explore the history of one of the monuments or memorials. Discuss what the monument means to you.



Students will learn what it means to be a citizen of their school and community and discuss laws, rules and consequences, both in their classroom and in the U.S.



Use the internet to compare and contrast images of different types of cell phones, computers, TVs and game consoles that have been part of your lives. How have things changed?



Visit your local library to check-out three new books! Visit [bit.ly/FindMyLibrary](http://bit.ly/FindMyLibrary) to find your local library branch. Make sure to add the new books you read to your reading journal!



**DECEMBER -  
FEBRUARY**



Practice jumping rope in February, Heart Health Month! Track your pulse before and after to see how hard your heart is working. Visit [bit.ly/DCPPulse](http://bit.ly/DCPPulse) to learn more.



Using simple household items like cotton, pasta and/or clay, create a model of the ocean floor. Discuss deep sea features and animal life.



Draw an outline of the United States and illustrate where certain extreme weather patterns are most experienced, e.g. hurricanes in Florida.



Visit the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion, free of charge on Tuesdays. Visit [www.mnh.si.edu](http://www.mnh.si.edu) for more information.



While folding clothes, use a ruler or tape measure to determine the difference between similar articles of clothing. Use subtraction to find the difference between the two.



**FEBRUARY -  
APRIL**



Interview someone from a different culture. Then discuss what about his/her culture is different from yours? What is similar?



Students will learn to make connections between the properties of objects around them and what the object is used for.



Visit the National Cherry Blossom Festival. The 2015 dates are March 20 - April 12. Visit [bit.ly/2015Blossoms](http://bit.ly/2015Blossoms) for more information.



When shopping, determine how much money to give the cashier. Count the exact amount of money to give the cashier.



Recreate a fable such as "The Lion and the Mouse" or "Cinderella" by using family members as characters and changing the setting or ending. Write and illustrate your new story.



**APRIL -  
JUNE**



Discuss how traveling to Mexico or Canada is different at different times of year. Identify activities that could be done in both regions as well as activities that could only be done in one or the other.



Visit the Kennilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. Look for frogs on a pond tour, offered every weekend at 10 a.m. Visit [nps.gov/keaq](http://nps.gov/keaq) for more information.



Draw and cut out pairs of triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes. Play Memory: flip over and try to match the pairs.



What are your summer plans? Brainstorm five activities you can do together to keep learning over the summer.



Students will learn how to locate and recognize the nations and regions where their families lived before coming to Washington, D.C.



Read together everyday for 20 minutes!



English Language Arts



Enrichment Activity



Math



Science



Social Studies