



English Language Arts – Supporting Second Grade Students

What your child will be learning in 2nd grade English Language Arts Literacy

In grade two, students will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will think, talk, and write about what they read in variety of texts, such as stories, books, articles, and other sources of information including the Internet. In their writing, students will learn how to develop a topic and strengthen their skills by editing and revising.

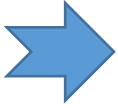
Activities in these areas will include:

- Reading stories, including fables and folktales from different cultures, and identifying the lesson or moral of the story
- Reading texts about history, social studies, or science and identifying the main idea
- Answering who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about stories and books
- Describing the reasons that an author gives to support a point
- Learning and using new words
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Participating in class discussions by listening and building on what others are saying
- Describing in their own words information learned from articles or books read aloud
- Working together to gather facts and information on a topic
- Writing about a short series of events and describing actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Writing about opinions on books using important details and examples to support their position



Ask your child's teacher questions like:

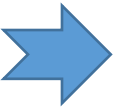
- Is my child reading on grade level?
- How is my child doing in writing?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- What can I do at home to make sure that my child is successful?



READING LITERATURE

In grade two, students will read stories and poems. Additionally, they will read to learn information about history, the world, science, and other areas. Here are just a few examples of how your child will develop important reading skills across grade levels.

Built on knowledge and skills from prior grade level	Performing on Grade Level	Preparing for next grade level
<p>Grade One Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students retell stories, including key details, and show that they understand the lesson or moral of a story. • Students identify who is telling the story at various points in a text. 	<p>Grade Two Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students retell stories and determine the central message, lesson, or moral. • Students acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud. 	<p>Grade Three Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students recount stories and determine the central message, lesson, or moral, explaining how it is developed in the text. • Students distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

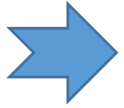


Reading for Information

Built on knowledge and skills from prior grade level	Performing on Grade Level	Preparing for next grade level
<p>Grade One Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students ask and answer questions about key details in a text. • Students use the illustrations and details in a text to describe key ideas. 	<p>Grade Two Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. • Students explain how specific images or illustrations (such as a diagram of how a machine works) are useful. 	<p>Grade Three Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students ask and answer questions about what they read by referring directly to parts of the text. • Students use information gained from images or illustrations.

The NJ DOE uses the term "parent" to refer to any adult who plays the primary role in a child's family life.

Throughout the PASS model the terms parent and family are used broadly to include adults who have a significant responsibility in a child's life. The model recognizes and respects that other individuals may also have opportunities to support the parenting, education and well-being of children and youth. Such individuals might include grandparents, relatives, stepparents, adult siblings, guardians, foster parents, etc.



Writing

Writing tasks in grade two may include stories, essays, reports, and persuasive papers. Here are just a few examples of how your child will develop important writing skills across grade levels.

Built on knowledge and skills from prior grade level	Performing on Grade Level	Preparing for next grade level
<p>Grade One Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students name a topic and supply some facts about the topic. • Students provide some sense of closure 	<p>Grade Two Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students introduce a topic and use facts and definitions to develop their points. • Students provide a concluding statement or section. 	<p>Grade Three Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students introduce a topic and use facts, definitions, and details to develop points. • Students provide a concluding statement or section. • Students group related information together. • Students use linking words and phrases to connect ideas, such as also, another, and but.



The NJ DOE uses the term “engagement in student learning and development” to refer to parent and family actions that focus on the advancement of student learning, development and success. Engagement requires shared information, meaningful communication between home and school, jointly-developed goals for student growth, and specific strategies of support intended to impact student learning, development and achievement. Individuals that are engaged are an integral and essential part of the learning and development process. By extension, engagement implies enabling parents and families to take their place alongside educators in the schooling of their children, fitting together their knowledge of their children with teachers’ expertise of teaching and student learning.