On Common Ground

Second Grade, Trimester 1

This newsletter provides an overview of what your child will learn based on the Missouri Learning Standards during the first trimester of second grade in reading, writing, and mathematics. It also offers ideas to support your child’s learning at home.

### What are the Missouri Learning Standards?

- The Missouri Learning Standards initiative was a state-led effort to establish a shared set of clear academic standards for English language arts and mathematics that districts may voluntarily adopt. The standards have been created based on the best available evidence and the highest state standards across the country.

- The standards were created by a group of teachers, content experts, school administrators, and parents.

- The goal of the standards is to ensure that students graduating from high school are prepared to go to college or enter the workforce and that parents, teachers, and students have a clear understanding of what is expected from them.

- The standards are also benchmarked to international standards to guarantee that students are competitive in the emerging global marketplace.

### Reading

**At school, students will:**
- Ask and answer questions such as who, what, when, why, where, and how to show understanding of key details in text.
- Describe how characters respond to major events and challenges.
- Use text features, such as captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, and icons to locate key information in text.
- Read regularly spelled two-syllable words, such as “candy” or “doghouse.”
- Read words with common prefixes and suffixes, such as “reread” or “dancing.”

**At home, you can:**
- Ask your child questions when you read together. Ask him/her to retell details from the story.
- Look for words with prefixes and suffixes when reading.
- Ask your child to explain or predict how the characters in stories respond to major events and challenges.
- Read all types of text, including magazines, news articles, and books.

### Writing

**At school, students will:**
- Write narratives in which a short sequence of events is recounted including details, actions, thoughts and feelings.
- Edit and revise writing to focus and strengthen a topic.
- Distinguish shades of meaning among closely related verbs (e.g. toss, throw, hurl)
- Produce, expand, and rearrange simple and compound sentences.
- Consult reference materials, including beginning dictionaries, as needed to check and correct spellings.

**At home, you can:**
- Write stories together.
- Encourage your child to keep a personal journal or diary to tell about things he/she knows or has learned.
- Share with your child ways you write in everyday life.
- Practice retelling events and/or experiences and have your child sequence them in the correct order.

### Mathematics

**At school, students will:**
- Mentally add and subtract within 20.
- Use addition and subtraction up to 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems.
- Determine whether a group of objects up to 20 has an odd or even amount by pairing objects or counting by twos.
- Read and write numbers to 1,000 using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form (e.g., 137, one hundred thirty-seven, 100 + 30 + 7).
- Use skip counting (e.g. 2’s, 5’s, 10’s) to understand repeated addition to 1000.

**At home, you can:**
- Give your child addition and subtraction problems to do in his/her head.
- Create word problems and have your child use addition and subtraction to solve them.
- Practice determining whether a group of objects is odd or even.
- Ask your child to count the number of angles or faces on a given object (e.g., a cereal box).
- Practice skip counting using different amounts to 1,000.