On Common Ground
Second Grade, Trimester 2

This newsletter provides an overview of what your child will learn based on the Missouri Learning Standards during the second 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:**
- Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.
- Identify the main topic of a multiparagraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.
- Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to explain or describe.
- Explain how specific images (e.g., a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and clarify a text.
- Read words with common prefixes and suffixes (e.g., review, dancing).

**At home, you can:**
- Ask your child questions about stories he/she is reading; have him/her use parts of the story to explain his/her thinking.
- Read informational texts together and discuss the main purpose of the text; locate the main topics of sections of text.
- Discuss how diagrams and illustrations support an informational text.
- Find words with prefixes and suffixes.

**Writing**

**At school, students will:**
- Write informative texts in which a topic is introduced, use facts & definitions to develop points and provide a concluding statement or section.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., record science observations, read books on a topic, and write a report).
- Use adjectives and adverbs, and choose between them depending on what is to be modified.
- Use an apostrophe to form contractions (e.g., can’t, we’ll) and frequently occurring possessives (e.g., mom’s car, the dog’s bone).

**At home, you can:**
- Encourage your child to keep a personal journal or diary to tell about things he/she knows or has learned.
- Write stories together.
- Share with your child ways you write in everyday life.
- Help your child understand adjectives and adverbs and how to use them in writing.
- Show your child different contractions he/she can use in writing.

**Mathematics**

**At school, students will:**
- Add up to four two-digit numbers using strategies based on place value and properties of equations (e.g., 13 + 22 + 15 + 38).
- Add and subtract within 1,000.
- Count to 1,000 and skip count by 5s, 10s, and 100s.
- Mentally add 10 or 100 to a given number or subtract 10 or 100 from a given number.
- Recognize and draw shapes having specific attributes, such as the number of angles or a given number of equal faces.
- Divide circles and rectangles into two, three, or four equal parts using the words halves, thirds, half of, a third of, etc.

**At home, you can:**
- Practice mentally adding and subtracting 10 and 100 to/from a given number.
- Show your child how to write numbers using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form.
- Practice adding up to four two-digit numbers together.
- Practice counting to 1,000. Ask your child to count on from any given number, 0–1,000.