



GRAND RAPIDS CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS SOARING THROUGH SUMMER

Dear GRCS Parents,

Congratulations! Your child has made it through a great 1st grade year and into the summer! It's time to camp, hike, play sports, ride bikes, and do all those other quality activities with friends and family. Rest well, we know your child has worked hard throughout the past school year.

Along with the thrills of summer, we look forward to the coming school year! As we look ahead, we are happy to offer a new opportunity to keep your child learning throughout the summer season! We hope to hit the ground running this August as we explore and learn in 2nd grade. To do so most effectively, we'd love for our students to continue reading and keeping their math skills sharp throughout the summer. The following is a collection of fun activities and books for you and your child to enjoy. We ask that you and your child would invest some time and effort in working through the suggestions in this packet.

We are so excited to see you in 2nd grade next year. Until then, take flight and soar through the summer!

See you in August!

Your 2nd grade teaching team

SECOND GRADE SUGGESTED SUMMER READING

- We Are in a Book* by Mo Willems
- Who Is That, Cat the Cat?* by Mo Willems
- Little Big Horse* by Dave Horowitz
- The Cookie Fiasco* by Dan Santat
- Fly Guy* by Tedd Arnold
- Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog* by Cynthia Rylant
- Penny and Her Marble* by Kevin Henkes
- Pete at the Beach* by James Dean
- The Big Fat Cow That Goes Kapow* by Andy Griffiths
- Mercy Watson* by Kate DiCamillo
- Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel
- The Infamous Ratsos* by Kara Lareau
- Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot* by Dav Pilkey
- Miss Nelson is Missing* by James Marshall
- Pinky and Rex* by James Howe
- Big Al* by Andrew Clements
- Kung Pow Chicken* by Cindi Marko
- Owl Diaries* by Rebecca Elliott
- Bad Kitty* by Nick Bruel
- Stink* by Megan McDonald
- Ivy and Bean* by Annie Barrows
- Lola Levine Is Not Mean* by Monica Brown
- The Case of the Weird Blue Chicken* by Doreen Cronin
- Lulu and the Rabbit Next Door* by Hilary McKay
- Daisy Dawson is On Her Way* by Steve Voake
- Monkey Me* by Timothy Roland
- Moldylocks and the Three Beards* by Noah Z. Jones
- The Last Firehawk: The Ember Stone* by Katrina Charman
- Grand Canyon* by Jason Chin
- Toilet : How It Works* by David Macaulay

| Topic | Discussion prompts |
|----------------------------|--|
| Fiction: Characters | <p>What is the character like?</p> <p>How did the character change throughout the book?</p> <p>How are you similar to the character? How are you different?</p> |
| Fiction: Plot | <p>What happened at the beginning of the story?</p> <p>What was the most exciting part of the story? Why was it exciting?</p> <p>What happens at the end?</p> |
| Fiction: Setting | <p>Why did the author choose the setting?</p> <p>What would happen to the story if you change the setting?</p> |
| Informational Text: | <p>What is the topic of the book?</p> <p>What illustration (graph, timeline, pictures, etc.) gave you more information about your topic?</p> <p>Why do you think the author wrote the book?</p> <p>What new information did you learn while reading this book?</p> <p>What new wonderings do you have?</p> |
| Any books | <p>What have you been wondering as you read?</p> <p>What does this book remind you of?</p> <p>Were there parts that surprised you?</p> <p>What are you going to read next?</p> |

Use the 5-finger rule to tell if a book's a good fit!

Use *Common Sense Media* to ensure books are appropriate for your child and to find other great book recommendations:

<https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews>

REWARD YOUR READER: WEST MICHIGAN SUMMER READING PROGRAMS

There are so many great reading incentives going on in West Michigan. Check out the awesome programs and prizes available to encourage your child in their reading this summer! Best of all, each minute of reading counts towards all incentives at the same time!

Baker Book House: bakerbookhouse.com/srp

Children can earn up to a \$25 gift credit through their reading this summer. Check out the Baker Book House Facebook page for information about free events like author visits, movies and story times.

Grand Rapids Public Library: www.grpl.org/summerreading/kids/

Earn great prizes and participate in free events throughout the summer. Stop by your local GRPL branch to sign up!

Kent District Library: www.kdl.org/summer-reading

Earn free books and other great prizes through your reading this summer. KDL will host a variety of free, family-focused events you won't want to miss.

Barnes and Noble: www.barnesandnoble.com/h/summer-reading

Track your reading to earn a free best-selling book of your choice. Stop by the store and enjoy a storytime together.

Schuler's: www.schulerbooks.com/summer-reading-club

Earn up to \$15 of store credit through your summer reading. Check out schulerbooks.com for information about cool events to enjoy on hot summer days.

Story Time and Icecream at Garfield Park: www.facebook.com/storytimeinthepark

The Grand Valley Education Department hosts "Storytime in the Park," a night of free ice cream and free books, every Tuesday at Garfield Park throughout the summer. Check out their Facebook page for more information.

MATH IN SECOND GRADE

Using Math in Everyday Life

Just because school is done, doesn't mean math disappears until fall. Seek out opportunities to use math in real world ways throughout your summer together. Take a look at all the different ways you can connect the things your already doing with math concepts students learn in school.

- Bake together to practice fractions, addition, and time.
- Go grocery shopping together and compare prices, weigh items and count change.
- Plan, measure out and build something together.
- Host a lemonade stand
- Practice telling time
- Sort and count change collected at home
- Complete puzzles or play games like, Uno, Monopoly, Battleship, Yahtzee, Chess, Checkers, Sudoku, Tangrams, or your own favorite card games.

Build Skills Using Math Games

There are so many great math skill games available. Here are some teacher approved games that are definitely worth checking out:

Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks Math Games: Using just dice and a deck of playing cards, try one of many games listed on this site to reinforce skills! www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/archives/boxcars.shtml

Xtramath.org: In just 10 minutes a day, kids can practice basic facts tailored to them. They'll only practice the ones they haven't yet mastered instead of wasting time practicing time practicing what they already know. The app is \$5 but the website is always free.

Email Address: _____ **Username:** _____

Password : _____

Abcya.com: Abcya is a fantastic collection of ELA and math games covering math skills in a variety of engaging ways. Like an arcade, kids can jump in and out of games as they like. So many choices, there's bound to be something they'll love.

Also, check out Mr. McWhertor's website for great math games at all grade levels!

sites.grcs.org/cmcwhertor