

Second Grade Reading

Balanced Literacy

We use the Balanced Literacy approach to teach literacy in the classroom. Our second grade literacy block consists of the following areas:

- **Word Work** – We follow the Words their Way program. Students are given a spelling inventory to assess knowledge of spelling patterns. Students are then placed in developmentally appropriate groups to study and practice different spelling patterns.
- **Reader's Workshop** – Teachers model reading skills and strategies through a mini-lesson and students practice with teacher support and independently.
 - Independent reading – Students read “just right” books and practice reading skills and strategies independently. Students write about his/her reading.
 - Guided reading groups/strategy groups – Teachers work with small groups of students who are on the same reading level or who need practice in a certain reading skill or strategy.
 - Conferring – Teachers read with students one on one and identify goals for that student to work on as a reader.
 - Partner work – Students work with a partner to read or discuss texts.
- **Interactive Read Aloud/Shared Reading** – Teacher models comprehension strategies through a read aloud or the students and teacher share the reading of a text while the students are guided and supported.
- **Writer's Workshop** – Teachers model writing skills and strategies through a mini-lesson and students write independently and with teacher support through small group lessons and conferring.
- **Speaking and Listening** skills are woven throughout all of these areas to strengthen and practice academic conversations.



Common Core State Standards

Please visit <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/2/> for the Reading Literature standards and <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RI/2/> for Reading Informational Text standards or scan the QR code to access the Common Core State Standards for Second Grade Reading.



Reading Literature



Reading Informational Text

Second Grade Literacy Benchmarks:

Your child will be assessed three times during the year in MCLASS to determine fluency and reading levels. Below are the second grade expectations:

	BOY beginning of year	MOY middle of year	EOY end of year
Fluency (words per minute)	52 wpm	72 wpm	87 wpm
Reading Level	Level J	Level L	Level M

Second grade readers make the leap from practicing to read for fluency to reading for understanding. Reading comprehension is a major focus in second grade.

Using Text Evidence

Second graders use evidence from the text when answering comprehension questions.

Sentence Starters:

- The author wrote...
- The illustration shows...
- An example on pg. ___ is...
- In the text it says...
- I know because...

Stopping and Jotting

We teach students to "stop and jot" using symbols to record his/her thinking about a text.

LOL	funny part	?	confusing part OR tricky word
*	important part OR new information	P	a part that makes me predict
!	surprising part	↔	making connections
♡	favorite part	S	I used a strategy

Using Rubrics to Grade

Second grade end of unit literacy assessments will use a rubric to grade student's written responses. Below is a sample question and rubric:

What do you think the word courage means? Which strategy did you use to figure out the meaning?

0	1	2	3
No Answer	Answer is incorrect or off topic.	Student identifies the correct meaning of 'courage' but gives a vague strategy or no strategy at all.	Student gives a strong definition for 'courage' and elaborates on their strategy.

Helping at Home

Visit the CMS Student Portal to access:

COMPASS learning – reading and vocabulary practice aligned with your child's MAP scores
Kids A-Z – reading practice aligned with your child's TRC reading level

<http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/Pages/studentportal.aspx>

Reading at home:

- Give your child sticky notes to stop and jot
- Ask your child to provide evidence from the text to support answers to questions
- Model good reading strategies by reading aloud to your child
- Allow your child to choose books he/she is interested in