

Develop Strategies

Your child does not need to memorize 100 facts! If he knows $3 + 4$, then he also knows $4 + 3$. Use an addition chart to look for patterns.

Use Memory Devices

Try to find a memory device to help your child with the facts that are causing the most difficulty. For example, many children have a hard time remembering $7 + 8 = 15$. Try writing this on a blank piece of paper and repeating it several times while your child notes the pattern.

Put Facts In A Visible Place

Post a fact of the week on your refrigerator. Find times during the day to ask your child that fact. Challenge your child by sometimes asking: What fact is on the refrigerator this week?

Practice Facts As You Do Everyday Things

Help your child to see math facts in the world around them. Look at your 7 racecars. They each have 4 wheels. How many wheels do they have? There are 8 things in our grocery basket. We need to buy 6 more things. How many things do we need to buy?

Make Flash Cards

Buy a set of flash cards at a dollar store, or use index cards to review facts and identify the ones that need additional work. Make a separate pile of the facts your child cannot recall and work with him to devise strategies to remember those facts.

Play Games

Make a deck of cards containing addition and subtraction facts (for 2nd graders). Make 13 sets of four cards that have the same answer. Use these cards to play any of your favorite card games like War or Go Fish. Have a weekly family game night and let the whole family play!

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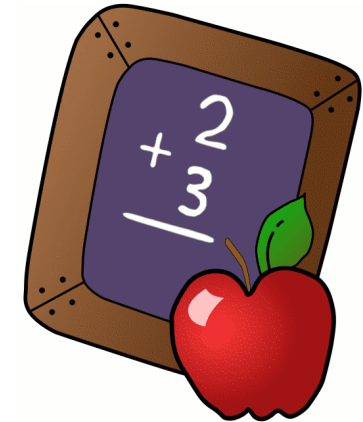
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Second Grade



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During Second Grade, students are expected to become more independent learners in taking assessments, participating in our Accelerated Reading program, and achieving basic math fact mastery.

Skills

The second grade curriculum utilizes an integrated approach to learning. In second grade, the students go daily to the Fast Forward computer lab. The language arts program is taught through small reading groups based on the student's reading level. The students are taught the writing process to prepare them for the iLeap test that they will take in third grade.

In the second grade math program, skills taught are telling time, money, fractions, and addition and subtraction facts using the deep math program and following the curriculum. In social living and science the students learn about communities, being good citizens, animals, energy, and the rules of science.

Fieldtrips

In second grade we take several field trips during the school year. One example is a field trip to Flowers Bakery. We visit this factory to see how goods are produced. In addition, each year, we try to attend at least one performance in the community, such as local plays or concerts.

Our second graders at James have the advantage of participating in a computer program titled Fast Forward. This is a unique program that trains the brain to retain more information. This is linked to improved reading skills

Arts

Students in Second Grade have the opportunity to participate in all seven art forms during the year. Students rotate to a different art form every three weeks. We believe this enables the children to begin to understand various types of art and develop an appreciation for art. Art teachers work in conjunction with classroom teachers to infuse academic concepts into their art lessons. Our students are immersed in art and academics every day. Art forms include instrumental music, vocal music, dance and movement, drama, and visual art.

