Washoe County School District
Supplemental Family Guides to Learning
At Home

Second Grade

Activities to support your child with the standards
**Language Arts**

- Read all types of text, including magazines, news articles, and books.
- Ask and answer questions (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how) to understand details in the text (e.g., Who is the main character? Where does the story take place?).
- Read different types of books together (e.g., folktales, fables). Discuss the central message, lesson, or moral of the story.
- Discuss stories your child is reading. Ask questions about stories; have your child use parts of the story to explain his/her thinking.
- Discuss characters and their actions as you read stories together.
- Write every day by keeping a journal or diary with your child’s own stories or concepts he/she knows or learns.
- Add details and reasons to what your child is writing to support his/her opinion.
- Have your child find information on the Internet related to what they are learning in school.
- Encourage your child to create digital content, and share it with friends and family through tools like a family blog, and ask relatives to post comments.
- If you use social networking sites, consider creating collaborative posts with your child to help them understand appropriate online language and behaviors.

**Mathematics**

- Solve real-life word problems. Look for two-digit addition and subtraction situations at home. Encourage your child to use drawings and explanations when solving problems. Ask questions to promote thinking such as:
  - Where is a good place to start?
  - Does this problem remind you of another problem?
  - Can you tell me what is happening in the problem?
  - What are you trying to figure out?
  - Can you prove your thinking?
• Create a schedule, count your change, play “store” with a cashier and customer, or measure objects around the house.
• Play games where you describe a shape for them to draw. For example: I have 5 sides, 5 angles and am a two-dimensional shape. Draw me (Pentagon).
• Encourage your child to use digital tools and apps that support development of mathematical concepts and skills.

**Social Studies**

• Explore the importance of local and national landmarks and explain how they create a sense of community.
• Listen to and discuss news events in the community, and use social media and online tools to monitor events.
• Discuss the difference between rural (country/farming) and urban (cities) communities.
• Identify natural resources and where they can be found in the neighborhood.
• Examine reasons for saving money.
• Identify ways to share household resources.
• Describe traditional patriotic activities, holidays, or symbols from around the world.
• Use rules to help your child guide their behavior and resolve conflicts.

**Science**

• Encourage your child to observe, ask questions, experiment, and seek their own understandings of natural and human-made phenomena around them.
• Experiment with solids and liquids, such as making homemade play dough or Gak.
• Plant and care for different seeds. Put some in sunlight and some in a dark area. Use different amounts of water and record observations.
• Visit a zoo and discuss the different type of habitats the animals live in.
• Discuss erosion and what happens over time, using our mountains as a starting point.
• Explore online science resources, such as “digital field trips” to a museum or zoo.