



GRAND RAPIDS CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS SOARING THROUGH SUMMER

Dear GRCS Parents,

Congratulations! Your child has made it through an exciting 1st grade year and into the summer! It's time to explore nature, hike, play sports, ride bikes, and do all those other quality, summer-time activities. Rest well, we know your child has worked hard navigating challenges and joys 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 an 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 GRCS 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

Grand Rapids is full of great resources for summer reading! Check individual sites to read further plans. Below is the list of libraries and bookstores that have offered programming over the past few years.

Baker Book House: bakerbookhouse.com/

While they are yet to advertise a summer reading program, Baker Book House is a great place to stock up on books! Keep an eye on their website for possible programming.

Barnes and Noble: barnesandnoble.com [Summer Journal Download](#)

Track your reading to earn a free best-selling book of your choice using B&N's summer reading journal.

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.

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.

Know of other reading opportunities in the Grand Rapids area? Be sure to connect with others and feel free to email Graham Schultze (gschultze@grcs.org) to include them in Soaring through Summer next year.

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 you're 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. Reach out to your child's 2020-21 teacher to acquire account information.

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/cmchwertor