

## Parent's Backpack Guide to the Common Core State Standards

Adapted from Engage New York

What's Changing?	What to Look for in the	What Can You Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your Child will <b>read more non-fiction</b> in each grade level.</li> <li>Reading more non-fiction texts will help your child <b>learn about the world through reading</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for your child to have more reading assignments based on real-life events, such as biographies, articles and historical stories.</li> <li>Look for your child to bring home more fact-based books about the world. Fifty percent of the selections in the K-6 core reading program are non-fiction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read non-fiction books with your child. Find ways to make reading fun and exciting.</li> <li>Ask your librarian what non-fiction books are grade-level appropriate and make sure your children have access to such books.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>read challenging texts very closely</b> so they can make sense of what they read and draw their own conclusions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will have reading and writing assignments that might ask them to retell or write about key parts of a story or book.</li> <li>Students will be asked to reread in order to understand more deeply</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide more challenging texts for your child to read. Show them how to figure out the author's meaning by rereading difficult parts of texts and talking with you about them.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When it comes to writing or retelling a story, your child will <b>use "evidence" gathered from the text to support what they say</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for writing assignments that ask your child to draw on concrete examples from the text that serve as evidence. Evidence means examples from the book that your child will use to support an answer, response or conclusion. This is different from the opinion questions ("What do you think?") that have been used in the past.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask your child to provide evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>learn how to write from what they read</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for writing assignments that ask your child to make arguments in writing using evidence to support their opinions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage writing at home. Write together using evidence and details.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your child will <b>have an increased academic vocabulary</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for assignments that stretch your child's vocabulary and teach the wealth of words available to express our thoughts and ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read often to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and children.</li> <li>Use 'academic' words in daily conversations with your child.</li> </ul>



Visalia Unified Schools  
5000 W. Cypress Ave  
Visalia, CA 93277  
Phone: 559.730.7555

Tamara Ravalin, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Sarah Seymore  
Curriculum Director



### Board of Education

John L. Crabtree  
Niessen E. Foster  
William A. Fulmer  
Walta S. Gamoian  
Juan R. Guerrero  
Joy M. Naylor  
Lucia D. Vazquez

Visalia  
UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

*"We Create Futures"*

# Common Core Standards

## Parent Brochure

# Second Grade

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Second grade students accurately read and understand literature and informational text. They use correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. They can plan and deliver a presentation about a story or experience.

### Reading

- Retell folktales, including a central lesson
- Understand story structure and describe how characters respond to major events and challenges
- Explain how the author uses reasons to support specific points in a text
- Identify the main topic and focus
- Read and understand literature and informational texts

### Reading: Foundational Skills

- Know and use phonics and word analysis skills
  - Read words with common prefixes and suffixes (e.g., *re\_*, *un\_*, *\_less*)
- Distinguish long and short vowels
- Read regularly spelled two-syllable words with long vowels
- Read accurately and with understanding

### Writing

- Write opinion pieces that connect the opinion and reasons using linking words (because, and, also)
- Write informative pieces that provide a topic, facts, definitions, and a conclusion
- Write narrative pieces that include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Produce writing that is developed, focused, and organized
- Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames

### Speaking and Listening

- Participate in conversations with peers and adults in small and larger groups
- Recall and describe key ideas and details from something read aloud
- Give and follow three- and four-step oral directions
- Plan and deliver a presentation about a story or experience

### Language

- Use correct grammar
- Create readable documents with legible print
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- Use a variety of methods to determine word meaning
- Use individual words to determine the meaning of compound words, which are two words joined to form a new word

## MATHEMATICS

Second grade students use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve word problems and are expected to know from memory all sums of two one-digit numbers by the end of second grade. Place value understanding is extended to 1000 and students compare three digit numbers based on their knowledge of hundreds, tens and ones. Second grade students compute with money and learn to estimate and compare lengths using appropriate measurement tools. Second graders refine their understanding of geometry by drawing shapes based on the number of faces and angles.

- Solve addition and subtraction word problems within 100
- Fluently add and subtract within 20
- Know all sums of two one-digit numbers
- Work with equal groups and repeated addition to build a foundation for understanding multiplication
- Work with equal groups and repeated subtraction to build a foundation for understanding division
- Understand place value: ones, tens, and hundreds
- Use place value to add and subtract within 1000
- Make reasonable estimates using place value knowledge
- Measure, estimate, and compare lengths in standard units
- Represent whole number lengths on a number line
- Work with time and money
- Know relationships of time (minutes in an hour, days in a month, etc.)
- Solve word problems using combinations of dollar bills and coins
- Collect data, build a graph, and answer questions about the data presented
- Recognize shapes, triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes
- Draw shapes by size of the angles or by the number of equal faces