Ways to Support Learning at Home - Grade 2

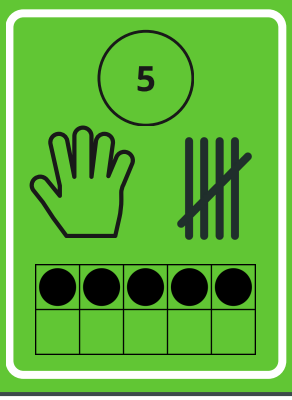
PRINCETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Learning doesn't stop at the classroom door.
These everyday activities are easy ways to support your child's growth at home—through reading, conversation, exploration, and play. Little moments make a big difference.

Literacy

- Read with and to your child every day, read to siblings or family members
- Reread short reading passages to develop fluent reading
- Talk to your child about favorite characters or events in the books he or she is reading
- Help your child find books that match his or her interests
- Find an interesting photograph and encourage your child to write a story about when and where it was taken, and what might have happened before and after it was taken
- Encourage appropriate responses to conversations and introductions
- Show your child how to write for practical purposes- to-do lists, grocery lists, thank you messages, text messages, e-mails
- Encourage stretching multisyllable words out to hear all the sounds to be able to write them correctly

Math



- Choose a number of the day and try to name as many combinations of numbers that equal it (If 15 is the number: 1+3+9+2 = 15, 2+4+6+3=15)
- Ask questions to practice estimation at home ("How many cans on the shelf?", "How many shoes in the closet?")
- Practice addition and subtraction facts
- Practice counting money
- Practice telling time to the quarter hour
- Read, write, compare, and order numbers to 1000
- Round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100
- Ask math questions: what 10 more or less and 100 more or less than ___?
- Practice 2-digit addition and subtraction
- Identify, describe, compare, and classify 2D and 3D shapes
- Explain what you did to solve the problem?

Science

- Record the high and low temperatures and weather each day. Discuss climates around the world.
- Check for record high and low temperatures and compare them with the current date
- Make a graph to show rainfall or snowfall over 30 days
- Time and record the melting of ice cubes placed in different environments (near the heater, on the shelf, etc.)
- Discuss how things move. What causes something to move?
- How is a path of motion changed? How does the speed of something in motion change?
- Explain why some organisms survive in a certain habitat while others can not.
- Ask your child where water can be found on earth.

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Learning is a team effort.
When schools and families work together, children thrive. These suggested activities offer fun, meaningful ways to reinforce key skills at home—all while building routines, relationships, and confidence.

Social Studies



- Participate in family voting for some decision making
- Discuss rights and responsibilites at home and school; explain the importance of following rules.
- Discuss levels of government and the roles it serves in the community
- Explore the indigenous nations of Minnesota
- Allow children to buy something at the store with money to feel the loss/gain when deciding to purchase something
- Create a map of a bedroom or yard
- Discover your ethnicity. How do different groups of people work together?
- How has the relationship between people and the environment changed over time?

Emotional Learning



- Teach children to identify emotions.
- Practice calmly naming feelings
- Help children identify what triggers their emotions, and teach them to manage those emotions by themselves.
- When we teach children that their emotions are valid, we help them view what they feel as normal and manageable.
- Modeling appropriate behavior is important so children know what to do with their big feelings.
- The best way to teach your child to react to anger appropriately is to show him/her (pause, take a breath, step away, calmly respond)
- Helping children manage their emotions begins by validating those emotions and providing an environment in which they feel safe to express them.

Speaking



- Practice eye contact when speaking and listening to someone
- Show your child how to respond to a greeting and how to answer questions (turn-taking)
- Practice social and formal conversations with your child
- Practice waiting to speak
- Repeat to your child when needed to model complete sentences, grammar, and proper speech
- Explain what you are doing or where you are to share vocabulary and engage children in what you are doing
- Encourage and model speaking in complete sentences