

Mathematics For Families

You Are Your Child's First Teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Washington's academic standards and why they are important to your child. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



Second Grade

In second grade, students build independence, show curiosity, and want to make their own choices at school and home. Second-graders recognize mathematical patterns in the world around them and can use multiple strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems with numbers up to 100.



Below is a snapshot of what your student will learn in math this year and how you can support them in school and at home.

What Second-Graders Learn and Do



Count to 1,000, including counting by fives, tens, and hundreds.



Add and subtract numbers up to 20 in their head.



Solve word problems by adding and subtracting numbers up to 100, including problems with more than one step.



Learn that numbers are made up of ones, tens, and hundreds. Use those amounts to make numbers up to 1,000.



Determine if a number is odd or even.



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

How to Support Your Second-Grader with Math

Do Math at Home

- Use stairs and steps to practice skip-counting out loud. For each step, count to the next number by fives, tens, or hundreds.
- Talk about odd and even numbers while doing household chores.

Example: Gather socks in pairs. Have your student count a group of socks and say if the number is odd (one sock left over) or even (all socks paired).



- Practice creating numbers using everyday objects. Use three different colors of blocks for ones, tens, and hundreds. Have your student build three-digit numbers with the blocks.
- During daily routines, help your student practice adding and subtracting in their head. Use real situations or create stories for them to solve, including problems with multiple steps.

"If you eat seven of these 12 grapes, how many will be left?"

"We have 25 apples. We buy 15 more here at the store, then we give 10 to a friend. How many apples will we have left?"

Talk with Your Student

- Talk about what they are learning in math and how it connects to your world, your community, and your culture.
- Ask what is going well in math and what is challenging.
- Share how you use math in your everyday life.
- Ask your student to explain their thinking when they solve math problems and to show you the problem-solving strategies they use at school.
- Support your student when they make a mistake or error. Explain that mistakes are part of learning.

Partner with the School

- Ask your student's teacher what students are learning in math and what you can practice at home.
- Ask the teacher what students should know and be able to do in math by the end of second grade.
- Tell the teacher what you notice about your student's strengths and challenges in math. Ask what your student needs to practice or what they can work on next.
- Talk to the teacher if you have concerns about your student's progress in math. Ask what kinds of support or resources the school offers.
- If you have questions, or if your student needs extra help or is new to learning English, talk to your student's teacher, multilingual learner specialist, or individualized education program (IEP) team (if applicable).

