



In Language Arts, we use **Journeys**, by HMH, which is a comprehensive, evidence-based K-5 literacy program.

**Student log-in for Journeys:**  
[www-k6.thinkcentral.com](http://www-k6.thinkcentral.com)

**2nd grade Lexile Range: 420L to 650L**

## Reading:

2nd grade students will gain more skills in reading. They'll continue to learn to read longer and more complex words. They will also learn to pay attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in order to understand both narrative and informational text.

## Writing:

As they write, 2nd grade students will be more attentive to the formal and informal uses of English and will spell most words correctly in their writing. They will learn to include details, and will also learn about using correct capitalization, punctuation and grammar in their writing.

## Speaking and Listening:

2nd grade students will participate in discussions by listening and taking turns. They will learn to use language appropriately, including speaking in complete sentences and expressing their ideas clearly.

## You can help your child by...

- Encouraging them to read every day
- Talking to them about what they're learning at school
- Encouraging them to write stories, letters and thank you notes

## Handwriting

All students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade receive handwriting instruction using the program "Handwriting Without Tears."

<http://www.hwtears.com>

# Popular Books for 2nd Grade

One of the most important things a parent can do to help their child is to instill a love of reading in them from a young age. There is a direct connection between the amount of reading children do and their achievement in school. Please take time every day to read to or with your child. Here are some great titles to get you started...

**Dinosaurs Before Dark (Magic Tree House #1)**  
by Mary Pope Osborne

**Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**  
by Judith Viorst

**A Bad Case of Stripes**  
by David Shannon

**Chrysanthemum**  
by Kevin Henkes

**The Wednesday Surprise**  
by Eve Bunting

**Penguins**  
by Penelope Arton

**Martin's Big Words**  
by Doreen Rappaport

**Follow the Water from Brook to Ocean**  
by Arthur Dorros

<http://www.goodreads.com>

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."  
— Dr. Seuss

## Clinton Macomb Public Library:

All CVS students have access to the Clinton Macomb Public Library's online resources! You can download e-books, use research links and access great educational websites like <http://kids.mel.org/>

Visit [www.cmpl.org](http://www.cmpl.org) and enter your student's Chippewa Valley ID number as the username and the last 4 digits of your phone number as the password.



# 2nd Grade

## PARENT GUIDE

Language Arts  
Mathematics  
Science  
Social Studies



**Welcome to Chippewa Valley Schools!**

### Our Mission

*Inspiring and empowering learners to achieve a lifetime of success*

### Our Vision

*Setting the standard for educational excellence*

# Science



Science is a way of understanding the world and a pattern of thinking that begins in the very early years. Students will continue developing science and engineering skills by learning to ask questions, using models, planning and carrying out investigations, and analyzing data. Students will be encouraged to obtain, evaluate and communicate their findings both orally and in writing as they make claims, find evidence, and support this with scientific reasoning.

## Measurement of Properties

*Students will:*

- Describe the physical properties of objects
- Choose the correct tool to measure length, height, distance (m, cm), and begin an understanding of volume (measuring spoons/cups)
- Use a balance to compare the mass of objects (more mass, less mass, same mass)
- Sort substances into two groups: those made of only one substance and those made of more than one substance

## Plant Life

*Students will:*

- Explain the basic needs of plants
- Group young and mature plants based on characteristics

## Earth's Surface Features

*Students will:*

- Model a mountain, plain, plateau, valley and hill
- Identify and describe a pond, lake, stream, river and ocean

## Uses and Properties of Water

*Students will:*

- Identify sources and household uses of water
- Understand the differences between ocean water and other sources of water
- Compare water as a solid and a liquid

*The way science is approached might seem different than what you remember. You can help your child by encouraging your child to talk about the "I can..." statement used in the classroom.*

# Mathematics



Chippewa Valley Schools uses **Bridges in Mathematics**, a K–5 math program that will help us meet the new standards and make math meaningful and exciting. In **second grade**, students focus on addition and subtraction, place value, shapes, and length measurement.

*Throughout the year, students will:*

- Become fluent with addition and subtraction facts with numbers to 20
- Add and subtract with numbers up to 1,000
- Measure length and solve problems involving lengths
- Identify, describe, compare, put together, and take apart shapes

When you are helping your child, the math might sometimes seem unfamiliar or different than you remember, but there are many ways you can help!

- Invite your child to talk about math by asking questions like, "Did you do a problem like this at school? How did you think about it?"
- Focus on the pictures. Bridges uses visual models to make mathematics accessible to all learners. Talking about the pictures is a great way to get started.
- Ask questions like, "What do you notice about this picture? Where do you see the numbers in this picture? Can we use the picture to help solve the problem?"



Get more information and ideas about how to help your child by visiting the websites:

[www.chippewavalleyschools.org](http://www.chippewavalleyschools.org), click **Academics**, click **Curriculum**, click **Elementary Math-Bridges**

[www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2](http://www.mathlearningcenter.org/families/bridges2)  
click **2nd grade**

By being open to learning and talking with your child, you can help your child develop strong skills and a love of math.

# Social Studies



## Geography

*Students will:*

- Describe physical and human characteristics of a community
- Understand why people choose to live in different communities
- Compare and contrast communities

## Economics

*Students will:*

- Learn how economics impacts decision making
- Understand how people and businesses interact to meet economic wants

## History

*Students will:*

- Learn how people study the past
- Understand how individuals impact history
- Understand how communities change over time

## Civics & Government

*Students will:*

- Understand the purpose of government
- Learn what our local government does for us
- Learn important roles and responsibilities of citizens in a community

## Public Discourse, Decision Making, & Citizen Involvement

*Students will:*

- Understand the qualities of a good citizen
- Learn how to work together to solve community issues

## Literacy in Social Studies

*Students will:*

- Determine the meaning of vocabulary
- Explore fiction and nonfiction texts
- Make connections to texts, themselves, and the world
- Explain the main idea and details within a text
- Understand the author's purpose

