

A sample of what your child will be learning in 2nd grade Language Arts:

- Paying close attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in stories and books to answer *who, what, where, when, why, and how* questions
- Determining the lesson or moral of stories, fables, and folktales
- Using text features (e.g., captions, bold print, indexes) to locate key facts or information efficiently Writing an opinion about a book he or she has read, using important details from the materials to support that opinion
- Writing stories that include a short sequence of events and include a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Taking part in conversations by linking his or her comments to the remarks of others and asking and answering questions to gather additional information or deepen understanding of the topic
- Retelling key information or ideas from media or books read aloud
- Producing, expanding, and rearranging sentences (e.g., "The boy watched the movie"; "The little boy watched the movie"; "The action movie was watched by the little boy")
- Determining the meaning of the new word formed when a known prefix or suffix is added to a known word (happy/

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Language Arts learning at home:

- Make reading for fun part of your child's daily routine. Set aside quiet time with no phones, computers, or other distractions, when your child can read for pleasure.
- Encourage your child to find a picture in a magazine and cut it out and write a story about what is happening in the picture.
- Before your child begins reading ask them what they think will happen in the story. Before, during and after reading ask them questions about what they read. Some questions you may ask are:
 - What do you think will happen next and why?
 - Can you tell me about what you just read?
 - Describe the characters.
 - What was your favorite part of the story and why?

A sample of what your child will be learning in 2nd grade Math:

- Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a "one-step" problem would be: "Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?")
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., $11 + 8$); quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 20 or less (e.g., $16 - 9$); and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year
- Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (*place value*)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract three digit numbers (e.g., $811 - 367$); adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $77 - 28$)
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length (e.g., "The pen is 2 cm longer than the pencil. If the pencil is 7 cm long, how long is the pen?")
- Building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades

Here are some activities you can do with your child to support Math learning at home:

- Notice everyday occasions when you find yourself using addition or subtraction, such as to determine **about** how much you will spend at the store when picking out items by finding the total. Ask your child to determine the amount of change you will get back.
- Make addition and subtraction flash cards with a sum of less than 20 and practice on a regular basis.
- When you and your child see a two or three digit number, ask them how many hundreds, tens and ones make the number.
- When driving down the road, point out different road signs and ask your child to name the number of sides, corners, and compare the lengths of each side.

Barwell Elementary School School/Parent Compact

Second Grade Focus



For Student Success

Barwell Elementary School
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Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

What does it mean to be a Title I school?

- The emphasis in a school-wide Title I school is on serving all students. Schoolwide programs maximize the impact of Title I funding in that all students in the school are served as funds are used to improve the entire educational program.

What is a family/school compact?

- A family-School Compact is an agreement between parents, students and teachers. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students get the individual support they need to reach and exceed grade level standards.

Barwell's Goals for student achievement:

- Reading – By June 2014, all students' will read on at least a level M.
- Math – By June 2014, all students will be on benchmark.

In The Classroom – As your child's teacher, I promise to...

- Use the latest research to teach students.
- Provide open communication through folders, conferences, phone calls and notes.
- Establish collaboration with the classroom teacher for student instruction and scheduling/pull-out.
- Provide materials that are interesting and motivating.
- Help parents understand instructional practices, class expectations, and grading policies.
- Plan meaningful lessons that meet individual student needs.
- Provide a safe school environment that promotes learning and encourages a partnership with the school.
- Employ effective classroom management skills.
- Promote a feeling of belonging for all.

At Home – As the child's parent/guardian, I promise to...

- Read nightly with my child.
- Help my child with his/her homework.
- Provide an appropriate area for doing homework.
- Engage in activities that encourage learning.
- Provide encouragement and positive reinforcement.
- Talk with my child about his/her school day.
- Attend school activities & parent-teacher conferences.
- Show respect with my words and actions for my child, other children, and their families, the teachers, and the school.
- Communicate and work with the school to encourage my child's learning and positive behavior.
- Ask specific questions to stimulate my child's conversation/oral language skills.
- Encourage regular & prompt attendance.

Students – As a student, I promise to...

- Complete my homework.
- Read nightly with my parents.
- Participate in activities that help me learn.
- Participate in classroom activities.
- Ask questions when I need help.
- Help others.
- Be at school on time and regularly.
- Be responsible with my books, folders and school supplies.
- Be responsible for my actions and behavior each day.
- Be a good citizen by doing what is right because it is the right thing to do for myself and others.