

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 1 (at Lesson 10)

Dear Family,

Welcome to second grade and the third level of our reading program, *Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2*. This year, your child will transition from learning to read to reading to learn. Your child will begin learning important reading skills needed in other subject areas such as social studies and science by reading nonfiction text and answering comprehension questions. You may even notice that your child can read beginning chapter books and short novels by the end of the year.

Research tells us when the family works with a child on schoolwork and becomes involved in the child's learning the child makes better progress. Helping your child with schoolwork is one of the most important things you can do to help your child continue to be a successful learner. So, even though your child is growing up and becoming more independent, your help and guidance are still so important!

At the end of every tenth lesson, I'll be sending you the *Reading Mastery Signature Edition* home letters to give you helpful information on topics you can work on at home with your child. Topics will include:

- Information your child has been learning.
- Vocabulary words to review.
- A fun activity to help your child learn at home.

Even though the school year is just beginning, there are some things you can do from home now to help your child get started right:

- Take time to read with your child each day.
- If your child doesn't have a library card, go to the library and get one. Then take your child to the library to borrow books as often as possible.
- When you read with your child, ask him/her comprehension questions.

If you have any questions or want more ideas about how to help your child with reading skills, please contact me at the school. I'll be happy to talk with you!

Thank you,

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 2 (at Lesson 20)

Your child has completed the first 20 lessons of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Measurement Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is used to measure distance? (<i>Answer: Mile, meter, inch, centimeter.</i>)	Trees Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What's the rule about trees? (<i>Answer: Trees have leaves.</i>)• Practice saying this deduction: If an oak is a tree, it has leaves.	Insects Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many legs does an insect have? (<i>Answer: 6 legs.</i>)• How many legs does a spider have? (<i>Answer: 8 legs.</i>)• Is a spider an insect? (<i>Answer: No.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
whole strange great during half centimeter	thought famous human expensive Russia	usually disappear Alaska England binoculars

We have been reading about different ways to measure things including length and speed. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 3 (at Lesson 30)

Your child has completed Lessons 21-30 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?	
Facts About Dew Ask your child about the following facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dew forms at night.• Dew forms when the air gets cooler.• Dew disappears in the morning when the air warms up.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do roots do? <i>(Answer: Keep a tree from falling over.)</i>

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
engine	moist	hoist
impression	boiled	stale
motioned	broiled	water strider
New York	spoiled	lawn
apart	completely	

We have been reading facts about ants. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 4 (at Lesson 40)

Your child has completed Lessons 31-40 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?	
Airplane Facts Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does an airplane pilot do? (Answer: Fly the plane.)	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What three things happen as tadpoles grow? (Answer: They grow back legs, they grow front legs and then their tail disappears.)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
gram decision expression manage	Kennedy Airport speedometer realized San Francisco realized	several distance engine passengers

We have been reading about airplane crewmembers. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 5 (at Lesson 50)

Your child has completed Lessons 41-50 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?	
Warm-Blooded and Cold-Blooded Animals Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are some examples of warm-blooded animals? (<i>Answers may vary: dogs, rabbits, cows, humans, horses, deer.</i>)• What are some examples of cold-blooded animals? (<i>Answers may vary: Ants, spiders, frogs, butterflies.</i>)	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When the temperature goes up (gets hotter), does the number of degrees get bigger or smaller? (<i>Answer: Bigger.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
Lake Michigan Chicago temperature Denver degrees	weather runway coast galley panel	captain although copilot Pacific Ocean Japan

We have been reading about the size of some states in the United States. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 6 (at Lesson 60)

Your child has completed Lessons 51-60 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Facts About Machines Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What's the rule about machines? (<i>Answer: All machines make it easier for you to do work.</i>)	Comparing Objects <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask your child to compare 2 objects. First tell how they are the same, and then tell how they are different.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name two things that grow on palm trees. (<i>Answer: Dates and coconuts.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
finally fuel weigh stern frost	except crate faded tumbled	echoed explained force raw imagine

We have been reading facts about islands. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2/ Home Letter 7 (at Lesson 70)

Your child has completed Lessons 61-70 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Temperature Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the temperature inside your body when you are healthy? (<i>Answer: 98 degrees.</i>)• What is it called when your temperature is higher than 98 degrees? (<i>Answer: A fever.</i>)	History Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What year did America become a country? (<i>Answer: 1776.</i>)• Look at a map of America and make observations together.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How far is it from New York City to San Francisco? (<i>Answer: 25 hundred miles.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
directly scales gusts important	mumbled woven war damage lowered dull	starve battle army succeed failed

We have been reading about the war between Greece and Troy. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 8 (at Lesson 80)

Your child has completed Lessons 71-80 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Wells Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are two types of wells? (<i>Answer: fresh water wells and oil wells.</i>)	Achilles Heel Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does it mean to have an Achilles heel? (<i>Answer: A weakness.</i>)• Give an example sentence using this phrase.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You can see drops of water on grass early in the morning. What are those drops called? (<i>Answer: Dew.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
comfortable permitted complaint objected	your demand appeared arranged	uneasy explain vehicle recognize

We have been reading about oil wells. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 9 (at Lesson 90)

Your child has completed Lessons 81-90 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Chariots Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What type of animal pulled chariots? (Answer: Horses.)	Horses Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What types of things are horses used for today? (Answers may vary: <i>Racing, pulling things, carrying people.</i>)	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pete is 15 miles high. Jane is 18 miles high. Who is colder? (Answer: Jane.) Why? (Answer: <i>The higher the air, the colder the air.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
imitate earlier swoop tusks	skeleton daydream muscle earth	hollow lighter in fact herd

We have been reading about fire and heat. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 10 (at Lesson 100)

Your child has completed Lessons 91-100 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Checks Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the rule about checks? (<i>Answer: A check tells the bank how much money to pay somebody.</i>)• Have you ever seen someone write a check?	Strong Animals Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the strongest land animal? (<i>Answer: Elephant.</i>)• What kinds of things can an elephant do? (<i>Answers may vary: Knock down buildings, tip over a large truck, rip trees out of the ground.</i>)	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How long did the war between Greece and Troy last? (<i>Answer: 10 years.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
electricity examine magnetic blame	slight mention offer allow	ruin referee holler charge awful

We have been reading about professional football players. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 11 (at Lesson 110)

Your child has completed Lessons 101-110 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Geography Ask your child to find the following on a globe: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The United States, Italy, Turkey, Japan and The Pacific Ocean	Travel Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did people travel 200 years ago? <i>(Answer: By foot, by horse or by water.)</i>• How was travel different back then than it is today? <i>(Answer: It was much slower.)</i>	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How fast does a jumbo jet fly? <i>(Answer: 500 miles per hour.)</i>• What city have you been learning about on the east coast? <i>(Answer: New York City.)</i>• What city have you been learning about on the west coast? <i>(Answer: San Francisco.)</i>

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
packed count on receive ashamed honest	let somebody down remains treasures shallow before long	spices confusion rich sunken ship relative

We have been reading about different places including cities, states and countries. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 12 (at Lesson 120)

Your child has completed Lessons 111-120 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Geography Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which country is bigger, Canada or the United States? <i>(Answer: Canada.)</i>• Is Canada north or south of the United States? <i>(Answer: North.)</i>• Which ocean is to the west of the United States? <i>(Answer: The Pacific Ocean.)</i>	Time Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many seconds are in a minute? <i>(Answer: 60.)</i>• Time a minute to get a feel for how long it is.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which animal is safer, a goat or an ant? <i>(Answer: a goat.)</i> Why? <i>(Answer: Because it's bigger.)</i>

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
double Australia finest triple koala	ruin India lookout screech rip-off	preserve strutted certain illegal graph

We have been reading facts about Canada. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 13 (at Lesson 130)

Your child has completed Lessons 121-130 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Homonyms Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are homonyms? (<i>Answer: Two words that sound the same but are spelled differently.</i>)• Give examples of homonyms. (<i>Answers may vary: ate/eight, four/for, new/knew, rode/road, there/their.</i>)	Contractions Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are contractions? (<i>Answer: Words made by joining two words together.</i>)• Give examples of contractions. (<i>Answers may vary: couldn't, he'll, we've, you're, can't, I'll.</i>)• Tell me what two words are combined to make each contraction.	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What liquid does gasoline come from? (<i>Answer: Crude oil.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
encyclopedia refunded behave	constantly involved	calm describe claim

We have been reading about timelines. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 14 (at Lesson 140)

Your child has completed Lessons 131-140 of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition*, Grade 2. Here's an update of some of the things your child has learned.

What's New?		
Egypt Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the name of the river that runs through Egypt? (<i>Answer: The Nile River.</i>)• Find the Nile River on a map or globe.	Inventions Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is an invention? (<i>Answer: Something that is made for the first time.</i>)• What kinds of things had not yet been invented in the 1800's? (<i>Answers may vary: Trains, cars, airplanes, televisions, radios, computers, refrigerators.</i>)	Review Ask your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Airplanes land in airports. Where do ships land? (<i>Answer: Harbors.</i>)

Here are some words your child has been learning. Ask your child to use each word in a sentence.

Vocabulary		
buried pyramid slave earthquake lean	Egypt electric computer forever raft	queens blade ton bowed ancient grain

We have been reading about Egypt. Ask to hear more!

Activity Page

On the next page, you will find an activity you can do with your child. Have fun!

Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2 / Home Letter 15 (at Lesson 145)

Your child has completed *Reading Mastery Signature Edition, Grade 2!* Your child worked hard to learn some very important reading skills necessary to become a fluent reader. Take a moment to congratulate your child on a job well done!

Even though the school year is ending, there are many things you can do to help your child continue to improve their reading, writing, and language skills:

- Continue to read to your child and have your child read to you, even if it's just for a few minutes each day. This shows your child that you think reading is important.
- Enroll your child in a recreational reading program at the public library. Visit the library to borrow books as often as possible. Show your child how to look for books on subjects of interest or how to ask the librarian for help. While you're there, look for books numbered 398. This is the section where your child will find a great assortment of fairy tales, folk tales, and fables to enjoy.
- Keep paper, pens, and pencils available for writing. Ask your child to write something each day. Ideas include: notes to you, short stories, letters to friends and family, grocery lists, or lists of household chores.

Books to Read

Your child may enjoy reading some of the books in a series such as *The Bailey School Kids*, *Magic Treehouse*, *Cam Jansen*, or *Nate the Great*. Here are some additional books that you and your child may enjoy reading together.

Library Shelf
<i>The Nine Lives of Adventure Cat</i> by Susan Clymer <i>The Toothpaste Genie</i> by Francis Duncan <i>The Reluctant Dragon</i> by Kenneth Grahame <i>The People Could Fly</i> by Virginia Hamilton <i>The Orphan Boy</i> by Tololwa M. Mollel and Paul Morin <i>Millicent and the Wind</i> by Robert Munsch <i>Pappa Gatto</i> by Ruth Sanderson <i>Lon Po Po</i> by Ed Young

Activity Page

On the next page you'll find an activity you can do with your child. Enjoy!