

2nd Grade: Activities to Support Learning Targets

Grade: 2 nd Grade		Unit: Social Studies Activities
Learning Target Social Studies: 2 nd	Activity	Activity
Identify founding documents of the United States (e.g., U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights).	Learn more about founding documents from Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government	Watch Schoolhouse Rock- The Constitution
Describe roles and responsibilities of people in authority and individuals in a democracy in local communities.	Identify the people with roles of authority in your community, and write or email them to learn more about their jobs. How do they help the community?	Use the interactive app Kid Citizen (from the Library of Congress) about community helpers.
Describe goods and services that people in the local community produce and those that are produced in other communities.	Visit a local farmer's market. What goods are available? Contact friends or family in another community or part of the state and compare – What goods are offered there? How are they similar/different, and why?	LiveBinders and resources from Economics Arkansas
Use map keys, legends, symbols, intermediate directions, scale, and compass rose to derive information from maps.	Complete this National Geographic lesson on how to read Cardinal Directions and Maps in which students listen to a poem that uses cardinal directions. They use a compass rose to help describe locations of places on a world map.	Free Second Grade Geography Printables from Education.com
Describe ways different cultures help shape the diversity of a community, place, or region.	Identify communities in your region or state that are home to multiple cultures. How are these cultures represented in the region or community?	Possible resource: Visit the Arkansas Traveler Database here , scroll down and click on "CultureGrams," and then click "Kids Edition" or "World Edition" to learn more about the culture of others.
Explain ways weather, climate, and other environmental characteristics affect people's lives in a place or region.	Connect with a friend or relative in another region or state and create a T-chart that compares how weather, climate, and other environmental characteristics affect your life in different ways.	Possible resource: Visit the Arkansas Traveler Database here , scroll down and click on "CultureGrams," and then click "Kids Edition" or "State Edition" or "World Edition" to learn more about the climate and geography of a place or region.

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Learning Target Social Studies: 2 nd	Activity	Activity
Explain historical symbols and landmarks and the people and events associated with them.	Identify historical landmarks and symbols in your community or state and research the people and events associated with them.	Use the Encyclopedia of Arkansas to research historical symbols and landmarks in Arkansas.
Examine changes in the community in terms of cause and effect (e.g., automobiles and the growth of suburbs created reduction in farms, population increase led to more neighborhoods and housing).	Interview your parents or grandparents to talk about what changes have taken place in the community and why.	Research and find old pictures of your town and compare it to present day. What has changed? Why?

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Grade: 2 nd Grade		Unit: Science Activities
Learning Target Science: 2 nd	Activity	Activity Resources
Explain how water exists on Earth in a variety of locations including ice, oceans, lakes, and ponds.	Make a travel brochure of different types of areas you could visit to see water on Earth (e.g., a brochure of Florida featuring the ocean).	Bodies of Water (PBS Learning Media)
Explain how plants and animals depend on their surroundings to meet their needs.	Plan and conduct an investigation to determine if plants need sunlight and water to grow.	Ecosystem Game (PBS Learning Media)
Sort materials by how they look, feel, or act.	Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable (using your 5 senses) properties (examples of potential materials: flour, sugar, salt).	Is flour a solid or liquid? (PBS Learning Media)
Explore how things change, what causes the changes (such as heating and cooling), and if the changes are reversible or not.	With help from your parents, investigate examples of reversible changes such as: folding paper, melting wax, freezing water. Also investigate examples of irreversible changes such as: cooking an egg, heating paper, and freezing a plant leaf. Now that you have experienced the two types of changes, define reversible change and irreversible change.	What are irreversible changes? (BBC)
Compare two ways of solving the same human problem and think about which one is better and why.	Using paper and tape, create two designs for a candy bag. Assemble the two designs and determine which one could hold the most candy by testing the bags. Revise your designs to create an even better candy bag. (If you don't have candy, you can use small toys or small rocks.)	Invent a backscratcher (Teach Engineering)

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Grade: 2 nd Grade		Unit: Math Activities
Learning Target Math: 2 nd	Activity	Activity
Solve one and two-step real-world problems with numbers up to 100.	Put 10 objects in a paper sack (e.g., beans, blocks, pennies). Reach into the sack without looking and grab a handful of objects. Using the amounts you know (the number you started with and the number you pulled out), figure out how many objects are still in the sack. Write an addition or subtraction equation to represent the amounts. Older children can do this with larger numbers.	Illustrative Mathematics: Saving Money 2
Understand that the place value of digits in a three-digit number represents hundreds, tens, and ones (e.g., $365 = 3 \text{ hundreds} + 6 \text{ tens} + 5 \text{ ones}$ or 36 tens and 5 ones).	Illustrative Mathematics: Bundling and Unbundling	Build 459 in as many ways as possible (e.g., 45 tens and 9 ones or 1 hundred 25 tens, and 109 ones). Use numbers or pictures to help you.
Add and subtract numbers within 100 using place value strategies. <i>Place Value is the value that a digit has based on its position in a number. For example, in the number 89, the 8 can be seen as 80 ones or 9 tens.</i>	Would you rather have 66 pieces of candy and give 25 to your friends or have 72 pieces of candy and give 37 to your friends?	
Add up to four two-digit numbers (e.g., $24 + 11 + 32 + 45$).	Sums to 100	Illustrative Math: Toll Bridge Puzzle
Count within 1000; skip-count by 5s, 10s, and 100s.	Skip counting using Number Images	Practice counting by 10s, 5s, and 2s. If needed, you may use a 100s chart and color in boxes. Challenge: Try and count by 3s.

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Learning Target Math: 2 nd	Activity	Activity
Add and subtract numbers within 20 fluently.	Go Fish for 2s Game: Take out the face cards from a deck of cards. Players get 5 cards. Take turns asking the other players for a specific number card to match one of their own cards to make a difference of 2 (e.g., a player would ask for a 7 to match with a 5 to make a difference of 2). If the player asked doesn't have what they were asked for, then asking player draws a card from the card pile. Once a player has matched cards that subtract to 2, the player lays them face up for all to see. Match all your cards to end the game. The first player to match all his or her cards wins.	Place 8 cards face up on the table. Player #1 will select a pair of cards that adds up to make 10. The player will do this as many times as possible until the 8 cards are gone or he or she can't make another 10. For every sum of 10 made, the player earns 1 point. Replace any missing cards with cards from the deck and the next player will do the same. Older students may combine more than two number cards to make 10, (for example $5+2+3$) You can also make your own deck of cards with decade numbers on them (e.g., 10, 20, 30) for older children to use to play this game with 100.
Estimate and measure lengths of objects to the nearest whole inch or centimeter.	Guess the length of everybody in your family's feet, then measure the exact amount in inches or centimeters with a ruler. Record your data on a chart.	Measurement Games for 2nd Graders
Divide circles and rectangles into equal sized halves, thirds, or fourths.	Math for Love Unit Chat	"Happy Halving" Activity Extend it by seeing if you can make any of the pieces into 3 or 4 equal size pieces.
Tell time on analog clocks to the nearest five minutes and write in colon notation (e.g., 2:35).	Which One Doesn't Belong #9	Time Twister
Compare two three-digit numbers using the symbols > (more than), = (equal to), and < (less than).	Split a deck of cards between 2 players. Each player lays down the first 3 cards in their pile and makes the largest number possible with them. The player with the greatest number wins a point. Continue until all the cards from each pile are used.	With a partner, play a game where one of you thinks of a number between 1 and 20 and the other can ask 10 questions to figure out the chosen number. Your questions must use the vocabulary greater than, less than, and equal to.

2nd Grade: Activities to Support Learning Targets

Grade: 2 nd Grade		Unit: Literacy Activities
Learning Target Literacy: 2 nd	Activity	Activity Resources
Participate in discussions building on what others say.	Have a one-to-two-minute conversation with your child several times per day. Ask questions to help your child give more details. Encourage eye contact and taking turns. Use an object, such as a talking stick, as a signal for turn-taking. Teach your child that when he or she has the object, it is his or her turn to talk while others are expected to listen.	Conversation Starters
Decode words with common prefixes and suffixes.	When your child is reading words, help him or her find prefixes such as un- and re-, and suffixes such as -ing, -ed, -er, -ful, and -est. For reading practice, these prefixes and suffixes can be decoded by themselves to help students find them and read them efficiently in words. Example words: <i>unhappy, reorder, baking, wonderful, and smallest.</i>	Prefix and Suffix Games
Read and show understanding of grade-level texts by answering questions.	Read a story aloud or listen to a story online with your child. Use the question stem bank to ask your child questions about the story. Your child can also ask you questions about the story to demonstrate an understanding of what happened in the story.	Question Stem Bank
Begin to write cursive upper- and lower-case letters.	Help your children learn how to make cursive letters. Encourage them to practice writing the letters just like the examples. Children love learning to write their own names in cursive!	Cursive Alphabet and Cursive Practice Paper Neuhaus Handwriting
Learn and use new vocabulary.	When encountering words that your child may not know while reading aloud to him or her: Read the whole sentence that has the unknown word in it. Ask the child to repeat the word out loud after you say it. Explain what the word means in terms that they can understand. Ask the child to use the word. Ask the child to say the word out loud again.	Child-Friendly Definitions
Write to tell a story, give information, or give an opinion using grade-appropriate conventions.	Go outside. Make a list of 10 interesting things you see. Choose one to write about. Write a story including a description about the interesting thing you saw. Support with details. One thing I saw outside was _____. Write a response to this prompt: Which is better? (compare two or three things from your list). Why do you think this one is better? Give reasons and details to support your opinion. _____ are better than _____ because _____.	Second Grade Writing Prompts Online Writing Prompt Generator

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Learning Target Literacy: 2 nd		Activity
Describe a character's traits.	Discuss character traits with your child after reading or listening to a story. Ask if they would describe that quality as positive or negative. Ask if they know other related words (synonyms) or opposites (antonyms). For example, if a character is funny, you could also say they are humorous.	ReadWriteThink: Character Traits List
Retell stories.	Read stories with your child and let them retell the story to you. Encourage them to tell the story in the correct chronological order and to use lots of details from the story.	Aesop's Fables What is retelling?
Identify the main idea and key details of a text.	The main idea is what the WHOLE thing was about. The key details are those supporting parts that helped you understand the whole thing. Have your child tell you the main idea of a text you've read together and then tell you some key details that support that main idea.	Main Idea Video
Compare and contrast two similar texts.	Read two books or articles about a topic with your child and help him or her think about what was the same or different about each article.	Compare and Contrast Using a Venn Diagram