

English Language Arts Curriculum  
Grade 2

<b>Unit 1:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Friends and Family					
How do families and friends learn, grow, and help one another?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency and Oral Vocab	Writing
How do friends depend on each other?	Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: short a, i Structural Analysis: Plural Nouns: -s, -es	Trait: Ideas: Focus of Event  Grammar Skills: Statements and Questions Mechanics: Sentence Capitalization/Punctuation	Actions, Afraid, Depend, Nervously, Peered, Perfectly, Rescue, Secret Hedgehog, Prickles  Characters, Events, Evidence	Ball, Blue, Both, Even, For, Help, Put, There, Why, Yellow  Awkward, Outrageous, Panic, Relief, Squawked	Narrative – Friendly Letter and/or Personal Narrative
How are families around the world the same and different?	Character, Setting, Events  Phonics/Spelling: Short e, o, u Structural Analysis: Inflectional Endings: -s, -es	Trait: Organization: Strong Openings  Grammar Skills: Commands and Exclamations Mechanics: Sentence Capitalization/Punctuation	Aside, Culture, Fair, Invited, Language, Plead, Scurries, Share Musical, Triangle  Compare, Exclamation, Setting	Could, Find, Funny, Green, How, Little, One, Or, See, Sounds	Narrative – Friendly Letter and/or Personal Narrative

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How can a pet be an important friend?	Character, Setting, Events: Use Illustrations  Phonics/Spelling: 2-letter blends (r, s, t, l) Structural Analysis: Closed syllables	Trait: Word Choice: Precise Language  Grammar Skills: Subjects Mechanics: Letter Punctuation	Decide, Different, Friendship, Glance, Proper, Relationship, Stares, Trade Goldfish  Closing, Greeting, Rhyming	Boy. By, Girl, He, Here, She, Small, Want, Were, What	Narrative – Friendly Letter and/or Personal Narrative
How do we care for animals?	Key Details: Use Photos  Phonics/Spelling: short a, long a: a_e Structural Analysis: Inflectional endings: -ed, -ing	Trait: Organization: Sequence  Grammar Skills: Predicates Mechanics: Commas in a Sequence	Allowed, Care, Excited, Needs, Roam, Needs, Safe, Wandered, Wild Conservancy, Rhino  Categorize, Organization, Sequence, Subject	Another, Done, Into, Move, Now, Show, Too, Water, Year, Your	Narrative – Friendly Letter and/or Personal Narrative

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Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency and Oral Vocab	Writing
What happens when families work together?	Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: short i, long i: i_e Structural Analysis: Possessives	Trait: Sentence Fluency: Vary Sentence Type  Grammar Skills: Expanding and Combining Sentences Mechanics: Quotations Marks with Dialogue	Checks, Choose, Chores, Cost, Customers, Jobs, Spend, Spend, Tools  Combine, Comparison, Expand	All, Any, Goes, New, Number, Other, Right, Says, Understands, Work	Narrative – Friendly Letter and/or Personal Narrative

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<b>Unit 2:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Animal Discoveries					
How do animals play a part in the world around us?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
How do animals survive?	Character, Setting, Plot  Phonics/Spelling: short o, long o :o_e Structural Analysis: Doubling Final Consonants; Drop Final e: -ed, -ing	Trait: Ideas: Descriptive Details  Grammar Skills: Nouns Mechanics: Commas in a Series	Adapt, Climate, Eager, Freedom, Fresh, Sense, Silence, Shadows  Opinion	Because, Cold, Family, Friends, Have, Know, Off, Picture, School, Took	Informative/Explanatory Text: How-to Text, How-to Directions
What can animals in stories teach us?	Character, Setting, Plot: Problem and Solution  Phonics/Spelling: short u, long u: u_e Structural Analysis: CVCe Syllables	Trait: Ideas: Supporting Details  Grammar Skills: Singular and Plural Nouns Mechanics: Commas in a Series	Believe, Delicious, Feast, Fond, Lessons, Remarkable, Snatch, Stories Morsel, Scrumptious  Fable, Reflect, Root Words	Change, Cheer, Fall, Five, Look, Open, Should, Their, Won, Yes	Informative/Explanatory Text: How-to Text, How-to Directions

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How do animals play a part in the world around us?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What are features of different animal habitats?	Main Topic and Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: soft c and g Structural Analysis: Prefixes: re-, un-, dis-	Trait: Organization: Sequence  Grammar Skills: Kinds of Nouns Mechanics: Capital Letters	Buried, Escape, Habitat, Journey, Nature, Peeks, Restless, Spies Hatch, Raccoons  Abbreviation, Collective Noun, Common Noun	Almost, Buy, Food, Out, Pull, Saw, Sky, Straight, Under, Wash	Informative/Explanatory Text: How-to Text, How-to Directions
How are offspring like their parents?	Main Topic and Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: Consonant Digraphs: ch, -tch, sh, ph, th, ng, wh Structural Analysis: Suffixes: -ful, -less	Trait: Word Choice: Linking Words  Grammar Skills: More Plural Nouns Mechanics: Abbreviations	Adult, Alive, Covered, Fur, Giant, Groom. Mammal, Offspring  Diagram	Baby, Early, Eight, Isn't, Learn, Seven, Start, These, Try, Walk	Informative/Explanatory Text: How-to Text, How-to Directions

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<b>Unit 2:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Animal Discoveries					
How do animals play a part in the world around us?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What do we love about animals?	Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: 3-letter blends: scr, spr, str, thr, spl, shr Structural Analysis: Compound Words	Trait: Word Choice: Precise Language  Grammar Skills: Possessive Nouns Mechanics: Apostrophes	Behave, Express, Feathers, Flapping  Multiple-meaning Words	Alarm, Howling, Knobby, Munch, Problem	Informative/Explanatory Text: How-to Text, How-to Directions

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<b>Unit 3:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Live and Learn  What have you learned about the world that surprises you?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing
How do the Earth's forces affect us?	Author's Purpose  Phonics/Spelling: Longa: a, ai, ay, ea, ei, eigh, ey Structural Analysis: Contractions with 's, 're, 'll, 've	Trait: Organization: Order Ideas  Grammar Skills: Action Verbs Mechanics: Abbreviations	Amazing, Force, Measure, Objects, Proved, Speed, True, Weight Gravity  Author's purpose, Comparison, Contractions	About, Around, Good, Great, Idea, Often, Part, Second, Two, World	Opinion: Opinion Letter, Book Review
What can we see in the sky?	Character, Setting, Plot: Sequence  Phonics/Spelling: Long i: i, y, igh, ie Structural Analysis: Open syllables	Trait: Word Choice: Linking Words  Grammar Skills: Present-Tense Verbs Mechanics: Commas in a Series	Adventure, Delighted, Dreamed, enjoyed, Grumbled, Moonlight, Neighbor, Nighttime Jellyroll, Big Dipper, Milky Way	Also, Apart, Begin, Either, Hundred, Over, Places, Those, Which, Without	Opinion: Opinion Letter, Book Review

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<b>Unit 3:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Live and Learn					
What have you learned about the world that surprises you?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing
How can people help out their community?	Author's Purpose  Phonics/Spelling: Long o: o, oa, ow, oe Structural Analysis: Contractions with not	Trait; Voice: Opinions  Grammar Skills: Past- and Future-Tense Verbs Mechanics: Letter Punctuation	Across, Borrow, Countryside, Ideas, Insists, Lonely, Solution, Villages Burro, Colombia  Narrator	Better, Group, Long, More, Only, Our, Started, Three, Who, Won't	Opinion: Opinion Letter, Book Review
How does weather affect us?	Main Idea and Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: Long e: e, ee, ea, ie, y, ey, e_e Structural Analysis: -s, -es	Trait: Organization: Strong Conclusions  Grammar Skills: The Verb HAVE Mechanics: Book Titles	Damage, Dangerous, Destroy, Event, Harsh, Prevent, Warning, Weather Temperature  Pattern	After, Before, Every, Few, First, Hear, hurt, Old, Special, Would	Opinion: Opinion Letter, Book Review



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<b>Unit 3:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Live and Learn					
What have you learned about the world that surprises you?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing
How do you express yourself?	Main Idea and Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: Long u: u_e, ew, ue, u Structural Analysis: Comparative Endings: -er, -est	Trait: Sentence Fluency: Vary Sentence Length  Grammar Skills: Combining and Rearranging Sentences Mechanics: Sentence Punctuation	Cheered, Concert, Instrument, Movements, Music, Rhythm, Sounds, Understand  Blend Combine	America, Beautiful, Began, Climbed, come, Country, Didn't, Give, Live, Turned	Opinion: Opinion Letter, Book Review

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<b>Unit 4:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Our Life / Our World					
How do different environments make the world an interesting place?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What makes different parts of the world different?	Connections Within Text: Compare and Contrast  Phonics/Spelling: Silent Letters wr, kn, gn, mb, sc Structural Analysis: Prefixes/Suffixes	Trait: Ideas: Focus on a Topic  Grammar Skills: Linking Verbs Mechanics: Capitalization of Proper Nouns	Eerie, Growth, Layers, Lively, Location, Region, Seasons, Temperate Amazon, Equator, Tropical	Below, Colors, Don't, Down, Eat, Many, Morning, Sleep, Through, Very	Fictional Narrative, Poem
How does the Earth change?	Connections Within a Text: Cause and Effect  Phonics/Spelling: r-controlled vowels er, ir, ur, or Structural Analysis: Inflectional Endings	Trait: Word Choice: Time-order Words  Grammar Skills: Helping Verbs Mechanics: Quotation Marks	Active, Earth, explode, Island, Local, Properties, Solid, Steep Erupt, Lava  Time-order Words	Animal, Away, Building, Found, From, Saturday, thought, Today, Toward, Watch	Fictional Narrative, Poem

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<b>Unit 4:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Our Life / Our World					
How do different environments make the world an interesting place?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
How are kids around the world different?	Character, Setting and Plot: Compare and Contrast  Phonics/Spelling: r-controlled vowels or, ore, oar, ar Structural Analysis: Irregular Plurals	Trait: Voice: Show Feelings  Grammar Skills: Irregular Verbs Mechanics: Book Titles	Common, Costume, Customs, Favorite, Parade, Surrounded, Travels, Wonder Cousin, Primo  Voice	Ago, Carry, Certain, Everyone, heavy, Outside, People, Problem, Together, Warm	Fictional Narrative, Poem
How can we understand nature?	Theme  Phonics/Spelling: r-controlled vowels eer, ere, ear Structural Analysis: Abbreviations	Trait: Ideas: Develop Character  Grammar Skills: Irregular Verbs Mechanics: Letter Punctuation	Ashamed, Boast, Dash, Holler, Plenty, Similarities, Victory, Wisdom	Again, Behind, Eyes, Gone, Happened, house, Inside, Neither, Stood, Young	Fictional Narrative, Poem

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<b>Unit 4:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Our Life / Our World					
How do different environments make the world an interesting place?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What excites us about nature?	Theme  Phonics/Spelling: r-controlled vowels are, air, ear, ere Structural Analysis: r-controlled Vowel Syllables	Trait: Word Choice: Sensory Words  Grammar Skills: Contractions Mechanics: Contractions/Apostrophes	Drops, Excite, Outdoors, Pale  Sensory Words	Among, Bought, Knew, Never, Once, Soon, Sorry, Talk, Touch, Upon	Fictional Narrative, Poem

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<b>Unit 5:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Let's Make a Difference  How can people make a difference?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What do good citizens do?	Point of View  Phonics/Spelling: Diphthongs ou, ow Structural Analysis: Irregular Plurals	Trait: Ideas: Descriptive Details  Grammar Skills: Pronouns Mechanics: Quotations Marks	Champion, Determined, Issues, Promises, Responsibility, Rights, Volunteered, Votes Electoral, Constituents, Candidate  Quotation Marks	Answer, Been, Body, Build, Head, Heard, Minutes, Myself, Pretty, Pushed	Explanatory Writing: Compare and Contrast
How do people get along?	Point of View  Phonics/Spelling: Diphthongs oy, oi Structural Analysis: Consonant + le(el, al) Syllables	Trait: Sentence Fluency: Vary Sentence Length  Grammar Skills: Pronouns I and Me, We and Us Mechanics: Capitalizing the Pronoun I	Amused, Cooperate, Describe, Entertained, Imagination, Interacts Patient, Peaceful  Brainstormed	Brought, Busy, Else, Happy, I'll, Laugh, Love, Maybe, Please, Several	Explanatory Writing: Compare and Contrast

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<b>Unit 5:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> Let's Make a Difference  How can people make a difference?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What do heroes do?	Connections Within a Text: Sequence  Phonics/Spelling: Variant Vowels: oo, u, u_e, ew, ue, ui Structural Analysis: Contractions with NOT	Trait: Organization: Sequence  Grammar Skills: Possessive Pronouns Mechanics: Capitalization of Proper Nouns	Agree, Challenging, Discover, Heroes, Interest, Perform, Study, Succeed	Air, Along, Always, Draw, During, Ever, Meant, Nothing, Story, Won't	Explanatory Writing: Compare and Contrast
How can we protect the Earth?	Character, Setting, Plot: Problem and Solution  Phonics: Variant Vowels: a, aw, au, augh, al, ough Structural Analysis: Vowel Team Syllables	Trait: Word Choice: Linking Words  Grammar Skills; Contractions Mechanics: Contractions/Possessive Pronouns	Curious, Distance, Earth resources, Enormous, Gently, Proudly, Rarely, Supply  Cause and Effect	City, Father, Mother, o'clock, Own, Questions, Read, Searching, Sure, Though	Explanatory Writing: Compare and Contrast

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Unit 5: Big Idea: Let's Make a Difference					
How can people make a difference?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
Why are rules important?	<p>Connections Within a Text: Cause and Effect</p> <p>Phonics/Spelling: Short Vowel Digraphs: /e/ ea, /u/ou, /i/y Structural Analysis: Alphabetical Order (two letters)</p>	<p>Trait: Voice: Formal vs. Informal</p> <p>Grammar Skills: Pronoun-Verb Agreement Mechanics: Book Titles</p>	<p>Exclaimed, Finally, Form, History, Public, Rules, United, Writers</p> <p>Alphabetical order Symbols</p>	<p>Anything, Children, Everybody, Instead, Paper, Person, Voice, Whole, Woman Words</p>	<p>Explanatory Writing: Compare and Contrast</p>

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<b>Unit 6:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> How on Earth? What keeps our world working?					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
What do myths help us understand?	Theme  Phonics/Spelling: Closed Syllables and Open Syllables Structural Analysis: Compound Words	Trait: Organization: Strong Openings  Grammar Skills: Adjectives Mechanics: Commas in a Series	Appeared, Crops, Develop, Edge, Golden, Rustled, Shining, Stages Puerto Rico  Adjective, Myth, Point of View	Door, Front, Order, Probably, Remember, Someone, Tomorrow, What's, Worry, Yesterday	Informative/Explanatory Writing  Summary: Research Report
How do we use energy?	Author's Purpose  Phonics/Spelling: CVCe Syllables Structural Analysis: Prefixes/Suffixes	Trait: Word Choice: Content Words  Grammar Skills: Articles and This, That, These, and Those  Mechanics: Names and Titles	Electricity, Energy, Flows, Haul, Power, Silent, Solar, Underground Dam, Generators	Alone, Became, Beside, Four, Hello, Large, Notice, Round, Suppose, Surprised	Informative/Explanatory Writing  Summary: Research Report



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<b>Unit 6:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> How on Earth?  What keeps our world working?					
Essential Question	Skills/Competencies - Reading	Skills/Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
Why is teamwork important?	Main Idea and Key Details  Phonics/Spelling: Consonant + le (el, al) Syllables Structural Analysis: Contractions/Possessives	Trait: Ideas: Supportive Details  Grammar Skills: Adjectives that Compare Mechanics: Apostrophes	Exploration, Important, Machines, Prepare, Repair, Result, Scientific, Teamwork	Above, Brother, Follow, Listen, Month, Soft, Something, Song, Who's, Wind	Informative/Explanatory Writing  Summary: Research Report
How do we use money?	Connections Within a Text: Problem and Solution  Phonics/Spelling: Vowel Team Syllables Structural Analysis: Comparative Endings: -er, -est (with spelling changes)	Trait: Organization: Strong Conclusions  Grammar Skills: Adverbs and Prepositional Phrases Mechanics: Capitalization	Invented, Money, Prices, Purchase, Record, System, Value, Worth Credit cards	Against, Anymore, Complete, Enough, River, Rough, Sometimes, Stranger, Terrible, Window	Informative/Explanatory Writing  Summary: Research Report

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<b>Unit 6:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b> How on Earth? What keeps our world working?					
Essential Question	Skills/Competencies - Reading	Skills/Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words – High Frequency	Writing
Where can your imagination take you?	Point of View  Phonics/Spelling: r-controlled Vowel Syllables Structural Analysis: Three (or more) Syllable Words	Trait: Word Choice: Strong Words  Grammar Skills: Adjectives and Adverbs Mechanics: Sentence Punctuation	Create, Dazzling, Imagination, Seconds  Blend	Afternoon, Ahead, Anyone, Everything, Pretended, Scientist, Somehow, Throughout, Trouble, Wherever	Informative/Explanatory Writing  Summary: Research Report

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<b>Unit 7:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b>					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing

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<b>Unit 8:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b>					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing

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<b>Unit 9:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b>					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing

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<b>Unit 10:</b> <b>Big Idea:</b>					
Essential Question	Skills / Competencies - Reading	Skills/ Competencies - Writing	Vocabulary Words - Academic	Vocabulary Words - High Frequency	Writing