

### Why It's Important

In second grade, while students are still using their decoding skills to sound out unfamiliar words, they are also relating new information to what they already know. For instance, if your child reads a book about dinosaurs, they may recall facts and pictures they've already been shown of those dinosaurs. In less than two years, your student will shift from learning-to-read to reading-to-learn. Before this shift it is important that they acquire as much **critical reading practice** as possible. Reading challenges like this help ensure that your student is able to get the most out of the educational reading they will be assigned in the future.

You probably already know that reading aloud to children is the most important aspect of preparing them to read on their own. It is equally as **important for your children to read aloud themselves**. Here's why:

- Reading aloud **enhances fluency** by increasing the number of words a child recognizes automatically.
- Reading aloud **strengthens comprehension** by giving children practice recognizing words, sentence structures, and organization patterns.
- Reading aloud helps **develop critical reading skills** by encouraging children to read expressively.
- Reading aloud helps struggling readers **monitor themselves** and identify areas they may need additional help.

This Reading Challenge has been adapted for use at GLADL, from a program created by Clinton-Macomb Public Library, and is used with their permission.

### 2nd Grade Reading Challenge

This is a 50 book challenge that your student can complete during their 2nd grade school year. For this grade level the priority is **developing your child's ability to read aloud to and with adults**. Choose **50** books at their current reading level; if they struggle with more than 3-5 words on any given page, the book is probably too difficult. If a student does not have to sound out any words at all, the book is probably too easy. Try to find a "happy medium" to engage your child.

#### How to Participate

Set aside a regular special reading time for your child to read aloud to you. This helps create a positive association with books and reading. Don't be overly critical of your child's abilities-- remember they're still learning to read. Mistakes are inevitable and part of the process. Help them use their **decoding skills to sound out words**. Most of all, make reading fun by being a good listener – this means putting away phones and other devices, focusing on your child and the book, and discussing the story together after your child reads it aloud.

Start reading, and as they complete each book **record the title on this form**. Remember to ask for one of our Challenge packets and get registered at the library to get the latest news. When they have read 50 books, visit the library to pick up their prize, which will include a **free book**, certificate of completion, and a sticker.

Follow us on Facebook and keep an eye on GLADL.org for additional prizes along the way!



## 2ND GRADE STORYTELLERS READING CHALLENGE

131 E. Jefferson St. Grand Ledge, MI  
Phone: 517.627.7014 Web: gladl.org

Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm  
Friday & Saturday 10am - 5pm  
Sunday 1pm - 5pm

**I accept the challenge!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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**Yay! You did it!**