

# MODULE 1

## SECOND GRADE

### What's Happening in English Language Arts Class?

Your child's class will use Wit & Wisdom as our English Language Arts curriculum. By reading and responding to excellent fiction and nonfiction, your student will learn about key history, science, and literature topics.

# A SEASON OF CHANGE



In this first module, *A Season of Change*, we will study how the world changes every season. We will explore the colors and changes in the seasons. We will also look at paintings of rainy, sunny, and snowy land. We will discover how change affects us all.

OUR CLASS WILL  
READ THESE BOOKS:



#### Nonfiction Picture Books

- *How Do You Know It's Fall?* by Lisa M. Herrington
- *Why Do Leaves Change Color?* by Betsy Maestro

#### Fiction Picture Books

- *The Little Yellow Leaf* by Carin Berger
- *A Color of His Own* by Leo Lionni
- *Sky Tree* by Thomas Locker

OUR CLASS WILL  
READ THIS POEM:



- "[Weather](#)" by Eve Merriam

OUR CLASS WILL  
LOOK AT THESE  
PAINTINGS:



- [Autumn Landscape](#) by Maurice de Vlaminck
- [Bathers at Asnières](#) by Georges Seurat
- [Hunters in the Snow](#), Pieter Bruegel the Elder
- [Paris Street, Rainy Day](#), Gustave Caillebotte

Find all the links online at <http://bit.ly/witwisdom2nd>



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## OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:



- In the poem, "Weather," what is changing?
- How does fall weather impact people and nature?
- How does the Little Yellow Leaf change?
- How does the chameleon change?
- How does weather impact leaves in fall?
- How does Sky Tree show the cycle of seasons?
- How does change impact people and nature?

## VOCABULARY

For their tests, your child should know the meaning of each word. They should also know how to use each word in a sentence:

- Uncurl
- Soar
- Change
- Separate
- Usual
- Flick
- Survive
- Huddle
- Disappear
- Migrate
- Observe
- Contents
- Open
- Shape



# PRACTICING AT HOME

## WRITING, TALKING AND READING

Snapshot: In this first module, A Season of Change, your child will learn how the world changes every season and how change affects us all.

### SECOND GRADE MODULE 1: A SEASON OF CHANGE

## YOUR CHILD WILL WORK ON THIS LEARNING GOAL:

At the [end of this unit](#), your child will work this goal:

Write a paragraph on how changes in weather impact plants or animals in the fall.

- The paragraph will include:
  - **topic statement** explains what is being written about
  - **evidence** facts and details from more than one place
  - **conclusion** summarizes what was written
- Your child will use an [evidence organizer](#) to include facts and details from at least two sources.
- Your child will practice writing the paragraph and will revise their draft based on their classmates' feedback.

## TRY THESE ACTIVITIES AT HOME

### PHONICS:

Your child is learning lots of phonics skills to help them become a strong reader. Please try this activity to help them with what they are learning in school:

#### Practicing Blends and Digraph Blends

Your child is working on practicing blends such as br in bring and digraph blends such as **ch** in chin. Ask your child's teacher what blends and digraph blends they are working on.

Remember, you can try these activities any time. Do as much or as little as your time allows. You can do **Let's Talk** while running errands or cooking dinner.

Check out [mClass Home Connect](#) for more great activities linked to your child's learning.

**Step 1:** Write a list of 5-10 words that have blends or digraph blends. Tip: Find a [list here](#).

- Example:
  - went
  - shrub
  - gust



**Step 2:** Have your child read each sentence.

- Example:
  - went    went
  - shrub    shrub
  - gust    gust

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## LET'S TALK:

Talking with your child about how their day went. Help them connect what they learned in school with their life.

*Ask your child:*

- What is your favorite season and why?
- You learned that the leaves change colors in the fall. If you had to pick just one, what is your favorite fall leaf color? Why do you think leaves change colors in the fall?
- Changes happen every season. It is fall now, how do you think you will change by the time summer comes around?



## REMINDERS

- Ask your child's teacher for copies of their end of unit tasks
- Ask your child's teacher for the mClass Home Connect Letter
- Ask your child's teacher what reading skills they need more support with
- Watch for your child's report card
- Schedule your parent teacher conference
- Check the City Schools calendar each week for important dates/reminders

## WRITING:

Your child is learning how to write and express themselves and what they have learned. You can try this activity at home:

### *Wondering and Imagining About the Seasons*

Your child is learning about seasons and change. It is important that they wonder, imagine and think creatively.

- **Step 1:** Have your child pick a season to write about. Tip: you can use this [writing paper](#).
- **Step 2:** Have your child imagine that the season is a character. For example, the summer is a superhero that can warm up anywhere they go and has a sun on their cape.
- **Step 3:** Have your child write a paragraph of 3-5 sentences and draw their character.



### Free Places to Explore and Learn Online

Walters Art Museum: Visit [here](#) to explore  
Baltimore Museum of Art: Visit [here](#) to explore.  
If you want to go to the BMA, you will need to reserve a time.



## RESOURCES

### Want to read some books about this unit at home?

Here are some suggestions:

- *The Longest Day: Celebrating the Summer* by Wendy Pfeffer
- *The Shortest Day: Celebrating the Winter* by Wendy Pfeffer
- *Poppleton in Winter* by Cynthia Rylant
- *Frog and Toad All Year* by Arnold Lobel
- *Henry and Mudge in the Sparkle Days* by Cynthia Rylant
- *Snow* by Cynthia Rylant
- *Over and Under the Snow* by Kate Messner

**TIP:** Find these books for free online at the [Enoch Pratt Free Library](#). You can ask the library to have them ready for you to pick up. Or, you can ask the library to mail books to you.