

Grade 2, Paper Mill Elementary School

“Making Sense of Our World”



The broad goal of second grade is to challenge students to explore and understand the world around them. We have developed Blizzard Bag activities that connect various subject areas around a common topic: **money!** Our theme is *“Making Sense of Our World”* – a pun on the expression “making cents!”

Our Grade 2 learning activities focus on the following curriculum standards:

Reading: Students will read stories and informational texts, identify themes and main ideas, and make connections between events and ideas.

Writing: Students will produce writing with attention to sentence structure, word meaning, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

Math: Students will identify coins and values, solve problems involving coins, and add and subtract numbers.

Social Studies: Students understand systems of government and different historical periods. Students will organize historical information in chronological order. Students will describe and compare examples of people who have achieved distinction in different fields.

Physical Science: Students will test, analyze and describe different kinds of materials by observable properties.

Visual Arts: Students will apply imagination and critical thinking in the making of art.

We hope you enjoy spending time with your children exploring these activities. Please contact us with any questions or suggestions.

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Blizzard Bag Guidelines

Westfield's school calendar allows for 5 snow days. If there are any additional cancellations, students should engage in learning at home by using the activities in their Blizzard Bag. Your child should complete the assigned lessons and bring their work to school the next day.

If your child is unable to complete these lessons, please send in a note the following day so that we can arrange appropriate make-up assignments.

Blizzard Bag Activities for Each Snow Day

1. Read aloud at least 20 minutes from your library book or another good book you have at home.
2. Write and draw your responses to questions on the enclosed Book Report form. Make sure you use the correct form: Are you reading a fiction book or a nonfiction book? Bring your Book Report to school tomorrow.
3. Log on to ST Math and complete math activities for 20 minutes. We will check your progress online tomorrow.
4. Log on to the website for the government's U. S. Mint.
<https://www.usmint.gov/learn/kids>
 - (a) Explore the website, click on the tab for games, and play one of the games.
 - (b) Click on the tab for "How Coins are Made" and then watch the video.
5. Below you will find a menu of additional activities. You should complete one column of activities for each snow day.

You should complete one Literacy/Social Studies activity, one Math activity, and one Science activity.

Please bring any reports or projects to school tomorrow.

We encourage students and families to enjoy activities from the Enrichment offerings.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day3
<p>Literacy/ Social Studies</p> <p>presidential biographies are posted below</p>	<p>Read two of the biographies on presidents, then complete the Compare and Contrast activity</p>	<p>Read a different presidential biography, then complete the Sequence activity</p>	<p>Read the fourth presidential biography, then complete the Main Idea and Details activity</p>
<p>Math</p> <p>This website offers educational math games</p> <p>https://www.education.com/activity/money-math/</p>	<p>Visit the website and design and create your own "Family Money"</p>	<p>Visit the website and play the game "Pennies, Dimes, Dollars!"</p>	<p>Visit the website and play the game "Make Money Make Cents"</p>
<p>Science</p> <p>This website offers instructions for fun science experiments with money</p> <p>https://sciencing.com/science-projects-cleaning-penny-5389487.html</p>	<p>Do the first Penny Experiment: Set up, observe, record, analyze</p> <p>Recording sheet is below.</p>	<p>Do the second Penny Experiment: Set up, observe, record, analyze</p> <p>Recording sheet is below.</p>	<p>Do the third Penny Experiment: Set up, observe, record, analyze</p> <p>Recording sheet is below.</p>

Enrichment Activities:

Students and families can explore their creativity and art skills with these fun money-related projects!

<https://www.education.com/activity/article/animal-piggy-banks/>

Science recording sheet

Name _____ Date _____

Ask a QUESTION:



Make a HYPOTHESIS:



Test the HYPOTHESIS:

Supplies:

Procedure:



Record the RESULTS:



Draw a CONCLUSION:



Name: _____

Book Report: Fiction

Read aloud for at least **20 minutes**. You can read your library book or a book of your choice. Use this form for **fiction books** – stories with imaginary characters and events.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Pages read today: page _____ through page _____

MAIN CHARACTER: Who is the main character? Include details on this character's actions and feelings. (2 or 3 sentences)

CONNECTIONS: Think about the characters and events in this story. Make a connection to something you know or something you have done. (2 or 3 sentences)

YOUR FAVORITE: What is your favorite part of this book so far?

ILLUSTRATION: Draw your favorite character or event from this story. Then, describe your illustration. (2 or 3 sentences)

Name: _____

Book Report: Nonfiction

Read aloud for at least **20 minutes**. You can read your library book or a book your choice.
Use this form for **nonfiction books** – books based on facts, real events, and real people.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Pages read today: page _____ through page _____

Who or what is the book about? Describe the main idea and some important details. (2 or 3 sentences)

List 3 interesting facts you learned about this topic. (complete sentences)

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

ILLUSTRATION: Draw something interesting or important you learned from this book.
Then, describe your illustration. (2 or 3 sentences)

Name: _____

Compare and Contrast

There are four presidential biographies included in your Blizzard Bag. Read **two** of these biographies. Compare and contrast facts about these two presidents. Please write complete sentences and check for spelling, punctuation, and capital letters.

I will compare and contrast these two presidents:

Compare: Describe 3 ways that these two presidents were similar.

Contrast: Describe 3 ways that these two presidents were different.

Name: _____

Sequence

There are four presidential biographies in your Blizzard Bag. Read **one** of these biographies and answer each question about the timeline of his life.

I will sequence the life events of this president:

When was your president born? _____

When did he become president? _____

What number president was he? _____

When did he finish his service as president? _____

When did your president die? _____

List 3 of your president's greatest accomplishments:

1 _____

2 _____

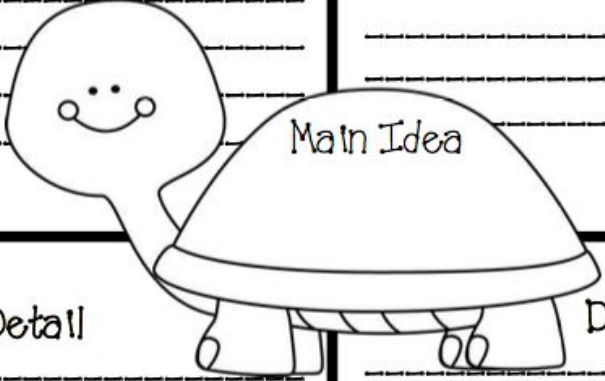
3 _____

Main Idea and Details

There are four presidential biographies in your Blizzard Bag. Read **one** of the biographies and complete the chart on the next page.

Write the main idea in the center of the chart. Pick four important details of the the president's life. Write each detail in a complete sentence in one of the boxes.

<p>Detail</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Detail</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Detail</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Detail</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



The image shows a worksheet for writing. It features a large rectangular area with a dashed border, divided into four quadrants by a vertical and a horizontal line. Each quadrant is labeled 'Detail' and contains several horizontal lines for writing. In the center of the worksheet is a cartoon drawing of a turtle. The turtle has a round head with a simple smile and two dots for eyes. Its shell is a large, rounded shape with the words 'Main Idea' written on it. The turtle is positioned so that its head and shell overlap the four quadrants of the worksheet.



the quarter: President George Washington

George Washington was the first president of the United States. He was one of our country's Founding Fathers.

Washington was born on February 22, 1732 in Virginia. His family had a large farm. He didn't go to school because his father and brother taught him at home. He was a good student in reading and math.

In 1748, Washington got a job making maps. Then he was in the army in the French and Indian War. Later he was elected to serve in the local government.

Washington didn't like how the British king ruled the colonies. Many people told the king that he should respect their rights. When the king didn't listen, a war started. In 1775, Washington became a general in the army. The colonists won the Revolutionary War in 1781.

In 1788, people asked Washington to become the first president of the United States. He helped form the new government. He served as president until 1797.

People call George Washington "The Father of His Country" because of all the good things he did as the first president. He died on December 14, 1799.



the nickel:

President Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was born on April 13, 1743 in Virginia. His family owned a large farm. When he was young, he enjoyed reading, playing music, and being outside. He went to college, and he studied to become a lawyer.

In 1775, he was elected to serve in the local government. He thought that the British rulers should not rule the colonies. Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence which said that the colonies should be free and all people should be free.

Jefferson served as the governor of Virginia and he also served as Vice President of the United States. In 1801, he was elected the country's third president. As president, he bought huge areas of land, which doubled the size of the United States. He served as president for two terms, until 1809. He died in 1826.

President Jefferson was a great president who is called a “Founding Father” and the “Father of the Declaration of Independence.”



the penny:

President Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was president during the Civil War and he helped free the slaves.

Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in Kentucky. His family lived in a small log cabin. Abe only went to school for a little while. His stepmother taught him to read. He liked to read. He walked many miles to borrow books.

Lincoln had many jobs before he was president. He chopped wood, he worked in a store, he made maps, and he worked in a post office. He was also a lawyer.

In 1845, he was elected to serve in the Congress. He made speeches about equal rights for all people. He wanted to end slavery.

Lincoln was elected president in 1861. He was the sixteenth president. There was a Civil War because people in the North and in the South had different beliefs. He made a law that freed all the slaves. He wanted the country to stay together. He served as president until his death in 1865.

Many people believe Lincoln was a great president because he helped end slavery and he kept the country together. He is called "Honest Abe."



the dime:

President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Franklin D. Roosevelt was born on January 30, 1882 in New York. He didn't go to school because he learned at home with private teachers. As a young man, he got sick with polio. He used a wheelchair to get around, but that didn't keep him from doing great things in his life.

Roosevelt was elected governor of New York in 1930 and he was elected president in 1932. He was the thirty-second president. He made many new programs to help people find jobs and take care of their families. While he was president, the country was fighting World War II. He worked hard to end the war. He served as president until his death in 1945.