

October 7, 2010

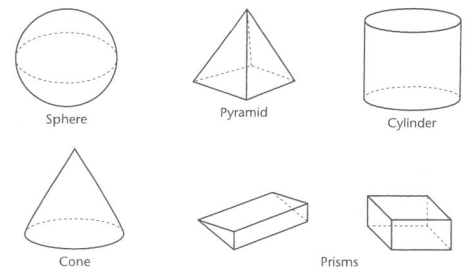
Dear Grade Two Parents,

Everyday Mathematics – Units 2 and 5: Addition and Subtraction Facts/3-D and 2-D Shapes

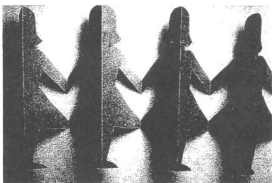
Unit 2 focuses on reviewing and extending addition facts and linking subtraction to addition. Automatic recall of the addition and subtraction facts is a useful tool in computation with multi-digit numbers. The following three-step approach to fact mastery will be used:

1. Develop an understanding of number relationships.
2. Develop efficient strategies for fact retrieval.
3. Practice selecting and using those strategies.

Geometry is an important component of *Everyday Mathematics*. Studying geometry helps develop spatial sense and the ability to represent and describe the world. In Unit 5, students will explore five kinds of 3-dimensional shapes: prisms, pyramids, cones, cylinders, and spheres. To sort the shapes, students will explore similarities and differences among them. They will become familiar with both the names of shapes and the terms for parts of shapes (faces, edges, vertices). The students will also examine different views (front, side, top) of 3-dimensional solids to connect to our Unit of Inquiry called *The View From Here*, which focuses on perspective.



The students will also study **polygons**, or 2-dimensional shapes that form the flat surfaces of prisms and pyramids, as they look for examples in real life.



Later in the unit, students will explore **line symmetry** as they experiment with folding 2-dimensional shapes and matching the halves. The students will also cut out shapes and look for lines of symmetry in each shape. When students are given half of a shape, they will draw the missing half. They will also explore the work of M. C. Escher to create tessellations and will be asked to find symmetrical objects at home and in other places.

These units also introduce the students to Home Link pages. These pages contain problems and activities that provide follow-up and enrichment at home. Look for Home Link pages in your daughter's math folder. Students will write the due dates for these pages in their agendas.

Attached to this letter is more information about Units 2 and 5 to help you support your child's learning. Instructions for the game called "Addition Top-It" are also attached. The students have played this game several times during Unit 1. Any time parents can give to completing the "Do-Anytime Activities" and "Addition Top-It" would be appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me through the agenda, or email at bhuggins@elmwood.ca.

Sincerely,
Brenda Huggins
Grade Two Teacher