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## **About Your Teacher**

My name is Mary Loeser; I am very excited to be your child's second-grade Alps teacher. I have over twenty-five years of teaching experience, most of it being at Jordan Hills Elementary. I have a bachelor's degree in Education, a master's degree in Administration, and a Gifted and Talented endorsement. Part of the master's program included fulfilling over 400 hours as an administrative intern at an elementary and high school. **This experience taught me that children of all ages need and want to be loved, recognized, and encouraged.** Therefore, I will do my best to make sure each child feels loved, acknowledged, and encouraged.

## **Contact Information**

**Teacher's Name:** Mrs. Loeser

**Email:** mary.loeser@jordandistrict.org

**Jordan Hills Phone:** 801-280-0238

The best way to contact me is through **the Class Dojo app**. It is a private way to text me. I usually see all Class Dojo texts after school, so expect me to respond that day or at the latest the next day.

## **Monthly News**

A monthly newsletter will come home to inform you about academics, reminders, and upcoming events. I will also send home group Class Dojo Texts periodically.

## **Classroom Donations**

We can always use disinfectant wipes and small treasure chest items. I will also list any special needs in the monthly newsletter.

## **Birthday/Classroom Treats**

Birthday and holiday treats need to be store bought and individually wrapped. We have students with peanut allergies. We have 25 students in our class.

## **Supplies**

Students will be given a pencil box filled with three pencils, an Expo marker, a pencil sharpener, crayons, scissors, an eraser, and colored pencils. This pencil box fits perfectly on their assigned table. Students can keep any new school supplies in their backpacks for homework and Fabulous Friday Free-time.

## **Volunteers**

We will have volunteers on Thursday mornings; this time works best with our busy schedule. I will send out a Google Document for volunteers to sign up on. I am also willing to send home projects. Volunteering will start in mid-September.

## **Attendance and Missed Work**

Students will find their makeup work on their desks when they return to school. Most work will need to be done at school, but I will send home all work that can be done at home.

## Homework Folder

### Homework Folder

Homework will begin on August 19th; to give me time to complete testing and individualize assignments. Homework is sent home on Fridays and needs to be returned the following Friday; this will help provide flexibility for busy schedules. The homework I provide might require a small amount of adult help.

Homework will help with study habits, build responsibility, and provide extra practice on beneficial skills. If your child does not have time to complete their homework, write me a note on it.

### Spelling/Phonics Homework

***Benefit- Solidify phonics and the skill of dividing and spelling words with many syllable patterns***

There are three levels of phonics & spelling words. Each week we will focus on reviewing or learning new phonics & spelling skills from HD Word Plus.

\*Spelling list one will consist of words with the phonics skill learned that week.

\*Spelling list two will consist of words with the phonics skill learned that week that are more challenging.

\*Spelling list three will consist of words with the phonics skill learned that week that is more challenging and will include Greek and Latin root words.

**I will determine which level will be most beneficial for them.**

### Important note

It is okay if your student has to practice only a few words for homework, but if you feel like they need a different list, and it won't cause unnecessary stress, I will change their list. If the list I assign is too hard, let me know, and I will change it. Spelling words help the student become automatic as they read and spell words.

### Spelling Sentences

***Benefit- using sight words in context with correct punctuation***

There are two sentences on the front page of the homework packet. These sentences need to be practiced and will be part of their weekly spelling test.

### Reading Paragraph

***Benefit build fluency, comprehension, and writing skills***

There are four levels of reading paragraphs. I will determine which paragraph will be best for your child. If you think it is too easy or hard, let me know, and I will see if it needs to be changed.

The student will read it one time all the way through without timing and then retell what they read using four complete sentences. Once finished writing sentences, have them read them three times while being timed for one minute. The goal is to beat the Words Per Minute written on the paragraph in one minute. If your child meets the Word Per Minute goal on Monday, they do not have to do the fluency practice the rest of the week. If they do not pass it, please have them practice it three times each night until they meet the Words Per Minute goal. Students will answer the comprehension questions on Thursdays.

## **Math Homework**

### ***Benefit- Extra math fact practice***

Math homework will be a variety of spiral math review problems.

## **Geography questions**

### ***Benefit-learn about our world***

Use the map provided or research on your computer. Leave blank if you cannot find the answers. We will use our classroom maps and globes on Friday as we correct these questions.

## **Completed Homework**

### ***Benefit-being responsible***

Students who bring back **completed** homework will earn class money for our store. Each student can also earn class money by completing part of it. **PLEASE** correct homework with your child before they return it. We will correct homework as a class on Fridays. We will not have homework on three-day weeks, conference weeks, or when we need additional time to review or catch up on assignments. I will let you know when we do not have homework.

## **Reading Minutes**

### ***Benefit- builds fluency, comprehension, love for reading, imagination, etc...***

Keep track of reading minutes on the reading calendar. At the end of the month, add up the minutes and write the total on the calendar. Students should be reading for 20-30 minutes each night. Count reading paragraph and comprehension homework towards reading minutes.

## Behavior Management

### Fabulous Friday

Each week students get 30 minutes to use towards Fabulous Friday Free-time. Fabulous Friday is free-time that the student can use to play games, do art projects, build & design, etc...

### Punch Card for Fabulous Friday

Students will get a punch card every other week. Each hole punch is worth three minutes of free time on Fridays. Students can earn free-time minutes by completing daily work and having good behavior.

### Coins

When students are on a task they can earn a coin for a daily drawing. If the student gets chosen, they get to pick from the classroom treasure chest. Students can also get a jewel sticker to decorate their pencil box/folder for every coin they earn.

### Show & Share

If the student does not lose any minutes of free time and brings back their completed homework, they can bring a small show and share item.

### Classroom Rules

1. I will listen and follow directions.
2. I will do my best work.
3. I will be respectful towards others.

### Consequences

There is a consequence chart that I keep for students who are disrespectful, irresponsible, and unsafe. I will give the student a verbal reminder if they choose not to correct the behavior, they will lose 1 minute of Fabulous Friday Free-time. Students can lose up to 10 minutes of free time. The student will sit with their head down and think about ways to improve behavior. I will ask them to share these ideas with me once they complete their think-time.

### Positive Consequences for following classroom rules

- Learning helps me become even smarter.
- Mrs. Loeser will be very proud of me.
- Fabulous Friday Free-time.
- Earn coins for treasure box drawing.
- Jewel stickers to decorate.
- Classroom money.

### Negative Consequences of not following classroom rules

- Learn less, get behind, have extra homework, and become bored.
- Lose teacher's trust.
- Lose Fabulous Friday free-time minutes.
- Do not earn coins for daily drawing or jewel stickers to decorate pencil boxes.
- Get a negative note/Dojo message or phone call to parents.
- Talk to the principal about behavior.

## **Unfinished Daily Assignments**

All unfinished assignments that students do not complete during the week (unless they were absent) will use Fabulous Friday Free-time to finish. If assignments do not get done during Fabulous Friday Free-time they will be sent home in the homework folder on Friday. These need to be turned in the following Monday.

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## **Classroom Expectations**

**My EXPECTATIONS are pretty simple- JUST TRY!!!**

Putting in effort and slowly making improvements is what I look for and expect. Giving up or complaining is not fun for your teacher or classmates.

### **Bathroom Breaks**

Students will have three scheduled bathroom breaks a day. In addition, students can use the bathroom as needed throughout the day with permission; if I am not teaching a lesson. I trust students not to play around in the bathroom. If they do play around, their privilege will be limited.

### **Bathroom Emergency**

Just go quickly and grab a garbage can if needed!

If a student has an emergency, they can quickly go to the bathroom. Once they return, I will find out what is going on. *I expect students not to take advantage of the emergency bathroom break.*

### **Water Bottles**

Small water bottles work best since we have limited space. They will be kept in backpacks or on a shelf by the coat rack. Students can't access them whenever needed as long as I am not teaching. The water bottles will be sent home daily to be cleaned and refilled.

## **Classwork & Curriculum**

The goal of being in Alps is to move at a faster pace through the curriculum and dive deeper with more rigor. For example, I will provide **Depth of Knowledge Questioning**, research, and hands-on projects, and continuously implement new ideas.

### **Goal Setting**

Students will set goals in language arts and math. With my guidance, we will determine the steps to meet their goals.

### **Language Arts**

I will be following the Utah Language Arts Common Core. Supplemental materials include: Journey's, Haggerty, 98% Reading, Junior Great Books, and Jacob's Ladder.

### **Math**

I will be following the Utah Math Common Core. Supplemental materials include: Math Expressions, Sunshine math mixed with enrichment activities, and Monster Math strategies.

### **Science/Social Studies**

Science and social studies will be a cross-curricular format with language arts.

## Assessments

### District and State Assessments

- PASI and PSI- Phonics screeners for Walk to Read.
- Acadience Reading- Identifies reading problems.
- Acadience Math- A screener for math.
- Jordan School District pre & post-Language Arts and Math Benchmark tests.

### Classroom Assessments

- Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication/Division math fact tests.
- Weekly Spelling/phonics tests.
- Weekly comprehension tests from 3rd Grade Journey's reading program.
- Weekly quick checks on skills learned in language arts, math, and science.

### Daily work will consist of...

- Current events
- Graphic Organizers for science and social studies
- Research on weekly science or social studies topic
- Daily menu choices for projects that go science and social studies
- Informative, opinion, and narrative writing pieces
- Weather Graphing
- Math- we will move at a quicker pace through our second-grade curriculum
- Math Challenge- will be provided to all students who want additional upper-grade math practice
- Math Facts- All students will start in group one. Once all ten addition and subtraction math facts are passed, they will do multiplication and division facts.

### Daily Schedule

#### Monday-Thursday

**Breakfast 8:00-8:25**

**Tardy Bell 8:30**

**Lunch 11:55-12:10 Lunch Recess 12:10-12:35**

**Afternoon Recess**

**1:30-1:45**

**Specials 2:15-3:00**

**Mon- S.T.E.M.**

**Tues- Computers**

**Wed-P.E.**

**Thurs- Art**

**Dismissal 3:05**

#### Friday Schedule

**Breakfast 8:00-8:25**

**Tardy Bell 8:30**

**Morning Recess- 10:00-10:15**

**Library 10:15**

**Lunch/ Recess 11:40- 12:15**

**Dismissal 12:30**

I have read and know where to find information about my student's second-grade class.

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_