



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Quiet!

Kate Alizadeh

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Get really quiet and listen to the sounds around you. What is making those sounds? If you move into a different room, do you hear different sounds?

Activity: Explore different noises by creating shakers from small water bottles with different items inside like uncooked rice or beans, dry seeds, pebbles, sand, jingle bells, or other small objects. Make sure to hot glue the lids closed!

Activity: Take a photo walk for things that make sounds. Take pictures of items that make sounds, and have your child tell you what sounds the items make.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Triangle

Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Square says that he planned to play a trick on Triangle all along. Do you believe him? What do you think happens next in the story?

Activity: Create 2 different shape potato stamps (could be a square and triangle, or different shapes!) and make a painting using them. <https://tinyurl.com/y88e4jrn>

Activity: Create stick puppets for Square and Triangle by cutting shapes out of construction paper and gluing or taping them to craft sticks. You can add googly eyes or draw eyes. Use your puppets to retell the story.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

The Lumberjack's Beard

Duncan Beedie

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Big Jim Hickory chops down and replants the trees during the story. Discuss why Jim chopped down the trees. What could the trees (lumber) be used for? Why was it important for Big Jim (The Lumberjack) to replant the trees?

Activity: Plant a tree or seedling and watch it grow. How long does it take for the seed to sprout? Once it sprouts, make of chart or graph of the growth over a year's time period.

Activity: Color and cut out the animals and the lumberjack beard at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yd2cu4rf> Retell the story using the characters you just colored.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Hector the Collector

Emily Beeny and Stephanie Graegin

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Hector collected acorns. Why are collections important? Can you think of a collection you may have or use?

Activity: Make your own collection of items--big or small. Discover what makes things different or similar. Can you sort your collection of items by size? By color? How else could you sort your collection?

Activity: Create an acorn handprint. Use a tan color for the upside down handprint, then paint a cap, or cupole, with a dark brown on top. See an example here: <https://tinyurl.com/y97o893b>

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

I Am Not a Chair!

Ross Burach

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Giraffe is mistaken for a chair. What other animals could be mistaken for something else? A turtle could be a rock, while a tiger could be a table, or a sheep could be a pillow!

Activity: Using animal pictures cut out from magazines, (National Geographic, Ranger Rick, etc) have children write what the animal actually is and what the animal could be mistaken for instead.

Activity: Visit a local zoo or animal sanctuary. Talk about animals that you may never have seen before and also about the animals you have seen before. Would you mistake some of the animals for something else?

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

La Princesa and the Pea

Susan Middleton Elya and Juana Martinez-Neal

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: How do we know the prince wanted to help the princess become his wife? What did he do, what did he say to let the reader know his intentions?

Activity: Have children create their own 20 mattress bed using strips of material. Count to 20!

Activity: Find another version of The Princess and the Pea. Compare and contrast original version with this fun twist. Talk about what is different and what is the same in both.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Giant Pants

Mark Fearing

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: The giant lost his pants, but didn't look in his dresser first! It makes a funny story, because of course he should have looked there first! Can you think of a time that you lost something, and then found it? Did you check where it belonged first?

Activity: Check your dresser and closet for your clothes. Are there any clothes that don't fit you anymore? Sort them into stacks by type: pants, shorts, shirts, etc. Maybe you could donate them to others or put them in a box for a younger sibling to use!

Activity: In the book, the giant has silly polka dotted underpants. Get creative and draw a design on paper of a silly pair of pants for him to wear.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

When's My Birthday?

Julie Fogliano and Christian Robinson

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: What do you do when you just can't wait for a special day or a highly anticipated holiday?

Activity: Make a family calendar and mark everyone's birthday. How long is it until your birthday? You can count days, weeks or months.

Activity: Make a list of five things you would want to do on your birthday.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Egg

Kevin Henkes

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: What animals do you know come from eggs? Animals that hatch from eggs are oviparous animals.

Activity: Let's make hatching eggs! You can cut out oviparous animals and glue them into plates just like this <https://tinyurl.com/y9j9muex> or this <https://tinyurl.com/y766zvhz>

Activity: Put different shapes in plastic Easter eggs. On the outside, draw a picture of the shape that should be inside. Take 2 eggs and put the wrong shape inside. The child needs to put the right shapes in the right eggs.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Who Wants to Be a Princess?: What It Was Really Like to Be a Medieval Princess

Bridget Heos and Migy

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: What part about being a real princess surprised you?

Activity: Hop online with your parents and see if there is a historical museum in your area. Plan a trip so you can see what clothes and other daily objects used to look like a long time ago.

Activity: Make a tiara or a crown using fun sparkly glitter and pretend jewels.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

The Bad Seed

Jory John and Pete Oswald

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: How can the bad seed start making changes to its bad habits? Do you have any bad habits? How can you change them?

Activity: Make a sunflower using tissue paper for the yellow leaves and construction paper for the stem. Glue it on a white piece of construction paper. Glue sunflower seeds in the middle of the flower.

Activity: Make a self control craft like this one <https://tinyurl.com/y8shk8ou> or use one that you like! Children will learn there are things they can control and things they can't control.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Can I Join Your Club?

John Kelly and Steph Laberis

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Duck wanted to join several clubs. Review the illustrations and determine how Duck might qualify for membership in each group. Discuss what changes Duck made at each club booth.

Activity: Design costumes Duck would have used to join the Turtle Club, Rabbit Club, Rhino Club and Beaver Club.

Activity: Members in Duck's Club participate in several activities at the end of the book. Join Duck's Club and play a game of checkers, blow some soap bubbles outside, read another book, have a dance party, fly a kite and/or play a musical instrument.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

My Journey to the Stars
Scott Kelly and André Ceolin

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Astronaut Scott Kelly was brave to fly into space. Can you point out other parts of his life in the book where he was brave?

Activity: Imagine you are at astronaut camp. Design an obstacle course in your own yard or living room using the items you already have. Time how long it takes you to do the course once, and then re-try to see if you get faster.

Activity: Draw a picture of what you think the earth looks like from way up in outer space. Then, search "Scott Kelly astronaut photos of Earth" to see the real photos that he took! Want to know more? Go to the NASA website and join their kids club! <https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Who Am I?: An Animal Guessing Game
Robin Page and Steve Jenkins

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Describe your favorite animal. See if someone can guess what it is!

Activity: Get an assortment of plastic animals. Select one without your kid looking, and see how many questions you have to answer before they can guess what kind of animal it is.

Activity: Using the same plastic animals put them outside in a sunny location. Give the children white pieces of paper and ask the children to trace the animals as the shadow of the plastic animals appears on the paper. <https://tinyurl.com/yc7axaxx>

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Niko Draws a Feeling
Bob Raczka and Simone Shin

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: How do you think Niko felt when no one understood his artwork? Have you ever tried to share something with those you cared about but they did not understand?

Activity: Share examples of abstract art with your child, either in a book, online, or from visiting a museum. What do they see? Compare with what the artist's intention was, if you can find it. What in the work made you come to your conclusion?

Activity: Give your child different art materials such as markers or crayons and have them complete their own work of art as if they were Niko.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Frank the Seven-Legged Spider
Micheale Razi

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: What are the differences between a spider and an ant? Do you think Frank is still a spider even though he lost a leg? Why or why not?

Activity: Make your own spider out of black construction paper with seven legs. Use google eyes or sticker eyes to decorate the spider.

Activity: Make a paper plate spider web. Use one paper plate, pre-punched with a single hole punch, all around the edge of the plate. One long strand of black yarn is needed for the web. Use tape to secure the end of the yarn on back of the plate and then randomly cross the plate with the yarn through the punched holes. Excellent preschool storytime craft!

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again
Dan Santat

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Humpty Dumpty was afraid to climb back up onto the wall. What fears do you have? How can you overcome those fears?

Activity: Create and decorate paper airplanes. Take them outside to see them soar.

Activity: Go outside and watch for birds. Draw pictures of the birds you find. Visit your local library and check out books on birds

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

A Perfect Day
Lane Smith

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Why did each of the animals believe they were having a perfect day? Discuss ways all of the animals could have a perfect day at the same time. What would a perfect day look like for you?

Activity: Research different foods that bears eat and locations where they live in the wild. Graph these locations on a map.

Activity: Plan a teddy bear picnic with a favorite stuffed bear and eat foods that bears would eat. Don't forget to invite some friends - cats, dogs, chickadees and squirrels to join you.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

There's a Pest in the Garden!
Jan Thomas

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Have you ever had a garden before? Did you grow vegetables like in the book or flowers or both? Has an animal or a person ever come to your garden and taken or eaten something that they shouldn't have?

Activity: Bean seed baggie craft: Soak either a paper towel or several cotton balls to put in the bottom of a sandwich-size baggie. Place 4-5 bean seeds on top of the paper towel or cotton balls. Tape baggie to a window and watch your beans sprout and grow!

Activity: Plant a container garden using the bottom half of a plastic 1 or 2 liter soda bottle. You can plant mint, pansies, or anything that can grow in a fairly small area. Decorate the container with stickers, googly eyes, foam or other craft supplies.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.



The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

What Will Grow?
Jennifer Ward and Susie Ghahremani

Parent Child Activities:

Discussion Point: Why are seeds important? Why are plants important? What do seeds need to grow? What are your favorite fruits and vegetables?

Activity: Plant several different seeds in a garden or indoor pots. Monitor the changes and track the growth. For additional fun--mix up the seeds before planting. Guess which seed will grow into which plant.

Activity: Re-read the story and write down the rhyming words. Make a list of other words that rhyme.

Visit our website txla.org/groups/2x2 for more information.