

# Estimation



**Parents:  
Please read to find  
out more about our  
“traveling”  
estimation jar.**

We will be estimating throughout the year as part of our math curriculum. I am asking for your help with our estimation jar. The past few weeks I have been filling the jar so that students can estimate. Throughout the week, students have an opportunity to estimate (not guess) how many are in the jar (of whatever it may be). At the end of the week, we read the estimations, talk about tricks that help us estimate and the person who is closest to the actual number is awarded the jar for the next week!. From this week forward the jar gets to travel... Here's what you need to know:

- Whomever estimates closest to the actual number will bring the jar
- The contents are returned to the owner/bringer of the jar... if it is something to share, I encourage them to share (it turns into a great division problem!)
- That person/family is responsible for returning the estimation jar to school by the following Friday *filled!*
- Only parents can do the actual count... they should then seal the number in an envelope and send it with their son/daughter on Monday (in this fashion, there will be no peer pressure to “tell” and everyone can participate in the estimation for the current week)
- The jar can be filled with anything (pinecones, marshmallows, candy, toys, dry noodles, cotton balls, etc.) – use your imagination!
- Please only choose one type of object/item to fill the jar with (i.e same shape and size). This helps us with our estimations because we can gauge the size and number per level and then calculate for the whole jar.
- If there is some difficulty filling the jar for whatever reason, please feel free to call me or just return it with a note and return the jar empty. I am happy to help out...

The students and I have had a discussion regarding the “traveling” estimation jar. They thought of many scenarios, had many questions, and following Responsive Classroom, we have talked about many of those possible solutions together. Should you have further questions, both your son/daughter and myself are available to answer your questions. I hope this is a fun family activity!

**iMuchas Gracias!  
Second Grade Team**