

2nd grade math puzzles

2nd Grade Math Puzzles: Unlocking the Joy of Learning Through Engaging Challenges

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Introduction:

The world of numbers can be a wondrous place, especially for second graders. However, the transition from basic counting to more complex mathematical concepts can sometimes feel daunting. This is where the magic of 2nd grade math puzzles comes into play. These engaging activities transform potentially tedious exercises into exciting challenges, fostering a love for learning and building a strong mathematical foundation. This article delves into the power of 2nd grade math puzzles, exploring their impact on student learning, offering practical examples, and sharing personal anecdotes from my experience working with young learners.

The Power of Play in 2nd Grade Math Puzzles:

Second graders are naturally curious and playful. Leveraging this innate inquisitiveness is key to effective teaching. 2nd grade math puzzles achieve this by presenting mathematical problems in fun and engaging formats. They move beyond rote memorization and encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative approaches. Instead of simply memorizing multiplication tables, children might solve a puzzle where finding the answer unlocks a hidden picture. This gamified approach boosts engagement and reinforces learning in a way that traditional methods often fail to achieve.

Case Study 1: The Missing Cookies Puzzle

In one of my classrooms, I introduced a puzzle involving a baker who had baked a batch of cookies. The problem presented a visual representation of cookies arranged in an array, with some cookies missing. The students had to use their subtraction skills to determine how many cookies were initially baked. The visual aspect and relatable scenario immediately captured their attention. Initially, some students struggled, but through collaborative problem-solving and guided questioning, they all arrived at the correct answer, demonstrating a clear understanding of subtraction within 20. This success with 2nd grade math puzzles built their confidence and encouraged them to tackle more challenging puzzles.

Case Study 2: The Animal Adventure

Another successful example of 2nd grade math puzzles involved a narrative about animals. The puzzle presented a series of word problems focusing on addition and subtraction, with each correct answer revealing clues about the animals' journey. This interactive approach to 2nd grade math puzzles not only helped the students practice their mathematical skills but also nurtured their storytelling abilities and imagination. The successful completion of the puzzle led to a palpable sense of accomplishment and fueled their enthusiasm for future mathematical challenges.

Personal Anecdote: My Son's "Pirate Treasure" Puzzle

My own son, Liam, struggled with multiplication when he was in second grade. Traditional flashcards and worksheets failed to engage him. However, when I introduced a "Pirate Treasure" puzzle, where solving multiplication problems revealed clues to finding a hidden "treasure" (a small toy pirate ship), his perspective changed dramatically. He eagerly tackled the problems, his competitive spirit ignited by the challenge. This experience solidified my belief in the transformative power of 2nd grade math puzzles as a valuable teaching tool.

Types of 2nd Grade Math Puzzles:

2nd grade math puzzles encompass a diverse range of formats, catering to various learning styles and mathematical concepts. Some popular types include:

Picture Puzzles: These puzzles utilize visuals to represent mathematical problems, making them particularly effective for visual learners.

Logic Puzzles: These puzzles require students to apply logical reasoning and deductive skills to solve mathematical problems.

Word Problems: Real-world scenarios are presented to encourage problem-solving and application of learned concepts.

Coding Puzzles: Introducing basic coding principles through puzzles can foster computational thinking skills.

Number Puzzles: These focus on number patterns, sequences, and relationships.

Creating Effective 2nd Grade Math Puzzles:

Designing effective 2nd grade math puzzles requires careful consideration of several factors:

Age-appropriateness: Puzzles should align with the curriculum and the students' cognitive development.

Clarity and Simplicity: Instructions should be clear and easy to understand, avoiding ambiguity.

Visual Appeal: Engaging visuals and colorful designs enhance the learning experience.

Gradual Progression: Puzzles should gradually increase in difficulty, building confidence and challenging students appropriately.

The Benefits of Using 2nd Grade Math Puzzles:

The advantages of incorporating 2nd grade math puzzles in the classroom are numerous:

Increased Engagement: Puzzles make learning more fun and motivating.

Improved Problem-Solving Skills: Students develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

Enhanced Mathematical Understanding: Concepts are reinforced through active participation.

Boost in Confidence: Success with puzzles builds self-esteem and fosters a positive attitude towards math.

Collaborative Learning: Puzzles often encourage teamwork and peer interaction.

Conclusion:

2nd grade math puzzles are a powerful tool for educators seeking to ignite a passion for mathematics in young learners. By transforming traditional exercises into engaging challenges, these puzzles create a positive learning environment that fosters critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and a love for numbers. Their versatility, combined with their capacity to cater to diverse learning styles, makes them an invaluable resource for enriching the second-grade mathematics curriculum and laying a solid foundation for future mathematical success.

FAQs:

1. Are 2nd grade math puzzles suitable for all students? Yes, with appropriate differentiation and scaffolding, 2nd grade math puzzles can be adapted to meet the needs of all learners, including those with diverse learning styles and abilities.
1. How can I find 2nd grade math puzzles online? Numerous websites and online resources offer free and printable 2nd grade math puzzles. A simple web search for "2nd grade math puzzles printable" will yield many results.
1. How often should I use 2nd grade math puzzles in my classroom? The frequency depends on your curriculum and students' needs, but incorporating them regularly, perhaps once or twice a week, can significantly enhance learning.
1. Can I create my own 2nd grade math puzzles? Absolutely! Creating your own puzzles allows for customization to your specific curriculum and students' interests.
1. How can I assess student understanding through 2nd grade math puzzles? Observe students' problem-solving strategies, their ability to explain their solutions, and their overall engagement with the puzzles.

1. What are some common mistakes to avoid when using 2nd grade math puzzles? Avoid puzzles that are too difficult or too easy, and ensure clear instructions are provided.
1. How can I differentiate 2nd grade math puzzles for students with varying abilities? Offer different levels of difficulty, provide support to struggling students, and challenge advanced learners with more complex puzzles.
1. How can I integrate 2nd grade math puzzles with other subjects? Connect math puzzles to themes in other subjects like science or language arts to create interdisciplinary learning experiences.
1. What are some resources for finding high-quality 2nd grade math puzzles? Educational publishers like EduSpark Publications offer comprehensive resources, including workbooks and online platforms dedicated to 2nd grade math puzzles.

Related Articles:

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2nd grade math puzzles: Second Grade Math Games and Puzzles Amy Kraft, Sylvan Learning, Inc, 2010 A solid foundation of basic math skills is essential for early success in math. Children who can connect their understanding of math to the world around them will be ready for the challenges of mathematics as they advance to more complex topics. The games and puzzles in this workbook are designed to help children enjoy practicing their math skills. Best of all, they'll have lots of fun doing it! Here's a peek at what's inside: Hidden Design Children count the hundreds, tens, and ones, then color the squares that match the numbers to see the hidden design. Who Am I? A series of questions challenges children's knowledge of greater than and less than, rounding to tens and hundreds, place value, fractions, and time differences. Children then rule out numbers to answer the question Who am I? What's the Password? Children use their knowledge of fractions choosing letters from fractions of words to find the secret password. Puzzling Pentominoes Using the

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2nd grade math puzzles: Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids Kristy Fulton, 2007-04 Move beyond the norm in your math classroom and challenge students to think critically with Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids. Exploring the hottest concept in puzzle solving-math logic puzzles-Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids teaches students how to use reasoning to solve some of math's biggest conundrums. Grades 4-6

2nd grade math puzzles: Beast Academy Puzzles 2 Chris Page, Palmer Mebane, Jason Batterson, 2020-01-31 Beast Academy Puzzles 2 contains over 400 puzzles in 12 different styles. Every puzzle style is part of the broader Beast Academy level 2 math curriculum. Whether used on their own or as part of the complete Beast Academy curriculum, these puzzles will delight and entertain puzzle solvers of all ages. The puzzles in this book are accessible to anyone with a solid understanding of numbers and good mental addition and subtraction skills as taught in the Beast Academy level 2 series. The difficulty ranges from straightforward puzzles meant to give a feel for how each puzzle works to diabolical stumpers written by world puzzle champion Palmer Mebane.

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2nd grade math puzzles: Open Middle Math Robert Kaplinsky, 2023-10-10 This book is an amazing resource for teachers who are struggling to help students develop both procedural fluency

and conceptual understanding.. --Dr. Margaret (Peg) Smith, co-author of 5 Practices for Orchestrating Productive Mathematical Discussions Robert Kaplinsky, the co-creator of Open Middle math problems, brings his new class of tasks designed to stimulate deeper thinking and lively discussion among middle and high school students in *Open Middle Math: Problems That Unlock Student Thinking, Grades 6-12*. The problems are characterized by a closed beginning,- meaning all students start with the same initial problem, and a closed end,- meaning there is only one correct or optimal answer. The key is that the middle is open- in the sense that there are multiple ways to approach and ultimately solve the problem. These tasks have proven enormously popular with teachers looking to assess and deepen student understanding, build student stamina, and energize their classrooms. Professional Learning Resource for Teachers: *Open Middle Math* is an indispensable resource for educators interested in teaching student-centered mathematics in middle and high schools consistent with the national and state standards. *Sample Problems at Each Grade: The book demonstrates the Open Middle concept with sample problems ranging from dividing fractions at 6th grade to algebra, trigonometry, and calculus. Teaching Tips for Student-Centered Math Classrooms: Kaplinsky shares guidance on choosing problems, designing your own math problems, and teaching for multiple purposes, including formative assessment, identifying misconceptions, procedural fluency, and conceptual understanding. Adaptable and Accessible Math: The tasks can be solved using various strategies at different levels of sophistication, which means all students can access the problems and participate in the conversation. Open Middle Math will help math teachers transform the 6th -12th grade classroom into an environment focused on problem solving, student dialogue, and critical thinking.*

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2nd grade math puzzles: *Spectrum Hands-On Math , Grade 2* Spectrum, Carson Dellosa Education, 2020-03-10 Dry erase math workbooks for kids ages 7+ Support your child's educational journey with Spectrum's dry erase 2nd Grade Math Workbook that teaches essential 2nd grade math skills. Math books for 2nd graders are a great way for children to learn math skills such as addition, subtraction, place value, multiplication, and more through a variety of learning activities that are both fun AND educational! Why You'll Love This Second Grade Math Workbook Engaging and educational dry erase math activities. "Drawing number cards", "Telling time", and "Counting money manipulatives" are a few of the fun activities that incorporate math manipulatives and dry erase activities to help inspire learning into your child's classroom or homeschool curriculum. Tracking progress along the way. An answer key is included in the Spectrum math activity book to track student progress before moving on to new and exciting activities. Practically sized for every

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2nd grade math puzzles: Big Magic Number Puzzles Allyne Brumbaugh, 1992-11

2nd grade math puzzles: Math and Literature Marilyn Burns, Stephanie Sheffield, 2004

Annotation This series helps teachers use the imaginative ideas in children's books for math lessons. Organized into four grade-level collections to respond to teachers' specific classroom needs, this series includes favorite lessons based on a wide variety of children's books. Teachers will appreciate these books for the enjoyment and excitement they bring to math instruction. With introductions by Marilyn Burns, these books include vignettes of lessons and samples of student work. These lessons, based on popular children's books, address major mathematical topics such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, geometry, algebraic thinking, number sense, and place value.

2nd grade math puzzles: 2nd Grade Basic Math Success Workbook Sylvan Learning, 2019-01-08 Learn from anywhere with these kid-friendly, teacher-reviewed activities for 2nd grade math success! This colorful workbook is jam-packed with fun activities for young learners tackling math in the second grade. Perfect for back to school--no matter what that looks like! A solid foundation of math skills is essential for success in 2nd grade and beyond. This 128-page workbook is full of engaging activities that strengthen young learners' familiarity with basic numbers and patterns. Each activity is designed to help your child become familiar with basic early math concepts like: • place values & number sense • addition & subtraction • grouping & sharing • odd & even • fractions • measurement • time & money ... and much more! With vibrant, colorful pages full of games and puzzles, 2nd Grade Basic Math Success Workbook will help your child catch up, keep up, and get ahead—and best of all, have lots of fun doing it! ***** Why Sylvan Products Work ***** Sylvan Learning Workbooks won a National Parenting Publications Awards (NAPPA) Honors Award as a top book series for children in the elementary-aged category. NAPPA is the nation's most comprehensive awards program for children's products and parenting resources and has been critically reviewing products since 1990. The Award recognizes Sylvan Learning Workbooks as some of the most innovative and useful products geared to parents. Sylvan's proven system inspires kids to learn and has helped children nationwide catch up, keep up, and get ahead in school. Sylvan has been a trusted partner for parents for thirty years and has based their supplemental education success on programs developed through a focus on the highest educational standards and detailed research. Sylvan's line of educational products equips families with fun, effective, and grade-appropriate learning tools. Our workbooks and learning kits feature activities, stories, and games to reinforce the skills children need to develop and achieve their academic potential. Students will reap the rewards of improved confidence and a newfound love of learning.

2nd grade math puzzles: Balance Math and More! Level 1 Robert Femiano, 2012-01-30

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Talking math with your child is simple and even entertaining with this better approach to shapes! Written by a celebrated math educator, this innovative inquiry encourages critical thinking and sparks memorable mathematical conversations. Children and their parents answer the same question about each set of four shapes: Which one doesn't belong? There's no one right answer--the important thing is to have a reason why. Kids might describe the shapes as squished, smooshed, dented, or even goofy. But when they justify their thinking, they're talking math! Winner of the Mathical Book Prize for books that inspire children to see math all around them. This is one shape book that will both challenge readers' thinking and encourage them to think outside the box.--Kirkus Reviews, STARRED review

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2nd grade math puzzles: 101 Daily Math Puzzles for Kids! Volume 2 Mashup Math, 2020-09-29 [Color Cover; Black-and-White Interior] Who says that learning math has to be boring? Your kids will love solving these fun math puzzles, challenges, and brain teasers which cover topics including: logical thinking, order of operations, fractions and decimals, multiplication tables and area models, hundreds charts, and much more! The puzzles range from basic to advanced and ideal for students in grades 1 through 8. Your kids will be thinking and solving problems algebraically (often way before they ever take an algebra class!) .Answer key and hints included. The challenges are easy to print or post in your classroom or home to share with kids. With over 100 unique puzzles, your kids can engage in dozens of hours of having fun while practicing and learning math!

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2nd grade math puzzles: The Ultimate Grade 2 Math Workbook (IXL Workbooks) IXL Learning, 2019-12 IXL The Ultimate Grade 2 Math Workbook Multi-Digit Addition, Subtraction, Place Value, Measurement, Data, Geometry, Perimeter, Counting Money, and Time for Classroom or Homeschool Curriculum

2nd grade math puzzles: School Zone Big Mazes & More Workbook School Zone, 2017-12-05 Make learning fun ,As your child navigates the twists and turns of mazes, plays games, and solves puzzles, he or she will be developing important skills and having fun at the same time. First and second graders can leap from one activity to the next with friendly critter guides like Sammy Snake, Felicity Fish, and Nancy Narwhal.,Big Mazes & More delivers big learning. Eye-hand coordination sharpens; plus, these activities provide practice in solving problems and following directions. Chart a course or solve a mystery. The high-energy combination of games and exercises will keep your child entertained for hours

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2nd grade math puzzles: Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids Kristy Fulton, 2021-09-03

Move beyond the norm in your math classroom and challenge students to think critically with Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids. Exploring the hottest concept in puzzle solving—math logic puzzles—Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids teaches students how to use reasoning to solve some of math's biggest conundrums: real-life patterns and puzzles such as Fibonacci's sequence, Sudoku puzzles, tangrams, Pascal's triangle, and magic squares. Students are taught the basic premises behind each challenging puzzle and are then asked to use the skills they have learned to solve multiple versions of each puzzle. Grades 2-4

2nd grade math puzzles: 2nd Grade Jumbo Math Success Workbook Sylvan Learning, 2019-01-08 3 BOOKS IN 1! Learning at home is as easy as 1 2 3 with this super-sized workbook that's jam-packed with 320 pages of kid-friendly, teacher-reviewed exercises for kids tackling 2nd grade math. Perfect for back to school--no matter what that looks like! Building a strong foundation in basic math is essential as 2nd graders prepare to advance to more difficult math concepts. This Jumbo Workbook (a \$39 value for just \$18.99!) is a compilation of 3 of Sylvan Learning's most popular curriculum-based activity books* and includes 320 colorful pages all designed to help your child become familiar with basic math concepts like: • place value & number sense • addition & subtraction • grouping & sharing • fractions • geometry & measurement • time & money • graphs & data ... and much more! With vibrant, colorful pages full of games and puzzles, 2nd Grade Jumbo Math Success Workbook will help your child catch up, keep up, and get ahead—and best of all, to have lots of fun doing it! *Includes the full text of 2nd Grade Basic Math, 2nd Grade Math Games & Puzzles, and 2nd Grade Math in Action ***** Why Sylvan Products Work ***** Sylvan Learning Workbooks won a National Parenting Publications Awards (NAPPA) Honors Award as a top book series for children in the elementary-aged category. NAPPA is the nation's most comprehensive awards program for children's products and parenting resources and has been critically reviewing products since 1990. The Award recognizes Sylvan Learning Workbooks as some of the most innovative and useful products geared to parents. Sylvan's proven system inspires kids to learn and has helped children nationwide catch up, keep up, and get ahead in school. Sylvan has been a trusted partner for parents for thirty years and has based their supplemental education success on programs developed through a focus on the highest educational standards and detailed research. Sylvan's line of educational products equips families with fun, effective, and grade-appropriate learning tools. Our workbooks and learning kits feature activities, stories, and games to reinforce the skills children need to develop and achieve their academic potential. Students will reap the rewards of improved confidence and a newfound love of learning.

2nd grade math puzzles: 2nd Grade Math in Action Sylvan Learning, Inc, 2010-05-18 Learn real world math skills like measurement, time, and money with activities based on Syland's proven techniques for success--Cover

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2nd grade math puzzles: More Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids Kristy Fulton, 2021-09-03 Move beyond the norm in your math classroom and challenge students to think critically with More Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids, a new companion book to the popular Math Puzzles and Patterns for Kids. This book contains more of students' favorite puzzles and patterns, as well as a few new ones for students to explore. All of the mathematical activities in this book were chosen for their important role in mathematics' history. Like its predecessor, this book explores the hottest concepts in puzzle solving—math logic puzzles—while teaching students how to use reasoning to solve some of math's biggest conundrums: real-life patterns and puzzles such as Fibonacci's sequence, Sudoku puzzles, tangrams, Pascal's triangle, and magic squares. Students will sharpen their math skills while they learn the basic premises behind each challenging puzzle and then use the skills they have learned to solve multiple versions of each puzzle. Grades 2-4

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2nd grade math puzzles: Different Minds Deirdre V. Lovecky, 2004 Explaining why certain children are gifted and how giftedness is manifested, each chapter addresses the relevance for children with AD/HD and Asperger Syndrome. Lovecky guides parents and professionals through methods of diagnosis and advises on how best to nurture individual needs, positive behaviour and relationships at home and at school.

2nd grade math puzzles: Working Mother , 1996-09 The magazine that helps career moms balance their personal and professional lives.

2nd grade math puzzles: Sylvan Summer Smart Workbook: Between Grades 2 & 3 Sylvan Learning, 2020-06-09 Stop summer slide and get ready to return to the classroom for 3rd grade with Sylvan's SUMMER SMART Workbooks! Research shows that kids can lose up to 2.5 months' worth of hard-earned knowledge from the previous grade over the summer vacation break. That's why we at Sylvan Learning—America's #1 tutoring brand—created the SUMMER SMART workbook series! Packed with fun exercises and teacher-created activities, this book reinforces math and reading concepts your child learned in 2nd grade, including: • Addition and subtraction • Basic fractions • Time and money • Measuring and comparing • Vowels and consonants • Compound words and contractions • Reading comprehension Inside each Summer Smart book, you'll also find: • Teacher tips for staying sharp over the summer • Special "Vacation Challenge!" activities and games section • Cut-out flashcard sheets and recommended reading lists • A "Summer Smart!" Achievement Certificate Let the experts at America's #1 tutoring brand help get your child ready for 3rd grade! ***** Why Sylvan Products Work ***** Sylvan Learning Workbooks won a National Parenting

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2nd grade math puzzles: *1st Grade Page Per Day: Math Skills* Sylvan Learning, 2012-05-08 Learn the basics at home or on the go with just one page of activities each day! Sylvan Learning's First Grade Page Per Day: Math Skills uses engaging games and activities to help children become familiar with real-world math concepts, including: · Numbers & Operations to 20 · Adding Sums & Subtracting Differences · Place Values & Number Sense · Geometry & Shapes · Telling Time · Counting Money Students improve their math skills while they complete fun activities, such as: · Showing chart smarts by reading charts to determine how many people like hamburgers better than pizza, or prefer hockey to soccer · Determining how many cupcakes are left on the plate after the Cupcake Eater eats some · Connecting pictures of quarters, nickels, and dimes with pictures of toys with a matching price tag · And much more! With perforated pages that can easily be removed for short, portable lessons, First Grade Page Per Day: Math Skills will help give your child daily exposure to activities that are both fun and educational! ***** Why Sylvan Products Work ***** Sylvan Learning Workbooks won a National Parenting Publications Awards (NAPPA) Honors Award as a top book series for children in the elementary-aged category. NAPPA is the nation's most comprehensive awards program for children's products and parenting resources and has been critically reviewing products since 1990. The Award recognizes Sylvan Learning Workbooks as some of the most innovative and useful products geared to parents. Sylvan's proven system inspires kids to learn and has helped children nationwide catch up, keep up, and get ahead in school. Sylvan has been a trusted partner for parents for thirty years and has based their supplemental education success on programs developed through a focus on the highest educational standards and detailed research. Sylvan's line of educational products equips families with fun, effective, and grade-appropriate learning tools. Our workbooks and learning kits feature activities, stories, and games to reinforce the skills children need to develop and achieve their academic potential. Students will reap the rewards of improved confidence and a newfound love of learning.

2nd grade math puzzles: *2nd Grade Geometry Success* Sylvan Learning (Firm), 2011-01-18 A

solid foundation of basic geometry skills is essential for early success in math. Children who have a solid understanding of two- and three-dimensional shapes, symmetry, patterns, and location concepts will be ready for the challenges of mathematics as they advance to more complex topics. The activities in this workbook are designed to help your children catch up, keep up, and get ahead. Best of all, they'll have lots of fun doing it! Some of the great features you'll find inside are:

Neighborhood Walk After practicing shapes, children walk through the house, yard, or neighborhood, finding things shaped like circles, rectangles, triangles, and octagons. Later they look for spheres, rectangular prisms, cylinders, and cones.

Robot Repair Children draw a line from each robot head to a correct body, or from each robot to its missing parts, by distinguishing the shapes.

Farm Fences Farmer Green wants to put fences around all of the animal areas of his farm. Children calculate the perimeter of the areas to determine how much fencing material Farmer Green needs to buy.

Dance Floor Robin and Roscoe are looking for a light-up dance floor for their dance party. All of the dance floors have the same area, so children help determine the one with the largest perimeter.

Plus! Game Pieces The workbook includes pentomino pieces, pattern blocks, and tangram pieces for children to cut out and use with games, make patterns, and solve tangram puzzles. Give your child's confidence in math a boost with 2nd Grade Geometry Success.

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1st 2nd 3rd ... 10th 10th ...

2nd second ['sekənd, sɪ'kɒnd] 3rd third [θɜːd] 10th tenth [tenθ] 1st 2nd 3rd ...

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