

A GUIDE TO STANDARDS-BASED INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

2nd Grade



This guide provides a family-friendly overview of what your child will learn by the end of 2nd Grade in Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy, in an easy-to-understand format.

Why are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students are prepared for success after high school. The standards provide an important first step - establish a clear, consistent roadmap for what every student should know and be able to do in Math and English Language Arts from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare them for college and careers.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

| Key Ideas and Details | Craft and Structure | Integration of Knowledge and Ideas |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students ask and answer questions about a text to show they understand key details• Students recount stories and determine the central message• Students identify the main topic of nonfiction paragraphs/passages• Students describe how characters in a story respond to events and challenges | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students determine the meaning of key words• Students describe the overall structure of a story; the purpose of beginning, middle, and end• Students use text structure in reading (captions, bold print, glossaries, etc.)• Students understand differences in point of view | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students gain information from a combination of words and illustrations• Students describe how reasons support specific points an author makes in a text• Students compare and contrast similar stories/texts |

Talking to your child's teacher

When talking with your child's teacher, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In 2nd Grade, these include:

- Reading grade-level books and stories with understanding and fluency
- Building a foundation of knowledge through reading and listening to books in history/social studies, science, and other subjects

MATHEMATICS

| Operations and Algebraic Thinking | Number and Operations in Base Ten | Measurement and Data |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students use strategies to add and subtract within 20• Students determine whether a group of objects is odd or even• Students use repeated addition to find totals (foundation for multiplication) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students understand 3-digit numbers as a combination of ones, tens, and hundreds• Students add and subtract fluently within 100• Students use models and strategies to add and subtract with 1000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students estimate and measure the length of objects• Students write time from analog and digital clocks• Students solve word problems involving money• Students draw picture graphs and bar graphs to represent data |
| Geometry | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students recognize and draw shapes based on description• Students partition shapes in halves, thirds, and quarters | | |

Talking to your child's teacher

Prioritized topics in 2nd Grade Mathematics include:

- Using understanding of place values to add and subtract
- Solving more challenging addition and subtraction word problems
- Measuring length, and solving word problems involving addition and subtraction of lengths

Helping Your Child at Home

Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day for your child to concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while they work on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

English Language Arts and Literacy

- Read with your child every day and assist your child by reading every other paragraph.
- Have your child write letters to family members or friends.

Mathematics

- Look for “word problems” in real life. Some 2nd Grade examples might include:
 - When saving for a purchase, compare the cost of the item to the amount of money you have; then ask your child to determine how much more money they need to buy the item
 - Play “draw the shape”. For example, ask your child to draw a hexagon with one side longer than the others, or ask them to shade in a quarter of a rectangle.