



Student Success

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 2nd grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. It expands upon the key skills that are identified as performance indicators on the 2nd grade checklist and report card. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined by these performance indicators, he or she will be well prepared for 3rd grade.

Mathematics

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in 2nd grade. **The two most important concepts are in bold.** The district expectations gradually increase as the year progresses.

- ***Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a “one-step” problem would be: “Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?”)***
- *Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., $11 + 8$); quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 20 or less (e.g., $16 - 9$); and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year*
- *Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (place value)*
- *Building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades*
- ***Using understanding of place value to add and subtract three digit numbers (e.g., $811 - 367$); adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., $77 - 28$)***
- *Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length (e.g., “The pen is 2 cm longer than the pencil. If the pencil is 7 cm long, how long is the pen?”)*



English Language Arts/Literacy

Students in 2nd grade will gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. They continue to learn and practice rules for matching sounds to letters that make up words, and they learn new concepts — such as words that share the same root (e.g., add and additional) — that help them figure out the meanings of new words. Writing will become an exciting way for your child to use newly learned words and phrases to express ideas. As they write and speak, 2nd graders will be more attentive to the formal and informal uses of English and will spell most words correctly in their writing.

Below are samples of what your child will be working on in 2nd grade:

- *Paying close attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in stories and books to answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions*
- *Comparing and contrasting stories and sites evidence to answer questions*
- *Using text features (e.g., captions, bold print, indexes) to locate key facts or information efficiently*
- *Writing an opinion using important details from the materials to support that opinion*
- *Writing stories that include a short sequence of events and include a clear beginning, middle, and end*
- *Taking part in conversations by linking his or her comments to the remarks of others and asking and answering questions to gather additional information or deepen understanding of the topic*
- *Retelling key information or ideas from media or books read aloud*
- *Using proper rules of grammar (e.g. complete sentences, expanding and combining sentences, kinds of nouns, subjects and predicates)*
- *Using strategies to figure out the meaning of unknown words (e.g. prefixes and suffixes, context clues, multiple meaning words, root words)*
- *Using proper rules of capitalization (e.g. beginning of a sentence, proper nouns, parts of a letter) and punctuation (e.g. sentence types, abbreviations, parts of a letter, quotation marks, commas in a list)*

