

Understanding What Your Child Will Learn

Your child will learn many new concepts and skills over the course of the school year. In Louisiana, all public schools use the *Louisiana Student Standards* as the basis for what they teach students. This are provided for Grade 2 in the following content areas:

- English Language Arts & Reading
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

Below are a few of the standards that your child will learn along with strategies you can use to support your child's learning at home.



English Language Arts

Second grade students will develop and sustain foundational language skills: fluently read 94 words per minute, sound out and spell one- and two-syllable words, write using basic paragraph formation, and retell stories.

What does it mean?

Fluency: reading without struggle, quick and smooth

Spelling: decoding and blending words with familiar sound/spellings

Writing: restating questions, attending to spacing, capitalization, and punctuation with use of a topic sentence, details, and a closing sentence; writings should include various writing styles: stories, informational pieces, and opinion pieces

Retelling: being able to listen to or read a story and retell about the characters, setting, events, and information in the story

How can you support your child?

- Provide a wide variety of reading material
- Show your child that you enjoy reading by reading near him/her
- Read to your child every day
- Listen to your child read to you and ask questions about the story
- Model writing for your child



Physical Education

The primary focus for this age group is the learning and acquisition of locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills.

What does it mean?

These are the foundational skills for all movement patterns that gradually become more complex as movement becomes more specific.

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- Show your child that you enjoy reading by reading near him/her
- Read to your child every day
- Listen to your child read to you and ask questions about the story
- Model writing for your child



Mathematics

Second grade students are expected to fluently add and subtract within 20, understand place value to add and subtract, measure and reasonably estimate lengths, work with time and money, and identify polygons based on attribute.

What does it mean?

Fluency: Know all addition and subtraction facts within 20 by memory

Place Value Addition and Subtraction: use multiple strategies to put together, find the difference between, break apart, and take away numbers where regrouping (also known as "borrowing" or "trading tens" or "bundling") is needed

Measurement: use inches and centimeters to measure

Time and Money: tell time on an analog and digital clock to the nearest hour, half hour, and quarter hour; identify all coins and bills and be able to tell the value of a combined set of coins/bills

Polygons: identify and draw triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, and hexagons

How can you support your child?

- Download math game apps that get aid students in learning basic math facts.
- Break the problem apart by underlining or circling important information in the problem to help your child make sense of the information.
- Have conversations with your child about the changes that occur when you put things together (addition) and take things apart (subtraction).
- Use measuring tools in and around your home.
- Allow students to count money.
- Identify polygons in the real world



Science

Second grade students will be expected to make observations and conduct experiments on various topics.

What does it mean?

A second grade student should be able to ask questions when observing animals, plants, objects, and events (weather, seasons, etc.) and conducting an investigation.

How can you support your child?

- Model asking questions for your child and encourage your child to ask questions.
- Explore reading materials about the topics they are discovering and studying in science.



Social Studies

Second grade students are introduced to the world beyond their family and home. Students will build upon experiences with their families, schools, communities, and parishes as they continue their study of the most fundamental principles and ideas of each of social studies' core disciplines: history, civics, economics, and geography.

What does it mean?

- **North America Geography and Environment:** using maps, learning North American countries and oceans that touch North America
- **The Earliest Americans:** study how the American colonies gained independence from England and about Native American peoples already residing in North America
- **Making the United States Government:** study of the Constitution and how the government operates (3 branches of government)
- **Choices and Costs:** study concepts of living and working in the United States and the opportunities the economy presents for saving, spending, planning with money and making wise choices

How can you support your child?

- Talk about historical figures that had an impact on our nation's establishment
- Explore topics studied in class with various books and stories
- Discuss saving, spending, making choices, and budgeting with your child

