

SECOND GRADE

Curriculum Guide for Parents

The Common Core State Standards (also known as the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study*) focus on English/Language Arts and Mathematics, and integrate literacy in all subject areas. The North Carolina Essential Standards provide standards for Social Studies, Science, Information and Technology, Arts Education, Healthful Living, and other subject areas. These standards describe what students are supposed to know from kindergarten through 12th grade. Each year builds on the next so that by high school graduation, young people are prepared to go to college or to enter the workplace.



The purpose of this brochure is to provide information to parents about what students will be expected to know and be able to do during their year in the second grade.

Other Curriculum Areas:

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY



Students will learn to work with sources of information and informational text. They will use technology as a tool and understand the research process. Students will understand safety and ethical issues.

HEALTHFUL LIVING



Students will learn about feelings, nutrition, and physical activity. They will understand safety and will work on motor skill development, movement concepts, health-related fitness, and personal/social responsibility.

MUSIC



Students will exemplify musical literacy. They will understand how to respond to music. Students will understand how music is relevant in many contexts.

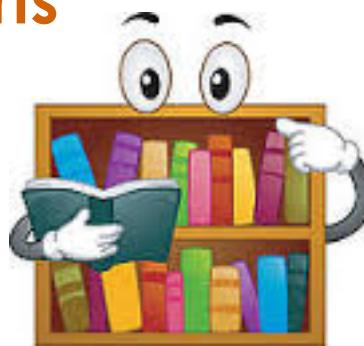
VISUAL ARTS



Students will use the language of visual arts to communicate effectively. They will apply creative and critical thinking skills to artistic expression, and will understand the interdisciplinary connections and life applications of the visual arts.

English/Language Arts

The Common Core State Standards set goals for student mastery in language arts. The study of language arts includes reading, writing, speaking and listening. The standards include examples of appropriate books for students to read at each grade level in literature and informational texts. Informational texts include literary nonfiction and historical, scientific and technical texts. Teachers will choose the reading assignments for their students using the examples as a guide.



English/Language Arts

Reading: Literature

Students will learn to ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. They will be able to describe how words and phrases supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song and describe the overall structure of a story. They will use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot. Students will be able to read and comprehend literature appropriate for second graders.



Reading: Informational Text

Students will learn to ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. They will be able to determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text. They will explain how specific images contribute to and clarify a text. Students will read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, appropriate for second graders.

Reading: Foundational Skills

Students will know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words. They will read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Writing

Students will write opinion pieces using linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section. With help from adults and peers, they will be able to focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing. Students will participate in shared research and writing projects.

Language

Students will demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking (e.g., nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives). They will use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. They will determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases. Students will distinguish shades of meaning among closely related verbs (e.g., toss, throw, hurl) and closely related adjectives (e.g., thin, slender, skinny, scrawny).

Speaking and Listening

Students will participate in collaborative conversations about topics and texts in small and larger groups. They will learn to tell a story or recount an experience in coherent sentences.



Reading 3D

Reading 3D is a two-part assessment that enables teachers to get a complete picture of each child's ability to read with comprehension. It combines quick indicators of foundational skills in reading through the DIBELS assessment along with a running record (TRC or text reading and comprehension) to better understand how students find meaning in the text they read.

Given at the beginning of the year (BOY), middle of the year (MOY), and end of the year (EOY), the Reading 3D assessments help teachers monitor a student's growth and progress in reading. Reports are sent home to parents after each assessment. The results of the Reading 3D assessments also allow teachers to personalize what students are taught in their guided reading groups and provide individualized instruction to students to enable them to become better readers.





Mathematics

The Common Core Mathematics Standards place an emphasis on eight

mathematical practices. These practices are strategies for thinking through and solving mathematical problems.

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Using these practices, second grade students will learn about:

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Students will learn how to represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction. They will be able to fluently add and subtract within 20. They will work with equal groups of objects to gain foundations for multiplication.

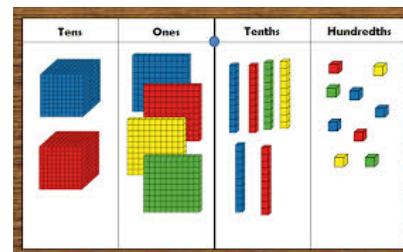
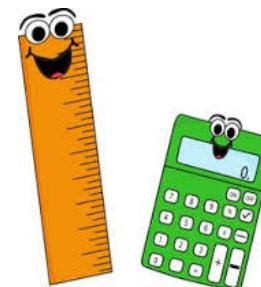


Measurement and Data

Students will learn how to measure and estimate lengths in standard units. They will work with time and money and solve word problems involving money. Students will generate data and represent and interpret data.

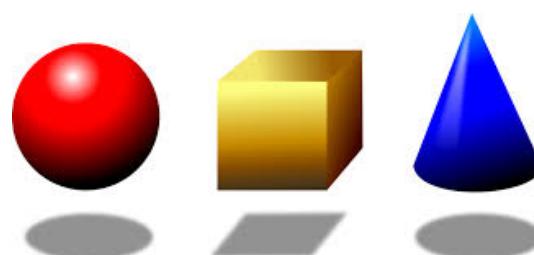
Number and Operations in Base Ten

Students will understand place value. They will learn to count within 1000; skip-count by 5s, 10s, and 100s and read and write numbers to 1000 using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form. They will use place value understanding and properties of operations to fluently add and subtract. Students will be able to explain why addition and subtraction strategies work, using place value and the properties of operations.



Geometry

Students will learn to reason with shapes and their attributes. They will identify triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes and partition shapes. Students will recognize that equal shares of identical wholes need not have the same shape.





Science

The North Carolina Essential Standards organizes Science into the domains of

Physical Science, Earth Science, and Life Sciences. By the end of second grade students should be able to conduct investigations, gather evidence, and grow in their understanding in the following areas:

Forces and Motion

Students will understand the relationship between sound and vibrating objects. They will summarize the relationship between sound and objects of the body that vibrate – eardrum and vocal cords.

Matter: Properties and Change

Students will understand properties of solids and liquids and the changes they undergo. They will be able to compare what happens to water left in an open container over time as to water left in a closed container.

Earth Systems, Structures and Processes

Students will understand patterns of weather and factors that affect weather. They will recognize the tools that scientists use for observing, recording, and predicting weather changes.

Structures and Functions of Living Organisms

Students will understand animal life cycles. They will compare life cycles of different animals such as, but not limited to, mealworms, ladybugs, crickets, guppies or frogs.

Evolution and Genetics

Students will remember that organisms differ from or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organism. They will identify ways in which many plants and animals closely resemble their parents in observed appearance and ways they are different.



Social Studies

Second grade students are introduced to Social Studies by exploring aspects of self, others, families, and communities across the world. They will focus on development of awareness to the similarities among individuals in the classroom as well as within the school, community and world.

History

Students will understand how various sources provide information about the past, and will identify contributions of historical figures about various periods of time using evidence such as photographs and interviews.

Civics and Governance

Students will understand the purpose of governments. They will understand the roles and responsibilities of citizens and explain why it is important for citizens to participate in their community.

Geography and Environmental Literacy

Students will learn about geography, will understand the effects of humans interacting with their environment, and will be able to explain how people positively and negatively affect the environment.

Economics and Financial Literacy

Students will understand basic economic concepts. They will be able to explain the roles and the impact that producers and consumers have on the economy as well as the role of financial institutions relative to savings.

Culture

Students will understand how various cultures influence communities. They will exemplify respect and appropriate social skills needed for working with diverse groups.