

# Parent Guide to Second Grade

Randolph County School System



## English Language Arts

In second grade, your child will gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Second graders will read a wider variety of texts with more complex vocabulary and will also write to express multiple ideas about a topic. Important goals for the year include:

### Reading:

- Use grade level phonics and word analysis skills to decode unknown words when reading.
- Recount fables and folktales and determine the central message, lesson or moral.
- Identify the main topic of an informational text.
- Use details to answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions.
- Use text features to locate key facts or information efficiently.
- Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story.
- Read different texts on the same topic and compare the most important points.
- Use different strategies to determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
- Make connections within a text.

### Writing:

- Write opinion, informational, and narrative pieces.
- Use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish their writing.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects.
- Use grade-appropriate grammar and spelling, including capitals, commas, contractions, quotation marks, apostrophes, and end punctuation.

### Speaking/Listening:

- Take part in discussions on different topics or texts by building on others' comments and asking questions in order to clarify comprehension, gather additional information, or deepen understanding about the topic or issue.
- Produce, expand and rearrange sentences depending on the task or situation.

Learn more about what your child will learn this year by reading the parent guides from the NC Department of Public Instruction! [Parent Guide & Parent Guide Booklet](#)

## Mathematics

In second grade, your child will continue to strengthen math habits such as problem solving, persistence, precision, accuracy, modeling, constructing arguments, and checking to see if the answer makes sense. Important goals for the year include:

- Solve addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps.
- Quickly and accurately add and subtract within 20.
- Determine if a number is odd or even.
- Understand that the three digits of a three-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones (place value).
- Read, write, and compare numbers within 1000.
- Count within 1000. Skip-count by fives, tens, and hundreds.
- Use place value understanding to add and subtract two-digit and three-digit numbers.
- Estimate and measure length in standard units (inches, feet, yards, centimeters, and meters).
- Tell and write time to the nearest five minutes.
- Solve word problems involving lengths and money.
- Represent and interpret data on picture graphs and bar graphs.
- Build, draw, and identify two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes.
- Divide circles and rectangles into halves, thirds, and fourths.

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### Science

As second grade students learn about the life, physical, and earth sciences, they will develop skills of observation, actively participate in simple investigations, have opportunities to use their senses and other tools to gather data, and time to talk about their observations with peers.

Important goals for the year include:

- Illustrate and summarize how sound is produced.
- Understand the properties of solids and liquids and the changes they undergo when heated or cooled.
- Use tools to observe and compare the daily and seasonal patterns of weather.
- Summarize and compare animal life cycles.
- Compare the similarities and differences of organisms to their parents based on observable characteristics.

### Social Studies

Second grade students will learn, through the six strands of social studies, how the United States developed over time. They will study significant historic people and events, as well as study the environmental characteristics that helped shape America.

Important goals for the year include:

- Learn how economic decisions and resources are affected by and shape the nation.
- Learn how our democratic values and ideals guide the roles and responsibilities of our nation's leaders.
- Understand that we are individuals who are influenced by and contribute to our surrounding environment.
- Learn about America, as a part of the world and as a unique place within that world.
- Learn about America and how it fits into the global community.

### Resources for Parents

Randolph County School System

[www.randolph.k12.nc.us](http://www.randolph.k12.nc.us)

Parent Resources

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

Today Parenting Guides

[www.today.com/parenting-guides](http://www.today.com/parenting-guides)

NC Department of Public Instruction & K-12 Standards

[www.dpi.nc.gov](http://www.dpi.nc.gov)

National PTA Parent Guides

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

NC Department of Public Instruction ELA Parent Guides

<https://ncdpi.instructure.com/courses/914/pages/parent-guides>