

READING

Moving away from figuring out words, second graders are concentrating on comprehension strategies and increasing their rate of reading. They are reading more difficult stories (fiction) and non-fiction from a wide variety of sources.

Your child will...

- Increase his/her word recognition and word meaning skills
- Expand his/her sight vocabulary including some multi-meaning words
- Learn to read silently for a short period of time
- Recognize story elements (character, setting, problem, events, and solution)
- Explore a variety of nonfiction features (titles/headings/labels/captions/charts/graphs)
- Comprehend important ideas/details and make inferences and predictions
- Read different materials for a variety of purposes

Parents can...

- Ask “why” or “what if” questions during and after the story
- Use the terms characters, setting, problem etc. when discussing a story
- Encourage children to retell stories providing specific details
- Talk about the title, illustrations, and headings
- Discuss the meaning of certain words, especially multiple meaning words

LANGUAGE ARTS

Second graders are saying something in their writing. They are writing sentences of their own. They are interested in the way their writing looks and beginning to focus on revisions.

Your child will...

- Write to convey a story or idea
- Support main idea with details
- Use a variety of sentence beginnings
- Attempt to use descriptive words
- Use legible handwriting, capital letters, and attempt commas/quotation marks
- Write complete sentences, sometimes paragraphs
- Accurately spell grade level high frequency words and related word families

MATHEMATICS

Second graders continue to use objects and pictures to understand math concepts and practice skills. They expand their study of various areas of math.

Your child will...

- Read and write numerals to 1,000
- Demonstrate recall of basic facts in addition and subtraction to 20
- Add and subtract 3-digit numbers
- Create, order, and extend patterns orally and symbolically
- Estimate and measure area, perimeter, length, weight, and capacity
- Select appropriate unit of measure for a given object
- Name value of coins and add coins
- Sort, classify, and use geometric figures to solve everyday problems

- Play counting games in the car such as starting with a number in the 200s
- Help the child master basic number facts by playing mental math games
- Have the child check the answer of a math problem for reasonableness
- Play store with the child being the cashier so she/he can make change

SCIENCE

Children expand their understanding of concepts and processes through experiments and hands on activities.

Your child will...

- Combine and separate solid materials of different particle sizes
- Use information gathered to conduct an investigation of an unknown material
- Observe, question, estimate, and evaluate information about the concepts presented
- Observe life cycles of insects and compare the stages of metamorphosis exhibited by each species.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Second graders broaden their world by looking at various communities and beginning a study of geography.

Your child will...

- Identify cities, towns, suburbs, and farms as different communities
- Give reasons communities need a government, laws, and rules
- List several jobs, occupations, and services necessary in a community
- Distinguish between needs and wants
- Identify forms of transportation used in a community
- Understand that people must work, live, and play together

PE/HEALTH - Your child will...

- Understand safety rules about bicycles and strangers
- Learn personal health and care ideas, including the warning signs of illness/injury
- Develop teamwork skills by participating in games and activities
- Practice movement skills like walk, run, jog, jump, hop, etc.

MUSIC/VISUAL ARTS - Your child will...

- Read and perform rhythms and play/move to a strong beat
- Discriminate between the sounds of woods, metals, and membranes
- Explore harmony, form, and melody

TECHNOLOGY AND LIBRARY - Your child will...

- Develop the necessary skills to gather, organize and evaluate information
- Gain an understanding and appreciation for literature
- Acquire skills to use available technology resources