



Grade-Level Benchmarks Second Grade

CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

Learning Habits

- participates actively and appropriately
- shows initiative and is a self-directed learner
- demonstrates self-confidence
- willingly takes on challenges
- remains focused, attentive, and engaged in lessons
- sets and reflects upon goals

Work Habits

- demonstrates neatness, thoughtfulness, and pride in work
- works independently and uses time wisely
- works cooperatively with others
- completes and turns in assignments on time
- organizes space and returns materials
- produces original work

Responsibility as a Community Member

- manages emotions and accepts responsibility for own actions
- manages transitions and adapts to changes in routine
- demonstrates courtesy, cooperation, and respect toward peers and adults
- listens and follows directions
- seeks positive solutions to problems and conflicts
- follows classroom rules and routines
- displays kindness and concern for others
- raises hand before sharing in class discussions
- uses classroom materials with purpose and respect

LITERACY: READING

Comprehension

- listens to and discusses stories, nonfiction, functional texts, nonfiction, and opinion articles
- thinks about and discusses characters and their feelings and how they change
- makes, writes, and shares text-to-self, text-to-world, and text-to-text connections
- wonders, discusses, and confirms predictions through discussion and writing
- identifies the main events and retells a story
- discusses the organization of a story
- practices choosing “just-right” books
- reads independently and applies strategies learned
- refers to the story to support thinking
- writes about and draws connections
- listens to, retells, and discusses a folktale
- practices self-monitoring during independent reading
- listens to and visualizes poetry, fiction, or nonfiction text
- draws, shares, discusses, and writes about mental images
- explores story elements such as setting, endings, and problem and solution
- makes, discusses, and writes about inferences and refers to the story to support thinking
- discusses the story’s message
- identifies, discusses, and writes about what is learned from a story or nonfiction text
- listens to and discusses parts of a biography
- previews nonfiction text
- ask questions about a text that is read
- uses text features in a nonfiction text
- compares and contrasts two nonfiction texts and two articles on a single topic
- identifies important ideas and identifies how reasons can support ideas
- confers 1:1 with the teacher about independent reading books

Accuracy

- abundantly reads
- looks carefully at letters and words
- cross-checks (does it look right, sound right, make sense)
- uses beginning and ending sounds
- blends sounds; stretches and rereads
- chunks letters and sounds together
- skips the word, then comes back
- recognizes words at sight

Fluency

- voraciously reads
- reads appropriate-level texts that are a good fit
- rereads text
- practices common sight words and high-frequency words
- adjusts and applies different reading rates to match text

- uses punctuation to enhance phrasing and prosody (end marks, commas, etc.)
- reads text as the author would say it, conveying the meaning or feeling

Expanding Vocabulary

- tunes into interesting words and uses new vocabulary when speaking and writing
- uses a print and online dictionary
- discusses synonyms and antonyms
- discusses shades of meaning
- discusses words with multiple meanings
- discusses prefixes (*im, mis, pre, dis*), suffixes (*ion, ly, est, ist, ation*)
- discusses compound words
- uses context clues to determine word meanings
- draws and writes about vocabulary words
- discusses idioms

LITERACY: WRITING

The Writing Community

- contributes to building a caring writing community
- gets ideas for writing from read-alouds
- draws, makes lists, and writes sentences to generate ideas
- explores descriptive language
- capitalizes and punctuates sentences
- uses approximate spelling and the word wall
- writes silly and scary stories
- shares stories and writes freely

Telling More

- visualizes and talks about story ideas before writing
- rereads and adds details to tell more
- checks for sentence punctuation
- explores commas in a series
- tells more based on partner feedback
- confers in pairs

Fiction

- explores realistic and purely imaginary fiction
- generates ideas for fiction stories
- makes revisions based on partner feedback
- publishes a fiction story
- adds descriptive words
- learns about adding punctuation to dialogue sentences
- informally proofreads for capitals and proper nouns
- checks spelling using a word bank
- uses question marks and exclamation points
- approximates the spelling of polysyllabic words

Nonfiction

- explores expository (or informative), functional (or explanatory), and narrative nonfiction
- writes questions, facts, and observations
- uses temporal words
- writes interesting opening and closing sentences
- gives feedback about what they want to know
- proofreads for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization
- explores including text features such as illustrations and diagrams
- writes and publishes a short report using information from multiple sources

Letter writing

- explores audience and purpose of friendly letters
- identifies the parts of a friendly letter
- punctuates dates, greetings, and closings
- proofreads for punctuation and capitalization
- addresses an envelope

Poems and Words

- generates lists of words for different topics
- explores and uses interesting and descriptive words in poems
- explores and informally uses figurative language
- publishes a poem

Opinion Writing

- generates ideas for opinion pieces
- explores an audience and purpose for opinion pieces
- writes opening and closing sentences
- writes reasons and uses linking words to support opinions
- confers in pairs
- proofreads for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization
- publishes an opinion piece

Revisiting the Writing Community

- reflects on growth as writers and community members
- plans for summer writing

Conventions

- uses capital letters for I, beginning of a sentence, and proper nouns
- punctuates endings of sentences correctly
- uses apostrophes to punctuate contractions correctly
- uses the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: nouns, verbs, personal pronouns, adjectives, adverbs
- applies high-frequency words consistently within writing

LITERACY: PHONICS & WORD STUDY

High-Frequency Words

- reads and spells high-frequency words consistently

Spelling Patterns and Word Structure

- uses short and long vowel sounds accurately
- sorts and reads words with spelling patterns *oo, ow, ew, oi, oy, ou,* and *aw*
- sorts words, determines categories, records, and explains their thinking both independently and in pairs
- discusses homophones
- learns a strategy for spelling homophones
- sorts words by syllables
- applies a strategy for reading words that end with *y*
- reads and sorts words with *r*-controlled vowels spelled *er, ir, ur, ar,* and *or*
- applies a strategy for reading words with the ending *-ing, -ed*
- accurately spells words with the inflectional ending *-ing, -ed,*
- spells words with the sounds */oo/* and */ou/*
- alphabetizes word lists
- reads, sorts, and spells words with consonant *-le* syllables
- reads, discusses, and sorts words with the suffixes *-er, -est, -ly, -er, or,* and *-ist, -less, -ful, -tion, -sion,* and *-ion*
- reads, discusses, and sorts words with the prefixes *un, re,*
- recognizes and understands morphemic transformations
- reads words with multiple suffixes by syllable
- segments and reads open and closed syllables
- divides words into syllables
- reads and sorts two-syllable words
- applies knowledge of syllables to reading longer words
- divides words before or after a single consonant
- recognizes the *schwa* sound
- spells high-frequency words with irregular spellings
- reads and sorts polysyllabic words
- spells and uses contractions accurately in writing
- reads and sorts words with multiple affixes

Word-Solving Actions

- uses strategic actions by combining multiple sources of information (recognizing base words, noticing patterns, syllabication, making connections)

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

- comprehends while listening
- expresses one's self purposefully and clearly
- participates effectively in discussions

MATHEMATICS

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- adds numbers within 20 fluently
- subtracts numbers within 20 fluently
- knows all sums of two one-digit numbers automatically
- determines whether the number of objects in a group is odd or even
- expresses an even number as a sum of two equal addends
- models one-step problems involving addition and subtraction
- uses addition and subtraction to solve one-step number stories
- models two-step problems involving addition and subtraction
- uses addition and subtraction to solve two-step number stories
- finds the total number of objects in a rectangular array
- expresses the number of objects in an array as a sum of equal addends

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- counts by 1s
- counts by 5s, 10s, and 100s
- reads and writes number names
- mentally adds 10 to and subtracts 10 from a given number
- understands three-digit place value
- represents whole numbers as hundreds, tens, and ones
- understands exchanging tens and hundreds
- understands 100, 200, ... 900 as some hundreds, no tens, and no ones
- reads and writes numbers
- reads and writes numbers in expanded form
- compares and orders numbers
- records comparisons using $>$, $=$ or $<$
- adds and subtracts within 100 fluently
- adds up to four two-digit numbers
- adds and subtracts multi-digit numbers using models or strategies
- explains why addition and subtraction strategies work

Measurement and Data

- represents whole numbers as lengths from 0 on a number line diagram
- tells and writes time using analog and digital clocks
- uses a.m. and p.m.
- measures the length of an object
- selects appropriate tools to measure length
- measures an object using two different units of length
- describes how length measurements relate to the size of the unit
- estimates lengths
- measures to determine how much longer one object is than another
- solves number stories involving length by adding and subtracting
- models number stories involving length

- represents sums and differences on a number line diagram
- tells and writes time (to the nearest five minutes) using analog and digital clocks
- solves problems involving coins and bills
- reads and writes monetary amounts
- represents measurement data on a line plot
- organizes and represents data on bar and picture graphs
- answers questions using information in graphs

Geometry

- recognizes and draws shapes with specified attributes
- identifies two and three-dimensional shapes
- partitions a rectangle into rows and columns of same-size squares and counts to find the total number of squares
- partitions shapes into equal shares
- describes equal shares using fraction words
- describes the whole as a number of shares
- recognizes that equal shares of a shape need not have the same shape

Problem Solving and Perseverance

- checks whether the answer makes sense
- solves problems in more than one way
- compares the strategies you and others use

Model with Mathematics

- models real-world situations using graphs, drawings, tables, symbols, numbers, diagrams, and other representations
- uses mathematical models to solve problems and answer questions

SOCIAL STUDIES

- discusses responsible citizenship, including the importance of education
- understands identity including family heritage and what makes us special and eunique
- identifies map titles and map symbols and constructs simple maps
- describes what a map or globe represents
- identifies characteristics of a polar region and locates these regions around the world on maps
- understands the purpose and benefits of displaying information on a timeline
- represents significant events on a timeline
- recognizes the role of an individual in society
- discusses the contributions and characteristics of famous historical figures (change makers)

TECHNOLOGY

Communication and Collaboration

- communicates information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats
- interacts, collaborates, and publishes with peers, experts, or others employing a variety of digital environments and media

Research and Information Fluency

- demonstrates responsible use of Internet websites as educational tools

Digital Citizenship

- demonstrates good manners when working beside and with fellow students
- demonstrates knowledge of who is a trusted adult, and understands to go to a trusted adult when feeling uncomfortable due to any internet content
- exhibits a positive attitude toward using technology that supports collaboration, learning, and productivity
- practices etiquette and safety when using internet websites

Technology Operations and Concepts

- follows proper sequence to run programs, including switching between multiple program windows
- uses a variety of multimedia resources and software for directed and independent learning activities
- demonstrates appropriate use of basic shortcut commands, such as quit, copy, cut, paste, undo, save and print
- demonstrates a beginning use of the home row on a standard keyboard
- demonstrates word processing skills, including typing a paragraph with proper capitalization, spacing, and ending punctuation
- demonstrates proper use of taskbar and function buttons for editing text styles and graphics within a word processing document (font, size, style)
- demonstrates proper use of multimedia graphic arts tools by creating an animation; inserting graphics, photos, and videos; resizing graphics and photos; collecting, organizing, and analyzing data or information