



A PARENT/CAREGIVER'S GUIDE TO **Second Grade**



Sun Prairie Area
School District



Child Development

WE KNOW...

“Stages of growth and development follow a reasonably predictable pattern. Children and adolescents do not proceed through each stage at the same pace. Children and adolescents progress through the various aspects of development at their own rate. Growth is uneven.”

Source: *Yardsticks: Child and Adolescent Development Ages 4–14*, by Chip Wood



Physical Development

- Second graders have increased gross and fine motor skills.
- They can be restless, full of energy, in a rush, and in need of physical release.
- They play hard and tire quickly, doing better with several short play breaks versus one long break.

Social and Emotional Development

- Second graders are sometimes moody or pouty, and they may worry that no one likes them.
- They are caring and sensitive to others' feelings.
- They like to share humor and be silly.
- They enjoy imaginary adventures.
- They like to socialize during individual and group work.
- They may have a difficult time initiating work or play with others. Adult leadership with large-group games helps them mix and mingle.

Second-Grade Experience

Second graders will ...

ART

- Create works of art about events in home, school, or community life
- Use art vocabulary to express and describe preferences about artwork
- Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests
- Make connections to art from personal, contemporary, and historical lenses
- Actively incorporate The Studio Habits of Mind, a set of thinking dispositions utilized throughout the creative process
- Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces
- 2nd grade media includes drawing, painting, collage, fiber, printmaking, ceramics, and 3D sculpture

HEALTH

- List ways to prevent communicable diseases
- Communicate knowledge of healthy and unhealthy behaviors to family members, trusted adults, or friends
- Encourage friends and family to make healthy choices
- Describe why it is important to seek health care

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Participate cooperatively and safely to improve fitness levels
- Perform motor skills while participating in vigorous physical activity
- Combine motor skills within levels, pathways, and travel during game play and physical activity
- Demonstrate responsible personal and social behavior in physical activity settings
- Demonstrate understanding and respect for differences among people in physical activity settings
- Demonstrate the physical skills necessary to perform classroom activities

MUSIC

- Sing with “head voice” in a tuneful and healthy way
- Remember short songs and sing them alone or with others
- Demonstrate a steady beat and various rhythms (and melodies) with their body and on various instruments
- Describe music and form opinions using appropriate vocabulary
- Move expressively in response to different styles of music
- Identify different sound characteristics, and names of common instruments and their roles in music
- Be quiet audience members and reflect on the music they heard
- Read and notate simple rhythms

GUIDANCE

- Use multiple dimensions of health (physical, social, environmental, and emotional) in everyday life
- Provide examples of situations when health-related decisions are needed to keep someone safe
- Use multiple intelligence
- Further regulate emotions
- Be mindful
- Demonstrate a growth mindset
- Learn how to prevent bullying

End-of-Year Expectations

Second graders will know how to ...

Family Learning Activities

Practice these strategies at home in your family's native language as well as in English.

	READING	WRITING	
LITERACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read and write grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words, and single-syllable words with common short and long vowel spelling patterns, including common vowel teams. Read and write regularly spelled one, two, and some three-syllable CVC pattern words (e.g., mat; picnic; fantastic). Read and write two-syllable words with prefixes and suffixes like <i>un-</i>, <i>re-</i>, <i>dis-</i>, <i>-ing</i>, <i>-ly</i>, <i>-er</i>, etc. Read orally with accuracy, fluency, and expression, and self-correct any errors. Describe the overall structure of a fiction and nonfiction text, and summarize portions to identify a central idea and key details. Explain how points the author makes are supported by reasons and evidence, recognizing that texts reflect one's own and others' culture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write informative texts that introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement. Write narratives that convey events (real or imagined), include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure. Write opinion pieces that introduce the topic, state an opinion, use linking words to connect the opinion with reasons, and provide a concluding statement. Strengthen writing through planning, revising, peer reviews, and editing for both clarity and appropriate use of standardized English conventions (capitalization, punctuation, and spelling). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist your child in hearing the spelling patterns in words to write them onto paper, or to build them with magnetic letters. For unknown spellings, encourage them to stretch out each sound, write down each sound, spell it, and then read it or blend sounds to check through the word. Make time for wordplay. Talk about how jam can mean something you put on toast, or to improvise music, and when something is stuck or packed tightly. How many other homonyms can your child think of? Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Find opportunities for your child to write, such as the shopping list, thank you notes, or birthday cards. Remind them that writing involves several steps; no one does it perfectly the first time. Have fun reading by taking on the voices of different characters, changing your voices based on the story's mood. Then discuss and connect with how characters feel and respond to major events. Find books and magazines about topics your child is interested in learning. Practice reading and writing high-interest words from the text and talk about how the text features. Design a poster together, or a Google slide using real-life pictures. Play a 10-finger summary challenge after reading a book together, by stating one important piece of information with each finger, or identify the main topic or central idea using one word for each finger!
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add and subtract numbers under 20 in different ways: counting on, making tens, using known facts. Add and subtract numbers up to 100 to solve word problems with pictures and equations, including word problems about lengths. Mentally add or subtract 10 or 100 to a given number 100-900; skip-count by fives, tens, and hundreds. Count, read, and write numbers to 1,000 using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form. Add and subtract within 100 efficiently using place value, operations properties, and the connection between addition and subtraction. Add and subtract within 1,000 using models and strategies based on place value. Understand adding or subtracting hundreds, tens, and ones. Draw graphs to show data with up to four categories. Solve problems using information from the graphs. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a skip-counting game where you and your child take turns saying each number as you count together by 5s, 10s, or 100s. If either of you make a mistake, the game starts over from the beginning! Play a money game to practice place value! You will need dice, several dimes, and several pennies (or 1 dollar bills and 10 dollar bills). Take turns rolling the dice to draw that number of pennies (or 1-dollar bills) from a center pile. Notice out loud with your child that whenever you have 10 pennies, you can trade them in for a dime, or 10 dimes for a dollar bill, and so on. Set a goal number to end the game. Have fun measuring things around the house together. Predict how many feet, inches, or centimeters it might be before you measure it. Have family members vote on their favorite sport, and graph the information to share the results! Plan a make-believe or real party where you'd have to figure out how many packages of buns you will need to feed each guest.
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain structure and properties of matter. Test materials for their effectiveness in specific situations. Conducts investigations, makes observations, and records data. Describe the life process of a plant and how it spreads its seeds. Identify where water is on Earth and if it is solid or liquid. Provide evidence of Earth's events and how quickly or slowly they occur. Represent the shape of Earth and identify the land and bodies of water. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to be curious by asking questions and solving them. Have conversations with your child about the world around them.
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articulate that groups of people have different beliefs and live their daily lives in different ways. (Culture) Role-play how a democracy works (e.g., class voting). (Civics) Hypothesize why people in one country trade goods with people in another country. (Geography) Demonstrate how technology is used on a daily basis for social or cultural purposes. (History) Differentiate between buyers (consumers) and sellers (producers), identifying the costs of everyday goods (milk, bread, fruit, vegetables, cheese). (Economics) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss events and their impact on the community. Discuss voting. Discuss where products you buy are made and how much they cost. Talk about how and where you get information. Use maps to help get you places. Help your child understand the difference between a need and a want.



WE **welcome** OUR FAMILIES.

WE **honor** WHAT YOU BRING TO OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY.

WE WANT TO **partner** WITH YOU IN WAYS THAT HELP YOUR CHILD.

501 South Bird Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
Telephone: 608-834-6500 • Fax: 608-834-6592

sunprairieschools.org

