



NEW EXPECTATIONS FOR SECOND GRADE:

- ▶ Notice and talk about the structure of a text. For example, describe how the beginning of a story introduces the characters, or explain what the last paragraph of an article says.
- ▶ Explain the overall purpose of a text: for example, the idea the author is trying to explain or the lesson the author is trying to teach.
- ▶ Use knowledge of word parts to figure out meanings. For example, if you know that *un* means *not*, then you can figure out that *unhappy* means *not happy*.
- ▶ Compare formal and informal English. For example, notice how classmates speak differently when playing with friends and when giving a class presentation.



BY THE END OF SECOND GRADE, STUDENTS CAN:



- ▶ Read aloud in a way that shows they understand what they are reading.
- ▶ Stop and reread a sentence to figure out the meaning of an unknown word.
- ▶ Describe what characters do in response to events or problems in a story.
- ▶ Explain how a picture or diagram helps show what a text is saying.
- ▶ Gather information from different texts to answer a question.
- ▶ When presenting, speak loudly and clearly enough to be heard and understood.
- ▶ Print all letters quickly enough to write sentences without losing track of ideas.
- ▶ Use apostrophes (') in words like *can't*, *don't*, *cat's*, and *dog's*.
- ▶ Capitalize proper nouns like Thanksgiving, Boston, and Cape Cod.
- ▶ Write poems with patterns of sounds (like rhythm and rhyme).

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- ▶ Who is the story about? What do they do? Why?
- ▶ What kinds of things can you do to figure out what a word means?
- ▶ What kind of writing did you do in school today?



TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- ▶ Books and authors to look for at the library
- ▶ Types of writing your child is working on

