

Second Grade Elementary Parents' Guide to Student Success

This guide is based on the Florida State Standards. If your child meets the expectations as outlined in this guide, he/she will be well prepared for success in third grade.

MATH:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

- Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a “one-step” problem would be: “Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?”)
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., $11 + 8$); quickly and accurately subtracting from a number 20 or less (e.g., $16 - 9$); and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year
- Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (place value) and use this understanding to add and subtract three-digit numbers (e.g., $811 - 367$);
- Telling and writing time from analog and digital clocks
- Solving word problems involving + or - of money
- Measuring and solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length using inches, feet, cm, meters
- Recognize and draw shapes having attributes such as a given number of faces, sides, or angles

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Create a quiet place and determine a regular time for your child to study every day.
- Sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 - 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics.

Activities to do with your child to support learning at home:

- When saving for a purchase, compare the cost of the item to the amount of money you have; then ask your child to determine how much more money he or she needs to buy the item.
- Play “draw the shape.” For example, ask your child to draw a hexagon with one side longer than the others, or ask him or her to shade in a quarter of a rectangle.

For more information, the full standards are available at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/pdf/mathfs.pdf>

SCIENCE:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

Life Science

- Life cycles of beans and butterfly
- Comparing basic needs of living things those that produce seeds or produce spores
- Living things are everywhere, but what kind of habitats do certain living things need to survive

Physical Science

- Measure and observe objects – size, shape, color, temperature, weight, sink or float, magnet
- Identify if an object is a solid, liquid or gas
- Recognize that solids have a definite shape
- Recognize that liquids and gases take the shape of a container
- Measuring and comparing outdoor temperature
- Measuring and comparing volume of liquids using different size and shape containers
- Explain how do people use electricity in their homes
- Pushes and Pulls on different objects
- How can magnets move some objects without touching them?
- Observe objects are pulled to the ground unless something is holding them up (gravity).
- The greater the force (push or pull) the greater the change of motion of an object.

Earth Science

- Rocks- physical characteristics: size, shape, texture, weight, color
- Soil- What makes up soil and how is it formed?
- Classifying soil by color, texture, size of particles ability to retain water and plant growth in different soils
- Patterns in Nature: Weather, day to day and season to season
- What happens to water left in a container with and without a lid?
- Moving air is wind
- Preparing for severe weather – safety

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Go on nature walks making observations of your surroundings (plants, animals, soil, rocks)
- Bird watching - using birding guides available on line
- Star gazing – observing stars, star patterns, moon and planets
- Check out science related books from your local library
- View science related websites, webcams and video

LANGUAGE

What Your Child Will be Working on:

ARTS:

In grade two, students will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will think, talk, and write about what they read in variety of texts, such as stories, books, articles, and other sources of information including the Internet. In their writing, students will learn how to develop a topic and strengthen their skills by editing and revising.

Activities in these areas will include:

- Reading stories, including fables and folktales from different cultures, and identifying the lesson or moral of the story
- Reading texts about history, social studies, or science and identifying the main idea
- Answering who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about stories and books
- Describing the reasons that an author gives to support a point
- Learning and using new words
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English as well as demonstrating legible printing skills
- Participating in class discussions by listening and building on what others are saying
- Describing in their own words information learned from articles or books read aloud
- Working together to gather facts and information on a topic
- Writing about a short series of events and describing actions, thoughts, and feelings
- Writing about opinions on books using important details and examples to support a position

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

- Provide time and space for your child to read independently.
- Ask your child what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your child to read.
- Be sure your child has a library card. Your child should select books they are interested in to develop a passion for reading.
- Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading.
- Have your child write a thank you note or letter to family members or friends.
- Have your child select three things he or she wants to include in a story. Make up a story that includes those three things.

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What Your Child Will be Working on:

- Create drawings that explore line direction, complex shapes and visual emphasis
 - Create paintings that include warm/cool colors and texture using a variety of media/tools
 - Create sculptures using paper, fiber and various other materials
 - Create clay forms using slab, pinch and additive/subtractive techniques
 - Create prints using simple printmaking techniques.
 - Create artworks using mixed media and/or fiber techniques
 - Experiment with digital media and processes.
 - Experiment with various media to convey personal interests and self-expression
 - Create artworks inspired by imagination, personal experiences, different time periods and cultures
 - Identify objects from everyday life that have been designed/created by artists
 - Investigate the Principles of Design and use the Elements of Art while creating artworks
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- Set up an "art area" with a table and art supplies such as pencils, computer or drawing paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, tape, crayons, colored pencils, washable markers and paints, brushes, and air-dry clay
 - Borrow art books from the school or local library
 - Go online with your child to learn about and make art using interactive art websites (*Link to several sites: <http://www.symbaloo.com/mix/digitalartmaking>)*
 - Visit an art museum, art center or local gallery (*More info: <http://www.artstampabay.com/>)*

MUSIC:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

- Classify instruments into metals, woods, and membranes
 - Identify and demonstrate when music is getting louder/softer, faster/slower, and is moving upward/downward
 - Sing simple songs, using my head voice and maintaining pitch
 - Sing and play songs, which may include changes in dynamics, lyrics, and form, from memory
 - Read rhythmic patterns using basic standard notation, while maintaining a steady beat
 - Read melodic patterns using solfege syllables Do, Re, Mi, So, and La using my head voice
 - Compare aural melodic patterns with written patterns to determine whether they are the same or different
 - Improvise short phrases in response to a musical question
 - Notate rhythmic/melodic patterns using basic standard musical notation
 - Identify the form of a simple piece of music
 - Use piano and forte to describe when music is soft and loud
 - Perform and discuss songs, musical games, dances, and simple accompaniments from a variety cultures
 - Create, in collaboration with others, a musical performance that brings a story or poem to life
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- Listen to music with your child and discuss their likes and dislikes
 - Expose your child to live musical concerts
 - Encourage and provide private vocal or instrumental instruction as a supplement to school musical ensembles
 - Initiate and participate in family singing!

CIVICS:

What Your Child Will be Working on:

The goal of Social Studies Civics instruction is to prepare students to be knowledgeable, informed, and active citizens in their community. In grade two; the focus starts to move from your child's school and local community to a broader perspective addressing the United States and the formation of governments. Students will be engaged in conversations and learning opportunities that will develop their understanding of how their community works as well as ways communities organize themselves, rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and how to participate within their community. **Activities in these areas may include:**

- Explaining why people form governments
 - Explaining the consequences of an absence of rules and laws
 - Identifying what it means to be a United States citizen (by birth or naturalization)
 - Defining and applying the characteristics of responsible citizenship
 - Explaining why United States citizens have guaranteed rights and identifying those rights
 - Identify ways citizens can make a positive contribution in their community
 - Evaluate the contributions of various African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, veterans, and women
 - Identify the Constitution as the document that establishes the structure, function, powers, and limits of American government
 - Recognize symbols, individuals, events, and documents that represent the United States
- HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:**
- Read books about various individuals or events important in American History
 - Find a way to help out in your community
 - Create Constitution for your home to outline the rights and responsibilities of the members of your house

ART:

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME:

HELPING YOUR CHILD AT HOME: