

*“Each child is unique and develops at their own pace, but there are predictable patterns in child and adolescent development. This guide is intended to help you identify and understand these patterns so that you can better support your child’s learning at home and in school.”* (Yardsticks/Responsive Classroom, Chip Wood)



*Second Grade (age range is 7 - 8 years old)*

**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-Emotional/Academic Development:**

- Thrive in group activities and cooperative work.
- Begin to form friendship groups
- Have strong likes and dislikes
- Have a strong sense of right and wrong
- Adjust well to change, bounce back quickly from mistakes or disappointments.

**Throughout the year your 2nd grade student will experience...**

**Phys Ed**

- Cooperative play through teamwork
- Learning rules and techniques on a wide range of sports and games
- Learn the benefits of being active and staying active

**Health**

- Nutrition education and awareness
- Safety education for home, school, and community
- Poison safety and accident prevention
- Stranger danger education
- Pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety

**Music**

- Singing and playing instruments, alone and with others
- Performing dance choreography and creating improvised movements
- Identifying rhythm, pitch, form, dynamics, tempo, timbre and instrument families
- Responding and connecting to music from various historical periods and cultures

**Technology**

- Using Google Applications for Education
- S.T.E.A.M. activities
- Digital navigation, keyboarding
- LEGO Robotics
- Coding

**Social Emotional Learning**

- Conflict resolution strategies
- Explain healthy ways of coping with common stressful situations
- Character education

**World Language**

- Communicating in Spanish
- Learning basic Spanish vocabulary
- Learning the culture of Spanish speaking countries

**Library**

- Choosing books for reading enjoyment and interests
- Learning how to search and navigate through the library’s online public access catalog (OPAC)
- Learning about fiction and nonfiction call numbers
- Learning about the Dewey Decimal System



**Art**

- Painting, drawing and color use to produce original works of art
- Producing 3 dimensional works of art using clay
- Cultures, times, places and artists through art

## By the end of Grade 2nd grade, your child will know how to...

### Reading

- Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at grade level text complexity proficiently with scaffolding as needed.

### *Practice these skills at home ~*

- *Read to and with your child.*
- *Encourage your child to retell the story.*
- *Ask your child questions about what they read.*

### Writing

- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- Write opinion, informative/explanatory texts, and narrative texts.
- Research to build and present knowledge
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

### *Practice these skills at home ~*

- *Practice writing through letters, journals, poems, or stories.*
- *Help your child be responsible for any homework, reading logs or projects.*
- *Play word games*

### Social Studies

- Contrast the colonial era and the present day
- Name some great leaders and their contributions
- Describe the role of goods and services in everyday life.
- Label all continents and oceans on a map.

### *Practice these skills at home ~*

- *Discuss events and their impact on the community.*
- *Discuss voting.*
- *Discuss where products you buy are made and how much they cost.*
- *Use maps to help you get places.*
- *Help your child understand the difference between a need and a want.*

### Science

- Explain why wind and water can change the shape of the land. Land may change slowly or rapidly.
- Classify different kinds of matter as a solid or liquid, depending on temperature and that matter can be described and classified by its observable properties.
- Describe and explain relationships in Habitats
- Plan and conduct an investigation collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence to answer a question.

### *Practice these skills at home ~*

- *Encourage your child to be curious by asking questions and solving them.*
- *Have conversations with your child about the world around them.*

### Math

- Add and subtract fluently within 20
- Understand place value to help add and subtract
- Reason with shapes and their attributes
- Measure and estimate lengths in standard units
- Work with time and money
- Represent and interpret data

### *Practice these skills at home ~*

- *Use addition and subtraction flash cards.*
- *Play math games.*
- *Encourage your child to use money both at home and in the community.*
- *Encourage your child to read and tell time from a digital and analog clock.*

### **Recommended Resources:**

- [Yardsticks](#), by Chip Wood
- [www.responsiveclassroom.org](http://www.responsiveclassroom.org)
- [www.childdevelopmentinfo.com](http://www.childdevelopmentinfo.com)

Please visit your child's teacher website for additional resources and information at [www.ctsdnj.org](http://www.ctsdnj.org)