

(Social Studies continued)**Second graders begin to develop a concept of the relationship between people and their government.**

Second graders learn how people, families and communities work together and are dependent on one another. They look at how their local government works and how officials are elected.

Second graders learn basic concepts of geography and economics.

Second graders begin to understand the relationship between people and geography in various communities. They define and use geographic terms and can interpret maps, charts and pictures of locations. The second grade students take a walking tour through a historic neighborhood to determine and analyze the effects of change, as well as the physical and human characteristics of the neighborhood. Students compare the difference between producers and consumers and identify ways people are both.

Technology Integration: Societal/Ethical Issues

- Identify, discuss, and visually represent uses of digital technology in the community (e.g., bar code scanners, handhelds, mobile phones, optical storage devices, GPSs).
- Identify and discuss appropriate and safe behaviors online.

Science

The yearly theme of second grade is **Change** and knowledge of this is achieved through hands-on, inquiry based learning.

Second grade students develop the skills of science.

Through hands-on, inquiry based learning second grade students analyze collected data over a period of time to make predictions and understand change. They observe and compare, describe and record. Second graders make models, measure, experiment, and use the tools of science.

Second grade students focus on the following goals from the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

The learner will:

- conduct investigations and build an understanding of animal life cycles.
- conduct investigations and use appropriate tools to build an understanding of the changes in weather.
- observe and conduct investigations to build an understanding of changes in properties.
- conduct investigations and use appropriate technology to build an understanding of the concepts of sound.

Second grade students learn in many different ways.

Students develop the ability to understand how things change. As learners focus on the study of life cycles, changes in weather, changes in properties, and changing sounds, they develop the ability to ask scientific questions, investigate aspects of the world around them, and use their findings to construct reasonable explanations for the questions posed. Second graders will learn as a whole class, in teams of three, through both guided and independent learning centers. Students are encouraged to ask questions, express what they can share and compare with classmates. Second graders continue to relate science to their everyday world and recognize that science is fun.

Visual Arts

The study of visual arts builds on learning that was introduced and emphasized at previous grade levels. Skills and concepts continue to be developed through guided practice and problem-solving.

Visual arts emphasis at Grade 2 is on:

- Awareness of themselves and their own community
- Trying a variety of techniques and imagery to enhance the design solutions

- Emphasis and movement
- Weather and seasons
- Recognizing how artists can create mood/emotion in their work
- Reality and fantasy

Students in grade 2 attend a formal art class weekly with a professional art teacher. They will be exposed to the idea that art can be a hobby or profession.

Music

The study of music builds upon skills learned from First Grade. Once a week, children attend formal music classes with a professional music teacher. Learning is primarily based on exploration and discovery. Focus areas include the ability to demonstrate different uses of the voice and instruments, increasing ability to sing on pitch using proper vocal technique, playing various rhythms and improvising repeated patterns, developing skills for creating and composing music using at least five notes, and an understanding of music in relation to history and culture. Children learn to respond to music and show respect for the efforts of others.

Physical Education (PE)

In Second Grade, students attend physical education with a certified physical education teacher once a week. Focus is placed on developing mature motor patterns, applying them in simple combinations and using locomotor, and non-locomotor skills in rhythmic sequences. Movement concepts of space, time, effort and relationships continue to be emphasized. Students learn to work cooperatively with others to complete assigned tasks and honestly report results of work. Second grade students are encouraged to exhibit a physically active lifestyle by engaging in physical activities in the community.

Health Education

Second Graders learn how to maintain a healthy lifestyle by practicing self-protection and proper nutrition. Students also identify feelings and discuss ways of coping.

Parents/Guardians will receive a Family Living, Ethical Behavior and Human Sexuality (FLEBHS) Parent Packet which is designed to share FLEBHS curriculum information with the family. FLEBHS for second graders can be described as character education, and consists of instruction that promotes the understanding of physical, mental, emotional, social and moral aspects of human growth and development, including male and female relationships. FLEBHS emphasizes positive behaviors, attitude development and guidance related to relationships with family members and others.

Special Education

Some children have special needs. It may be discovered through the course of the year that your child has special needs, either because of a learning problem that affects his ability to process information or because of special physical, mental or emotional conditions. Your teacher may discuss the need for further testing or you may notice a problem yourself that you choose to discuss with the school. If your child is evaluated and properly identified, you and a team of teachers will develop an Individualized Education Program, (IEP) or create a Section 504 Plan (a special instruction sheet that deals specifically with your child's needs). Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools offers all services required by federal and state laws and guidelines.

In compliance with federal law, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools administers all education programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.

**SECOND GRADE**

Especially for Parents

Family Curriculum Guide

Curriculum and Instruction - 980-343-6975
Family Services - 980-343-6256



REACH FURTHER.

Global competitiveness starts here.

Reading

Second graders continue to develop basic reading skills and fluency. Students in second grade move from *learning to read* to *reading to learn*. Instruction in phonics and phonemic awareness, blending and decoding will occur daily to provide fluency while reading. Students will continue to develop comprehension strategies and skills.

Second graders will strengthen their phonetic foundation.

Students review phonetic spellings, blending and decoding skills. They will be using these skills with longer and more complicated words. Students will practice these skills by reading decodable take-home books that directly correlate to the phonetic skill taught in class.

Second graders will increase reading vocabulary.

Second graders read authentic literature that revolves around integrating concepts across the curriculum. Anthologies include poetry, fiction and nonfiction stories.

Second graders will learn new words and ideas.

Second graders will be exposed to many new words and extend their vocabulary through group discussions. The students will develop concepts and vocabulary through an interactive Concept/Question board. Comprehension strategies and skills will be modeled by the teacher and practiced by the students.

High Frequency Second Grade Words

different	water	laughed
candy	circus	heard
almost	parents	swimming
story	night	named
drank	great	correct
treat	teacher	sum
always	morning	subtract
better	scared	problem
before	finally	carry

Writing

Writing goes hand in hand with reading. Learning to write words strengthens what the children are learning about reading words. Second graders continue to refine the manuscript letters and begin to learn to write cursive letters.

Second graders can write sentences correctly.

Second graders know that every sentence must begin with a capital letter and end with a period, question mark or exclamation mark. They learn to use quotation marks to show when someone is talking. They are starting to learn how to use commas.

Second graders correctly spell most one-syllable words.

Although second graders still use some invented (phonetic) spelling they are learning to spell more words and are moving toward becoming conventional spellers. They know many ways to spell different vowel sounds.

Second graders learn to add suffixes and prefixes to words.

Second graders learn that they can change a word by adding a suffix or prefix. The word “sing” can become “singer” by adding the suffix -er. “Happy” can become “unhappy” by adding the prefix un-.

Second graders edit their writing.

After writing a story, second graders will check their work for spelling errors, for periods at the end of sentences; for missed commas and question marks; for capital letters at the beginning of sentences, names, months, days, and places; and for quotation marks around dialogue. They will also add more details after their first draft.

Second graders learn that there are more things to write than stories.

Second graders learn about the many types of writing. They write creatively with songs, poetry and stories. They learn that writing can be used to inform, like articles in newspapers, textbooks or nonfiction books. They also learn that writing can help them with tasks such as creating shopping lists or writing letters.

Second graders use writing to study other subjects.

Second graders use notebooks or journals for other subjects such as science, social studies and health. They can write answers to questions and can write descriptions of things they observe.

Second graders study spelling.

New words are studied and reinforced with dictation practice. Second graders are spelling more high frequency words correctly.

Second graders begin cursive writing during second semester.

Technology Integration: Word Processing

- Recognize, discuss, and use word processing as a tool to enter/edit, print, and save assignments.

Mathematics

Major Concepts

- Number sense with numbers to 1,000
- Read and write numbers
- Compare and order numbers
- Estimate numbers
- Odd/even numbers
- Add and subtract up to 3-digit numbers
- Thirds, halves and fourths
- Measuring length
- Temperature (F)
- Telling Time
- Symmetry and congruence
- 3-way Venn diagrams
- Pictographs
- Growing patterns
- Writing number sentences to match story problems

Skills to Maintain

- Counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s
- Grouping by 10s
- 10 more, 10 less
- Patterns
- Sorting and classifying
- Line plots and tallies

Technology Integration: Spreadsheet

- Identify spreadsheets as a tool to organize, calculate, and graph data to make predictions.

Math Facts for the Number 18

1+17=18	18-1=17	18-10=8
2+16=18	18-2=16	18-11=7
3+15=18	18-3=15	18-12=6
4+14=18	18-4=14	18-13=5
5+13=18	18-5=13	18-14=4
6+12=18	18-6=12	18-15=3
7+11=18	18-7=11	18-16=2
8+10=18	18-8=10	18-17=1
9+9=18	18-9=9	18-18=0

Social Studies

In the Second Grade, children examine how communities may be linked together and how there are cultural, geographic, and economic ties. Second Grade study emphasizes community life with the focus on geography.

Second graders examine the effects of responsible citizenship in the school, community and other social environments.

Second graders are able to identify and describe characteristics of responsible citizens, such as caring for homes and families, obeying rules and laws and voting for leaders. They can identify the multiple roles performed by individuals in their families and communities.