

# What to Expect in SECOND GRADE

## Purpose of the Grade Level Guide

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- Provide parents a general overview of the content taught at each grade level
- Provide information regarding the district instructional materials used to teach the content
- Provide key communication tools that provide information on student progress
- Provide information regarding district testing
- List resources that can be used to gain additional information

## Language Arts

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In second grade, students gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. They continue to learn and practice rules for matching sounds to letters that make up words and help them figure out meanings of new words using root words, prefixes and suffixes. Students read a variety of complex texts fluently and independently. They develop and apply reading strategies that allow them to answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about both literary and informational text. Students begin to compare and contrast what they read to determine the purpose of the text: the lesson/moral of a story, locate key facts, support opinions. They demonstrate their understanding of text through conversations, assessments, activities, and projects. Through reading and listening to books students build a foundational knowledge of history/social studies, science, and other subjects. In writing, students generate opinions and write pieces with a clear beginning, middle, and end. While focusing on mechanics and conventions, students write for a variety of audiences and purposes and retell key information or ideas. Students participate in shared research projects and endeavors.

**District Instructional Materials:** *Fundations* - Phonics & Handwriting; *Heggerty* - Phonemic Awareness; *Lexia* - Online Learning Platform

## Mathematics

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Second grade instructional time will focus on the following four critical areas: *Critical Area 1:* Extending understanding of base-ten notation, *Critical Area 2:* Building fluency with addition and subtraction, *Critical Area 3:* Using standard units of measure, and *Critical Area 4:* Describing and analyzing shapes. The end of year expectation for second grade students is that they understand place value; use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract; represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction with a variety of strategies, concrete models, and numbers up to one thousand; work with groups of objects to gain foundations for multiplication; measure and estimate lengths in standard units and relate addition and subtraction to length; work with time and money; represent and interpret data; as well as reason with shapes and their attributes.

**District Instructional Material:** *Eureka* - Math Curriculum *Zearn, Reflex and Dreambox* - Online Learning Platforms

## Social Studies

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### People Working Together

Work serves as an organizing theme for the second grade. Students learn about jobs today and long ago. They use biographies, primary sources, and artifacts as clues to the past. They deepen their knowledge of diverse cultures. The students learn about geography, cardinal directions, the compass rose and how to use a map key. Students also learn what it means to be a good citizen and that rules and laws keep our communities safe.

## Science

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The second grade theme focuses on helping students develop the skills for systematic discovery to understand the science of the natural world around them in greater depth by using scientific inquiry. In Earth Science, students will focus on air and water as they relate to weather and weather changes that can be observed and measured. In Physical Science, students will observe the relationship between forces and motion. In Life Science, second graders will learn how ecosystems work by observations of simple interactions between the biotic/ living and abiotic/nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

## Synergy

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Second grade students will further explore their science standards, social studies standards and portrait of a graduate skills through Portrait Projects. Students will help build a compost bin and observe the worms and soil over time. They will practice research by learning about worms and other animals. They will further explore their map skills through a collaborative map building project. Students will design a map for a fictional location and integrate technology by adding Ozobot codes. In STEM, students will learn how to program using

Botley robots and participate in design challenges. Students will work on their keyboarding skills in Typing Club and improve their knowledge of Google Apps, Drive, bookmarks and extensions. Students will learn safe and appropriate use of the internet and how to be good digital citizens. Students will be exposed to a variety of print library books as well as digital and audio books through the use of SORA and EPIC.

## Visual Arts

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Second graders concentrate on three components of the principles of design: Color, Composition and Perspective.

**Color:** They explore color theory by mixing secondary colors from the primary colors, introducing tints and shades, connecting color in their artwork to the color wheel.

**Composition:** They work on arranging shapes and colors. Students overlap and size change to show spatial relationships. Students also use positive and negative space to incorporate the principles of design into compositions.

**Perspective:** Differentiating between foreground, middleground and background. Using overlap and size change to show perspective.

## Music

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Students in second grade will be creating, performing, and responding to music and connecting music to other subject areas. Second graders explore music through listening, singing, dancing, moving and playing instruments in a variety of musical settings. The primary focus of second grade music is to sing in tune and demonstrate more complex rhythms and pitches. Classroom instrument playing may include boomwhackers, tambourines, rhythm sticks, hand drums, egg shakers, jingle bells, maracas, xylophones and triangles.

## Physical Education

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During the second grade year, time is spent on routines, class procedures, and teamwork. Students in second grade participate in experiences that lead to development within the physical, cognitive, and affective domains. The physical domain focuses on movement skills, manipulative skills, and fitness. In the cognitive domain students continue to build their movement vocabulary, develop concept knowledge, and refine critical elements of skill performance. Within the affective domain students learn about reasons to value being active and the importance of being a good sport. The overarching goal is to develop an appreciation for an active lifestyle.

## Communication with Parents

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The learning platform used for second grade is Schoology. Schoology is an online classroom where students interact with content, share and collaborate. Parents can use the platform to see student assignments and the learning that is happening in the classroom.

Infinite Campus is the student information system that is used across the district. Performance on assessments and classwork along with report cards will be housed in this system.

## District and State Testing

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Three times a year students will take the STAR Reading and STAR Math computer-adaptive assessments. STAR Reading is a comprehensive assessment that provides insights needed to guide literacy growth for emergent readers, struggling readers and high achievers. STAR Math assesses students' math skills over multiple domains.

The Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) will be administered to all second graders as a gifted and talented screener. MAP is an adaptive test which helps teachers, parents, and administrators improve learning for all students and assist them in making informed decisions that promote a child's individual academic growth. To learn more about gifted testing please visit Mayfield City Schools website [gifted](#) page.

## Resources

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*For additional information regarding our curriculum and programs, please refer to the following resources:*

**Mayfield City Schools Website:** <https://www.mayfieldschools.org/>

**Ohio Department of Education Website:** <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>