

Second Grade Academic Descriptors for Parents

READING

Instructional Reading Level-This graph indicates the level in which your child is being instructed by the teacher.

Reading on Grade Level-

- **Comprehends grade level material-** This indicates how well your child can read and understand materials written at the second grade level.
- **Reads grade level material fluently-** This indicates how well your child can smoothly read materials written at the second grade level.
- **Recognizes and uses high frequency words-**The student can automatically read the words individually or in a story.

Reading on Instructional Level-

Comprehension

- **Uses strategies to Comprehend-** The student is able to make predictions using clues from the story, ask and answer questions about the story, identify areas of confusion and clarify them and identify the most important parts of the story.
- **Identifies text elements and features-** In a fiction story, the student identifies the characters, settings, problem, solution and major events to better understand the story. In a non-fiction text, the student uses features such as the title, table of contents, headings, photographs, captions, labels, graphs, maps, glossary, and index to better understand the text.
- **Summarizes a text after reading-** The students identifies the important text elements and restates them in his /her own words.
- **Makes connections between texts and life experiences-** The student can explain how the text relates to his/her own experiences, another familiar text, and /or world events.

Word Work

- **Uses a range of strategies to identify words by their parts-**The student can use letter sounds and small word parts to identify an unknown word. The student will also use strategies such as picture clues, rereading, skipping words and going back to identify an unknown word.

Fluency

- **Reads accurately at an appropriate rate-** The students reads accurately and with appropriate pacing.
- **Reads with appropriate phrasing, intonation and emphasis-** The student reads smoothly (not robot reading) and naturally groups words together. The student uses punctuation to read the text with expression that reflects an understanding of the text.

Vocabulary

- **Acquires, understands and uses vocabulary-**The student reads and uses new vocabulary words in discussion and written work.

WRITING

Content-the “topic” of the story

- **Writes with a focus-**The student writes about a main idea and provides supporting details.
- **Organizes ideas in a logical order-**The student organizes the writing in an order that makes sense to the reader.
- **Develops content by adding details-**The students adds information to the story to make it more interesting.
- **Uses varied sentence style-**The student varies the way sentences begin and combines ideas to make lengthier sentences.
- **Uses voice-**The student writes in a unique style which expresses his/her personality, attitude and character.

Conventions

- **Uses capitalization-** The student capitalizes the beginnings of sentences, names and the word “I” within the writing.
- **Uses punctuation-** The student uses periods, commas, question marks and exclamation marks appropriately within the writing.

Spelling

- **Uses appropriate sounds to spell words accurately-**The students spells common words correctly.
- **Spells high frequency words without hesitation-** The student memorizes the spelling of common/ previously studied words and automatically writes them correctly.
- **Spells correctly in daily writing-**The student spells previously studied words correctly in all writing.

Handwriting

- **Forms letters correctly**-The student uses lines and spaces to properly make the letter.
- **Spaces letters and words correctly**- The student will use appropriately-sized spacing when writing letters and words.
- **Shows neatness in daily work**-The student's work is legible.

MATH

- **Demonstrates and applies number sense**-The student is able to read and write numbers, put numbers in order, compare numbers, skip-count, find equivalent names for numbers, ($2+2=1+3$), find complements of ten ($0+10$, $1+9$, $2+8\dots$)and read the numbers on a calculator.
- **Understands and uses place value**- The student are able to identify the value of the ones, tens, hundreds and thousands within a number.
- **Counts money combinations**-The student can count and show money combinations, and record the amounts in dollars and cents notation.
- **Tells time accurately**- The student can tell time to the nearest 5 minutes on an analog clock.
- **Knows basic addition/subtraction facts**-The students can use objects, a number line, and a number grid to solve facts to 18. By the end of second grade these facts should be memorized. The student can find missing addends in a fact.
- **Solves number stories** - The student will need to use information provided in order to solve the addition/subtraction number story correctly
- **Knows geometric concepts**-The student can identify 2 dimensional shapes such as circle, triangle, rectangle, square, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, and octagon.
- **Measures accurately**-The student uses tools to measure to the nearest inch and centimeter.
- **Constructs and analyzes data**-The student can make a tally chart and read tables, graphs and maps.