

# Second Grade

Warren Township Schools  
Warren, New Jersey

## Grade Level Expectations

### Reading/Language Arts

Through the balanced literacy approach, the reading/language arts program focuses on reading, writing, listening, and speaking. By using phonics, comprehension strategies, structural analysis, and vocabulary development, the students will be able to construct meaning from text.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Read a variety of materials independently.
- Activate prior knowledge, make predictions, draw conclusions, and use self-monitoring strategies.
- Demonstrate an understanding of story elements in reading and writing including: character traits and emotions, setting, problem, and solution.
- Write a variety of sentences using appropriate capital letters, punctuation, and parts of speech.
- Utilize the writing process.
- Write for a variety of purposes such as: journals, logs, lists, friendly letters, paragraphs, and summaries.
- Write a story with a beginning, middle, and ending.
- Use high frequency words in reading, writing, and spelling.
- Apply standard spelling and use some “temporary” spelling.
- Use reference tools such as a glossary, dictionary, and thesaurus.
- Demonstrate characteristics of a good listener and speaker.
- Write manuscript clearly and legibly.

### Mathematics

The focus in mathematics is to become proficient in basic skills, develop conceptual understanding, and become skillful problem-solvers.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of addition and subtraction facts to 18.
- Read, write, and interpret numbers to 1,000 emphasizing place value.
- Add and subtract one, two, and three-digit numbers with and without regrouping.
- Tell time to 5-minute intervals.
- Count money amounts up to \$5.00.
- Use a variety of measuring tools to measure in standard and non-standard units.
- Use concrete objects or drawings to identify and describe two and three-dimensional shapes.
- Identify a fractional part of a whole.
- Read, interpret, and construct various types of graphs.
- Use estimation and mental computation in appropriate situations.
- Use everyday events and chance devices to explore concepts of probability.
- Investigate and model concepts of multiplication and division.
- Solve word problems and everyday math problems by using a variety of strategies.
- Apply math to other disciplines.
- Recognize, describe, extend, and create patterns.
- Use mathematical terminology to communicate orally and in written form.

## Science

Students complete three inquiry-centered units of instruction in second grade (The Life Cycle of Butterflies, Balancing and Weighing, and Soils). They use skills such as observing, recording, classifying, measuring, inferring, predicting, and conducting investigations to learn science concepts.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Draw and label the parts of a caterpillar.
- Draw and label the parts of a butterfly.
- Identify and describe the habitat of a butterfly.
- Express in words and drawings the life cycle of a butterfly and apply this knowledge to other plant and animal species.
- Recognize that individuals vary within every species.
- Use a beam balance to explain how the amount of weight and position affects balance.
- Use an equal-arm balance as a tool for weighing objects.
- Compare and contrast an equal-arm balance and a beam balance.
- Demonstrate application of comparing skills to develop strategies for ordering and weighing various objects.
- Understand the importance of soil for plant growth and animal life.
- Create compost and understand the importance of recycling old plants and other discarded organic matter.
- Compare and contrast the properties of sand, clay, and humus.

## Social Studies

The Second Grade Social Studies program focuses on the needs and responsibilities of people as they live, work, and play in communities. Students develop an awareness, appreciation, and understanding of different cultures.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Compare and contrast different types of communities with the township of Warren.
- Understand how families, communities, and social institutions work together to meet individual, family, and group needs.
- Identify changes in the community of Warren, as well as changes in other familiar communities.
- Compare the similarities and differences between families in different communities.
- Explain the characteristics of good citizenship and how citizens help their communities.
- Identify groups and individuals who have influenced and contributed to our heritage.
- Recognize days of historical significance.
- Compare and contrast life in the present with life during colonial and pioneer times.
- Use maps to identify regions of our town, country, and world.
- Demonstrate the appropriate use and importance of symbols and directional words on maps and globes.
- Recognize geographical features on maps and globes.
- Discuss how people depend on their physical environment and its resources to meet their basic needs.
- Identify ways that people can conserve and replenish natural resources.
- Explain the interdependence of jobs, money, goods, and services.
- Distinguish between goods, services, needs, wants, producers, and consumers.
- Understand that the U.S. is a diverse nation with different traditions and celebrations.
- Recall state and national symbols.
- Identify the function of local, state, and national government and the roles of public officials.

## Special Areas of Study

### Art

The second grade art program will continue to provide experiences for students to express themselves and build confidence and self-esteem through a variety of artistic applications.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Develop a more realistic or representative result in drawing.
- Develop greater skill of painting within shapes and spaces.
- Recognize that prints can be made with a variety of objects.
- Show an understanding of symmetry, asymmetry, collage, and combining materials.
- Expressing form through clay.

### Computer Science

The focus of the program is to enhance each child's ability to use a computer correctly and independently while building upon skills learned in Kindergarten and First Grade.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Create, open, and save a document to a specified folder.
- Insert, select, and delete text.
- Type text using proper spacing.
- Insert and move graphics.
- Identify proper keyboarding posture.
- Identify the home row keys.
- Locate the following punctuation keys on a keyboard: comma, period.

### Library

The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students are effective users of ideas and information and that they develop a lifelong love of reading. As the children grow throughout the years, so will their skills.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Understand what biographies are and where they are located.
- Understand the difference between fiction and nonfiction books.
- Recognize various parts of a book.
- Recognize reference materials.
- Be aware that the computer is a source for retrieving books in the library.
- Understand and adhere to district Acceptable Use Policy.
- Begin to understand the Internet and Internet safety.
- Use basic technology vocabulary.

### Music

The music curriculum enables students to express themselves creatively and develop critical thinking skills through language and pattern organization. This can be accomplished through singing, movement, playing instruments, and composing. Listening to and understanding music provides students with a broad cultural and historical perspective.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Distinguish tone qualities.
- Sing simple rounds.
- Expand musical repertoire.
- Recognize simple musical form.
- Create and notate simple melodic and rhythmic patterns.

## Physical Education

The physical education program is designed for the purpose of enhancing psychomotor, cognitive, and affective development of individuals through means of body movement. In addition, our P.E. curriculum offers opportunities that encourage independence, goal-setting, developing leadership, and respect of cultural diversity.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Adapt movement skills in relation to objects, other movers, and boundaries.
- Describe when where and how to adapt movement skills and concepts.
- Combine manipulative and movement skills, such as running and catching.
- Demonstrate tolerance and/or empathy toward other classmates of different skill levels or cultural backgrounds.
- Demonstrate appropriate techniques used in physical fitness such as push-ups, sit-ups, etc.

## World Languages

Students will be able to apply prior knowledge to new situations. Students will be able to pronounce new vocabulary using knowledge of Spanish phonics.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Identify vocabulary presented in the context of a story.
  - Colors and numbers.
  - Days of the Week.
  - Fruit.
  - Common foods.
  - Stages of the life cycle of the butterfly.
  - Morning, afternoon and night.
  - Leaf, sun and moon.
- Explain the significance of Cinco de Mayo.

## Health

Second grade students participate in learning activities to promote responsible behaviors in disease prevention, safety, nutrition, drug, alcohol education, and human body systems.

By the end of Second Grade, your child should be able to:

- Understand the importance of eating breakfast and how to make healthy food choices from the food pyramid.
- Understand the importance of the skin and how to care for it.
- Understand the relationship between the nervous, circulatory, skeletal, and muscular systems.
- Understand what germs are and do, and how the immune system functions.
- Understand that making healthful choices in the present will affect their health for the future.
- Understand the difference between prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- Understand the correct usage of medicines when ill.
- Understand the effects of alcohol and tobacco use on the body.
- Understand the stages of human growth.
- Understand the importance of family and friends.

### Warren Township Schools - District Mission Statement

The Mission of the Warren Township School District, in partnership with the family and community, is to create an environment in which each child is valued and experiences the challenge and excitement of learning.

District Website: <http://www.warrentboe.org>

