

Checklist for Parents of Second Graders

These skills usually develop during grade two. Talk with your child's teacher if you have questions.

- My child knows how to use the rules of phonics to help him figure out unfamiliar words.
- My child reads many sight words and regularly spells one- and two-syllable words.
- My child reads and understands second grade fiction and nonfiction, and compares and connects information from different sources.
- My child reads for specific purposes and specific questions, and explores topics of interest on her/his own.
- My child answers "how," "why," and "what if" questions, and recalls information, main ideas, and details after reading.
- My child interprets information from diagrams, charts, and graphs.
- My child takes part in creative responses to stories, such as dramatizations and oral presentation.
- My child pays attention to how words are spelled and correctly spells words he has studied.
- My child spells a word the way it sounds if she/he doesn't know its spelling.
- My child writes for many different purposes and writes different types of compositions (for example, stories reports and letters).
- My child makes thoughtful choices about what to include in his/her writing.
- My child takes part in writing conferences, revises and edits what she/he has written, and attends to the mechanics of writing (spelling, capitalization, and punctuation) in her/his final version.
- My child learns new words and shares them at school and at home.
- My child uses clues; from the context and his knowledge of word parts (roots, prefixes suffixes) to figure out what words mean.
- My child is increasing his/her vocabulary with synonyms and antonyms.
- My child uses parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives) correctly.
- My child learns new words through independent reading.

This checklist is adapted from *A Child Becomes a Reader-Birth through Preschool*.