

Parents' Guide to Second Grade

Some Developmental Characteristics Displayed by Many Seven-Year-Olds

- Are more serious, quieter, and less physically active than at age six.
- Tend to be worriers and have many fears, such as fear of the dark.
 However, many have overcome earlier fears like dental visits or swimming.
- Frequently brood, sulk, and are moody during this quiet, withdrawn age.
- Sometimes show a growing independence, such as a desire to problem-solve without help.
- Display great perseverance with a task or situation. While getting started may be difficult, once on task it may be hard to quit.
- Fatigue easily and often demand too much of self. Will need help establishing stopping points.
- Appear to be very self-absorbed while building and discovering a sense of self.
- Want to do things just right. When involved in deskwork, many will use erasers a lot. Some teachers call this "the eraser age."
- Show varying energy levels. Will have "high learning days" and "forgetting everything days."
- Can tell time and love having a wrist watch – an aid to help plan the day.
- Typically need between 10 and 11 hours of sleep.
- Like to help with some routine chores at home such as making bed, emptying wastebaskets, straightening own rooms, and helping with the dishes.
- Enjoy family outings.
- Tend to argue less with friends than at age six, but play is not always harmonious.
- Like to play with friends but also enjoy solitary activities, such as watching TV, reading, or writing.

Source:

Families, Schools, Communities Learning Together - Special Edition: Guide to Developing Grade-Level Brochures for Parents.

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GRADE TWO LEARNER EXPECTATIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading: Foundational Skills

- Applies phonics, word analysis, and meaning strategies to figure out unfamiliar words.
- Reads and understands grade level text with accuracy and fluency (rate, automaticity, expression, phrasing, and purpose).

Reading: Literature

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of key details.
- Recounts stories to determine central message, both orally and in writing.
- Compares or contrasts two or more versions of the same story by different authors or from different cultures.

Reading: Informational

- Asks and answers questions to demonstrate understanding of key details in informational texts.
- Identifies the main topic and author's purpose while making connections, using word meanings, and text features to locate and explain information.
- Compares and contrasts important points presented in two texts on the same topic.

Writina

- Writes opinion, informative/explanatory, and narrative pieces appropriate to task and purpose.
- Develops and strengthens writing by planning, revising, and editing.
- Participates in shared research projects.
- Applies legible and fluent printing writing skills.
 Introduced to cursive writing.
- Uses digital tools to produce and publish writing.

<u>Language</u>

- Demonstrates conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.
- Demonstrates the appropriate use of capitalization and punctuation when writing.
- Applies grade level words and spelling patterns when writing.

Speaking & Listening

 Takes part in conversations about grade level topics and texts.

MATH

<u>Operations and Algebraic</u> <u>Thinking</u>

- Represents and solves 1 and 2 step addition/subtraction word problems within 100 using drawings and equations.
- Fluently adds and subtracts within 20 using strategies.
- Works with equal group of objects to gain foundations for multiplication.

<u>Number and Operations in Base</u> Ten

- Understands and represents the place value of 3-digit numbers.
- Counts within 1000 by 5s, 10s, and 100s.
- Reads and writes numbers within 1000.
- Compares 3-digit numbers using <, =, >.
- Adds and subtracts within 100 using place value and properties of operations.
- Adds up to 4 two-digit numbers.
- Uses drawings, strategies, and explanations to add and subtract within 1000.
- Mentally adds or subtracts 10 or 100.



Measurement and Data

- Measures and estimates lengths in standard units.
- Solves addition and subtraction word problems involving length.
- Tells and writes time to the nearest five minutes using analog and digital clocks.
- Solves word problems involving money.
- Generates, represents, and interprets data to solve problems (line plot, picture graph, bar graph).

Geometry

- Recognizes, draws, and describes shapes by their attributes.
- Partitions shapes into equal parts and describes using halves, thirds, and fourths.

Mathematical Practices

- Understands the problem situation: makes sense of problems; reasons abstractly and quantitatively.
- Represents the problem situation: models with mathematics; looks for and makes use of structure.
- Solves the problem: uses appropriate tools; uses repeated reasoning.
- Checks that the answer makes sense: critiques the reasoning of others; attends to precision.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

- Participates constructively in science investigations.
- Communicates the results of investigations.
- Uses charts, graphs, written descriptions, discussions, etc.
- Uses and understands science vocabulary.
- Demonstrates how nutrition, exercise, safety, and health care contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

SOCIAL STUDIES

 Describes and locates features on maps and globes.

- Identifies causes of change and growth in a community.
- Identifies differences and similarities between various cultures.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Performs the skip with alternating step-hop patterns with bent arms moving in opposition to legs.
- Performs the overhand throw with hip and shoulder rotation and steps with opposition.
- Discusses the challenge and confidence that come from learning a new physical activity.
- Demonstrates safe, responsible, and respectful behaviors during active participation.

VISUAL ARTS

- Uses art vocabulary when describing works of art.
- Uses basic art skills and techniques to produce quality works of art.
- Creates art that expresses original ideas.
- Demonstrates the ability to explain the meaning in works of art.

MUSIC

- Uses a singing voice.
- Performs in an ensemble.
- Demonstrates literacy rhythmic concepts.
- Demonstrates literacy melodic concepts.

BEHAVIORS OF LIFELONG LEARNERS

Collaborative Worker

- Cooperates with others.
- Demonstrates respect and compassion for others.

Community Contributor

- Takes responsibility for self and materials.
- Accepts responsibility for actions.
- Demonstrates self-control.
- Participates appropriately in group discussion.

Quality Producer

- Initiates and completes tasks on time.
- Strives for accuracy, qualtiy and neatness.

Complex Thinker

- Thinks, questions, and solves problems in a variety of ways.
- Demonstrates curiosity in learning.
- Demonstrates a willingness to try new experiences.

