

PARENT AND STUDENT GUIDE

Second Grade Concepts and Skills



Prepared by:
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to another wonderful year of teaching and learning in Norfolk Public Schools! We are excited about joining with you to educate all students to be successful, productive contributors to society. We strive for all students to become powerfully literate. We have developed this parent guide to serve as a tool for you to stay involved in the learning process, and to assist you at home in strengthening your child's knowledge and skills in the core academic content.

This guide contains the state and local standards of learning in English, mathematics, science and history/social science. At the end of the guide, helpful hints for home are provided for you to use to enrich, enhance and strengthen your child's knowledge and skills in the various contents. Additionally, a calendar of important school dates is provided on the NPS website to help you keep track of holidays, early release days, parent conference day, and other important information.

Please use this guide at home as you partner with us in delivering a rigorous academic program to enable all students to become powerfully literate. If you need any assistance or additional ideas on how to use this guide or if you need other assistance with your child's education please contact your school. Finally, I look forward to working with you and the staff of Norfolk Public Schools to provide powerful teaching and learning opportunities to ensure the academic success of all of our students.

Sincerely,



Dr. Melinda J. Boone
Superintendent of Schools

What We Believe

The mission of Norfolk Public Schools, the cornerstone of a proudly diverse community, is to ensure that all students maximize their academic potential, develop skills for lifelong learning and are successful contributors to a global society, as distinguished by:

- Courageous advocacy for all students
- Family and community investment
- Data-driven personalized learning
- Strong and effective leadership teams
- Shared responsibility for teaching and learning
- Access to rigorous and rewarding college and career readiness opportunities

Board & Division Priorities

- Ensure full accreditation
- Increase academic achievement of all students
- Improve climate, safety & attendance
- Become a School Board of Distinction
- Promote Norfolk Public Schools to reflect outstanding accomplishments of staff, teachers and students
- Develop and coordinate a capital improvement plan for facilities and technology to enhance teaching and learning
- Attract, retain, and help to develop strong academic families and highly qualified teachers and staff

ENGLISH

In ORAL LANGUAGE, your child will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of oral language structure
- Create oral stories to share to inform, persuade, entertain, clarify, and respond
- Use increasingly complex sentence structures.
- Follow oral directions
- Use words that reflect growing interest and content-knowledge
- Clarify and explain words and ideas orally
- Provide and follow oral directions with three or four steps.
- Identify and use synonyms and antonyms
- Participate as a contributor and leader in a group
- Paraphrase information shared orally by others
- Orally identify, produce, and manipulate various units of speech within words.

In READING/LITERATURE, your child will:

- Use phonetic strategies when reading and writing.
- Read regularly spelled one-and-two syllable words.
- Accurately read many irregularly spelled words.
- Use meaning clues when reading.
- Use pictures, diagrams, titles, and headings.
- Use language structure when reading.
- Use knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, contractions, singular possessives, and simple abbreviations.
- Use knowledge of homophones.
- Use knowledge of story structure (narrative) and text (functional).
- Use knowledge of root words and compound words.
- Read fiction, nonfiction, and poetry independently using a variety of strategies.
- Preview selections.
- Set purpose for reading: use pictures, phonics, meaning clues, and language structure.
- Reread, self-correct, and confirm predictions.
- Use illustrations, diagrams, charts, graphs, and maps to make predictions about text.
- Relate previous experiences to the topic.

- Summarize information found in nonfiction materials.
- Describe characters and settings in fiction.
- Explain the problem, solution, or central idea.
- Write about what is read.
- Make inferences.
- Use signal words.
- Identify cause/effect relationships.
- Compare and contrast information in selections.
- Applies knowledge of story structure to predict and summarize what will happen next (e.g., beginning/middle/end, problem/solution).
- Demonstrate comprehension of information in reference materials using table of contents, pictures, captions, and charts.
- Use online resources.
- Use dictionaries, glossaries, and indices.

In WRITING, your child will:

- Write stories, letters, and simple explanations.
- Generate ideas before writing (e.g. graphic organizers).
- Organize writing to include a beginning, middle, and end.
- Revise writing for clarity.
- Use available technology.
- Use the writing process.
- Revise by adding words or descriptive details, improving sequence, deleting words, or extraneous information.
- Write short and long sentences.
- Edit final copies for grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- Use declarative, interrogative, and exclamatory sentences and punctuate correctly.
- Use apostrophes in contractions and singular possessives.
- Use singular and plural pronouns correctly.
- Develop cursive writing skills.

Math

In NUMBER SENSE, your child will:

- Read, write, and model numbers to 999 and identify the value of each digit using a variety of representations and models.
- Round two-digit numbers to the nearest ten.
- Compare two numbers (0 - 999) using words and symbols $<$, $>$, and $=$.
- Identify ordinal positions first through twentieth.
- Identify, model, and write the fractional part of a set, or region/area model (halves, thirds, fourths, sixths, eighths, and tenths).
- Skip count to 100 using multiples of 2, 5, and 10 from random starting points.

In COMPUTATION AND ESTIMATION, your child will:

- Recall basic addition and subtraction facts to 20 with accuracy.
- Estimate the sum or difference of two whole numbers (up to 99).
- Add and subtract two 2-digit numbers using various methods.
- Recognize and describe the related facts (fact families) that illustrate the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction.

In MEASUREMENT, your child will:

- Use \$ and ¢ to write the amount of money for a collection of bills and coins up to \$2.00.
- Measure to the nearest inch or centimeter.
- Use appropriate tools and units to measure weight (pounds and kilograms) and volume (cups, pints, quarts, gallons, and liters).
- Tell time to the nearest five minutes using an analog or digital clock.

In GEOMETRY, your child will:

- Determine the similarities and differences between related plane and solid figures (compare properties such as faces, edges, and corners).
- Identify, describe, and sketch the lines of symmetry in a figure.

- Create figures with at least one line of symmetry.

In PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS, your child will:

- Read and interpret charts and bar graphs using increments of 1, 2, or 5.
- Collect, organize, display, and analyze data obtained from experiments using tally charts, picture graphs, and bar graphs.
- Identify the likelihood of an event using the terms certain, impossible, more likely, less likely, and equally likely.

In PATTERNS, FUNCTIONS, AND ALGEBRA, your child will:

- Identify, extend, and create a variety of repeating and growing patterns from geometric or numeric sequences.
- Demonstrate an understanding of equal and not equal quantities.
- Create a story problem for a numerical sentence.
- Determine the missing number needed to solve (balance) a number sentence (ex. $6 + \square = 10$).

SCIENCE

In INVESTIGATION, REASONING AND LOGIC, your child will:

- Understand that conclusions are based on observations rather than personal interpretations.
- Make repeated observations to improve accuracy.
- Use standard units to record data in tables, graphs, and charts.
- Construct simple physical models to understand how things work.
- Recognize unexpected or unusual data collected in an investigation.

In FORCE, MOTION AND ENERGY, your child will:

- Compare natural magnets to artificial magnets.
- Investigate the characteristics of magnets (poles).
- Predict which materials will be attracted to magnets; test predictions and create a chart showing the results.
- Investigate important applications of magnets in everyday life.

In MATTER, your child will:

- Conduct simple experiments to investigate the properties of solids, liquids, and gases.
- Explore and measure the mass and volume of solids and liquids.
- Investigate how matter transforms from one phase to another.

In LIFE PROCESSES, your child will:

- Investigate and discuss distinct changes that occur in the life cycles of butterflies and a white-tailed deer.
- Identify and investigate the changes in flowering plants.

In LIVING SYSTEMS, your child will:

- Understand that living things are part of a system.
- Explain the interdependence among living things with their living and nonliving surroundings.
- Predict and describe habitats and how they change over time due to many natural and human-made influences.
- Describe that fossils provide information about living systems that were on Earth years ago.

In EARTH/SPACE SYSTEMS, your child will:

- Investigate seasonal weather types and patterns (temperature, wind, precipitation, drought, flood, and storms).
- Measure and record weather data using weather instruments.
- Discuss the uses and importance of measuring and recording weather data.

In EARTH PATTERNS, CYCLES AND CHANGE, your child will:

- Explain how weather and seasonal changes affect the growth and behavior of living things (migration, hibernation, camouflage, adaptation, and dormancy).
- Examine the cause/effect relationship of weather and seasonal changes to the weathering and erosion of land surfaces.

In RESOURCES, your child will:

- Describe that the availability of plant products affects the development of a geographic area.
- Identify that plants are an important source of oxygen, food, products, and habitats.
- Construct and interpret a model showing how plants are important in preventing soil erosion.

HISTORY/ SOCIAL SCIENCE

In **HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS**, your child will:

- Explain how contributions of ancient China and Egypt have influenced the present world.
- Compare the lives and contributions of three American Indian cultures of the past and present.
- Identify and compare changes in community life over time.

In **ECONOMIC UNDERSTANDING**, your child will:

- Describe natural resources, human resources, and capital resources.
- Distinguish between the use of barter and the use of money in the exchange for goods and services.
- Explain that scarcity (limited resources) requires people to make choices about producing and consuming goods and services.

In **CITIZENSHIP**, your child will:

- Explain the responsibilities of a good citizen:
 - respecting and protecting the rights and property of others;
 - taking part in the voting process when making classroom decisions;
 - describing actions that can improve the school and community;
 - demonstrating self-discipline and self-reliance;
 - practicing honesty and trustworthiness.

- Identify George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Helen Keller, Jackie Robinson, and Martin Luther King, Jr., as Americans whose contributions improved the lives of other Americans.
- Understand that people of Virginia have state and local government officials who are elected by voters.
- Understand that people of Virginia have diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions; they make contributions to their communities, and are united as Americans by common principles.

In GEOGRAPHIC AWARENESS, your child will:

- Develop map skills.
- Locate the United States, China and Egypt on world maps.
- Understand the relationship between the environment and the culture.
- Locate the regions of the Powhatan, Lakota, and Pueblo Indians on United States maps.
- Understand the relationship between the environment and the culture.
- Locate the equator, the seven continents, and the five oceans on maps and globes.
- Locate selected rivers.
- Construct simple maps, using title, map legend, and compass rose.

In HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE SKILLS, your child will:

- Demonstrate map skills by constructing a simple map of North America.
- Draw conclusions and make generalizations about data.
- Make and use timelines.
- Compare and contrast differing sets of ideas.

Helpful Hints for Home

English

- Read as much as you can with your child (read a variety of texts).
- Listen to your child tell stories.
- Use the library as frequently as possible.
- Ask your child to dictate or write for real purposes such as grocery lists or thank you notes.
- Encourage your child to keep a journal.
- Share conversations with your child about interests and ideas each day.
- Recognize and celebrate successes.

Math

- Reading children's books that rhyme, repeat, or have numbers in them is a great way to communicate using mathematics.
- Help your child find patterns in designs and pictures, as well as in movements (such as dancing), and in recurring events such as the days of the week or the seasons of the year.
- Consider stringing wooden blocks or pasta into a simple red-blue-red-blue pattern. Have your child reproduce and create more complex patterns.
- Help your child be a risk taker; see the value of examining a wrong answer, and realize that the right answers will come with proper understanding.

Science

- Ask your child to classify household objects based on two or more of their characteristics.
- Ask your child to explain simple graphs and charts found in the science textbook.
- Ask your child to use a magnetic compass to determine what direction you are traveling in.
- Ask your child to identify condensation, evaporation, melting point, and freezing as it takes place in or around your home.
- Ask your child to identify the changes in a flowering plant in your yard.
- Ask your child to draw pictures illustrating how habitats change over time.
- Review with your child the key vocabulary.

History/Social Science

- Help your child find your street on a city map. See if your child can find the streets of relatives or friends.
- Involve your child in family decision-making. Help him to weigh pros and cons and understand why compromises may be necessary.
- Read newspapers, news magazines, and watch television news with your child.
- Discuss current events, your child's ideas, and different points-of-view on issues.
- Visit museums, national parks, and other historical sites.





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