



WHAT 2ND GRADE KIDS SHOULD KNOW

2nd Grade SURGE Standards™

Skills Used for Readiness, Growth & Excellence

A colorful, family-friendly guide to the important knowledge, skills, and learning habits children build in 2nd Grade.

START STRONG. SURGE AHEAD. ACHIEVE.™

The SURGE Standards™

Skills Used for Readiness, Growth & Excellence

S	Skills Build the essential academic and learning skills students need for success.
U	Used Apply learning through reading, writing, mathematics, investigation, discussion, and problem solving.
R	Readiness Strengthen grade-level foundations that prepare students for the next challenge.
G	Growth Practice, feedback, reflection, and persistence help every learner make progress.
E	Excellence Build confidence, independence, and the ability to transfer learning to new situations.

For families: These standards are written in everyday language as guiding examples of important grade-level learning. They are informed by Texas grade-level expectations and are not a replacement for the official TEKS.

Reading, Language & Writing

READ IT • THINK IT • WRITE IT

Reading & Comprehension

A 2nd Grade SURGE reader is learning to...

- Use phonics, syllable patterns, and meaningful word parts to decode increasingly complex words.
- Read grade-level text with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- Identify main idea, supporting details, sequence, cause and effect, and other important relationships.
- Describe characters, plot, setting, lesson, or theme in literary texts.
- Make simple inferences and use information from the text to support answers.
- Recognize and compare features of literary, informational, persuasive, poetry, and traditional texts.

Writing & Communication

A 2nd Grade SURGE writer and speaker is learning to...

- Write organized paragraphs focused on one main idea.
- Use complete sentences, capitalization, punctuation, and increasingly accurate spelling.
- Plan, draft, revise, edit, and share short compositions.
- Write personal narratives and informational texts using relevant details.
- Use grade-appropriate nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, and other language conventions.
- Listen, build on others' ideas, and communicate clearly in academic conversations.

Mathematics

MODEL IT • SOLVE IT • EXPLAIN IT

Mathematical Thinking

A 2nd Grade SURGE mathematician is learning to...

- Read, write, compare, and represent whole numbers through at least 1,200.
- Use hundreds, tens, and ones to explain place value and number relationships.
- Develop fluency with addition and subtraction facts and solve larger addition and subtraction problems using strategies.
- Solve one- and two-step problems involving addition and subtraction.
- Identify and classify two-dimensional and three-dimensional figures and partition shapes into equal parts.
- Measure length, tell time, determine coin values, and represent and interpret data in tables and graphs.

Math SURGE habit: Strong mathematicians choose strategies, represent their thinking, explain how they solved a problem, and check whether an answer is reasonable.

Science & Social Studies

EXPLORE IT • DISCOVER IT • CONNECT IT

Science Explorers

Students investigate the natural world by learning to...

- Ask questions, make predictions, measure, record observations, and communicate findings.
- Classify matter by observable properties and investigate how materials can change.
- Explore forces, motion, energy, and patterns in physical systems.
- Observe weather, seasons, and patterns involving Earth and the sky.
- Compare structures, needs, and life cycles of plants and animals.
- Describe how living things depend on other organisms and their environments.

History, Geography & Citizenship

Students connect people, places, government, economics, and history by learning to...

- Explain how communities are organized and describe the roles of citizens and leaders.
- Compare ways people, places, and communities change over time.
- Use maps, globes, cardinal directions, and geographic features to describe locations.
- Explain basic ideas about goods, services, producers, consumers, earning, spending, and saving.
- Recognize cultural traditions, landmarks, historical figures, and celebrations.
- Gather information from simple sources and communicate social studies ideas.

Ready-to-Learn Skills

CONFIDENCE + INDEPENDENCE + PERSEVERANCE

Academic growth in 2nd Grade also depends on habits that help students become confident and increasingly independent learners.

- Read directions before beginning and ask questions when something is unclear.
- Use folders, routines, or other systems to keep work organized.
- Use evidence, examples, pictures, or models to explain answers.
- Check completed work and make corrections.
- Collaborate productively and respectfully with classmates.
- Set simple learning goals and notice personal growth.

The 2nd Grade SURGE Check

- Read grade-level text with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- Describe characters, plot, setting, lesson, or theme in literary texts.
- Write organized paragraphs focused on one main idea.
- Develop fluency with addition and subtraction facts and solve larger addition and subtraction problems using strategies.
- Solve one- and two-step problems involving addition and subtraction.
- Ask questions, make predictions, measure, record observations, and communicate findings.
- Explain how communities are organized and describe the roles of citizens and leaders.
- Set simple learning goals and notice personal growth.

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Family note: Children develop at different rates. Use the SURGE Standards to celebrate growth, notice strengths, and identify skills that may benefit from enrichment, review, or additional support.