

Parent Guide to 2nd Grade



What should my child know before entering 2nd Grade?

LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading

- Blend sounds to make words and decode words
- Identify and read 100 high-frequency words
- Sort words into categories such as opposites and living things
- Retell a story's beginning, middle, and end with attention to the sequence of events in the story
- Describe characters in a story and reasons for their actions and feelings
- Reading a fiction or nonfiction text and explain why it is true or fantasy
- Restate the main idea in a text and identify important facts and details
- Use words and illustrations to retell the order of events in a text
- Follow multi-step directions with pictures
- Use textual evidence to make inferences about a text
- Read independently for at least 20 minutes

Writing

- Write in complete sentences with nouns, verbs, and adjectives
- Write uppercase and lowercase letters legibly with spacing between words and sentences
- Write brief stories that include a beginning, middle, and end
- Write short brief compositions about topics of interest to the student

MATH

- Use objects and pictorial model to solve word problems
- Compose 10 with two or more addends
- Apply basic fact strategies to add and subtract within 20
- Explain strategies used to solve problems
- Generate and solve problems

BEYOND ACADEMICS

Social & Emotional Behavior

- Know age and birthday, parents' phone number(s)
- Fine motor skills (holding a pencil, cutting with scissors, gluing etc.)
- Follow 2- to 3-step directions (stand up and push in your chair)
- Tie own shoes
- Ask an adult for help when needed
- Demonstrates empathy and caring for others (apologize when needed)
- Management of materials (put folders away, keep desk tidy, etc.)
- Practice IB profile words

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

- Create a high-frequency word flash card game to quiz your child daily
- Point out common compound words your child uses and ask them to identify the shorter words that create the compound words
- After reading or listening to a story, ask your child to find ways the characters or plot are similar to their life
- Use an interactive app on electronic devices to support learning at home (check houstonisd.org for digital resources)