

SECOND GRADE

BY THE **END** OF SECOND GRADE YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

LISTENING

- Follow 3-4 oral directions in a sequence
- Understand direction words (e.g., location, space, and time words)
- Correctly answer questions about a grade-level story

SPEAKING

- Be easily understood
- Answer more complex “yes/no” questions
- Ask and answer “wh” questions (who, what, when, where, why)
- Use increasingly complex sentence structures
- Clarify and explain words and ideas
- Give directions with 3-4 steps
- Use oral language to inform, to persuade, and to entertain
- Stay on topic, take turns, and use appropriate eye contact during conversation
- Open and close conversation appropriately

READING

- Have fully mastered phonics/sound awareness
- Associate speech sounds, syllables, words and phrases with their written forms
- Recognize many words by sight
- Use meaning clues when reading (e.g., pictures, titles/headings, information in the story)
- Reread and self-correct when necessary
- Locate information to answer questions
- Explain key elements of a story (e.g., main idea, main characters, plot)
- Use own experience to predict and justify what will happen in grade-level stories
- Read, paraphrase/retell a story in a sequence
- Read grade-level stories, poetry, or dramatic text silently and aloud with fluency
- Read spontaneously
- Identify and use spelling patterns in words when reading

WRITING

- Write legibly
- Use a variety of sentence types in writing essays, poetry, or short stories (fiction and nonfiction)
- Use basic punctuation and capitalization appropriately
- Organize writing to include beginning, middle and end

- Spell frequently used words correctly

Progress from inventive spelling (e.g., spelling by sound) to more accurate spelling

SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

IN EARLY ELEMENTARY GRADES (K-2)

- Talk with your child frequently
- Read a variety of books; read often and talk with your child about the story
- Help your child focus on sound patterns of words such as those found in rhyming games
- Have your child retell stories and talk about events of the day
- Talk with your child during daily activities; give directions for your child to follow (e.g., making cookies)
- Talk about how things are alike and different

- Give your child reasons and opportunities to write