

# WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2nd Grade

## Purpose of the Grade Level Guide

- Provide parents a general overview of the content taught at each grade level
- Provide information regarding the district instructional materials used to teach the content
- Provide parents a general overview of the intellectual, social, physical, and emotional characteristics of a child in this grade level
- List resources that can be used to gain additional information regarding Worthington's Learning Standards in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies
- Provide resources to assist parents in supporting their child's learning
- Provide district contacts to whom questions can be directed

## Communication with Parents

Communication regarding a student's program and progress in learning comes in many different ways and forms throughout the year. The chart below best describes the total "Communication Pie." The Grade Level Guide is one "slice" of the pie. It is intended to give you a snapshot of what to expect at each grade level and resources to help you gain more information about Worthington's Learning Standards for ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.



# 2nd Grade

This Grade Level Guide is intended to give you an overview of the content in the core academic courses, materials used, and resources to help you gain more information about Worthington's Learning Standards in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.

**NOTE:** This document contains hyperlinks connecting you with samples of the resources used in Worthington Schools if the document is read electronically. These hyperlinks are meant to be a representative sample of the resources and not a comprehensive list of the materials used in our classrooms.

## Worthington Schools – Grade Two Guide

### Language Arts

**Worthington's Learning Standards in English Language Arts, adopted by the Worthington Board of Education, are K-12 standards that provide the basis for a rigorous education in the Worthington Schools.**

The board adopted approach to comprehensive literacy instruction is the [Strategic Balanced Literacy Framework](#) (SBLF) adopted by the Worthington Board of Education in April 2006. The [SBLF Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) document provides more information on the guiding principles of this framework.

In second grade, students gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. They continue to learn and practice rules for matching sounds to letters that make up words and help them figure out meanings of new words using root words, prefixes and suffixes. Students read a variety of complex text fluently and independently. They develop and apply reading strategies that allow them to answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about both literary and informational text. Students are able to compare and contrast what they read to determine the purpose of the text: the lesson/moral of a story, locate key facts, support opinions. They demonstrate their understanding of text through conversations, assessments, activities, and projects. Through reading and listening to books students build a foundational knowledge of history/social studies, science, and other subjects. In

writing, students generate opinions based on facts and write stories that include short sequences with a clear beginning, middle, and end. While focusing on mechanics and conventions, students write for a variety of audiences and purposes and retell key information or ideas. Students participate in shared research projects and endeavors.

**District Instructional Materials:** *Foundations Phonics; Foundations – print; Handwriting Without Tears - cursive; Words Their Way; Vocabulary Workshop*

### Mathematics

Skills introduced in first grade are reviewed and extended, and new skills are introduced. Second grade experiences the following content: solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps, quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less, and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year. They will also be working on understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (place value); using understanding of place value to add and subtract three-digit numbers; adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately; measuring and estimating length in standard units; solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length; and building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades. By making

connections between their own knowledge and their experiences in school and outside school, children learn basic skills in meaningful ways so that mathematics becomes real.

**District Instructional Material:** *Stepping Stones*

### Social Studies

#### People Working Together

Work serves as an organizing theme for the second grade. Students learn about jobs today and long ago. They use biographies, primary sources, and artifacts as clues to the past. They deepen their knowledge of diverse cultures and their roles as citizens.

**District Instructional Materials:** *Harcourt Social Studies: People We Know; and Social Studies Alive! My Community*

# 2nd Grade

## Science

The second grade theme focuses on helping students develop the skills for systematic discovery to understand the science of the natural world around them in greater depth by using scientific inquiry. Second graders continue to relate science concepts and skills to their life experiences. In Earth Science, students will focus on air and water as they relate to weather and weather changes that can be observed and measured. In Physical Science, students will observe the relationship between forces and motion. In Life Science, second graders will learn how ecosystems work by observations of simple interactions between the biotic/living and abiotic/nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

**District Instructional Material:** A variety of fiction and nonfiction literature books from [Newbridge](#), [Scholastic](#), [Delta](#)

## Health

Second grade learners broaden the scope of their world relevant to their emotional health by adding a focus on members of a group; e.g., sporting teams, cultural groups, scouting, and other groups of which they could be members. The human growth and development unit taught in second grade focuses on the eye and ear. Also in the curriculum are safety and risk reduction; exercise and nutrition; and an awareness of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

**District Instructional Material:**  
Health Resource Guide – 2

## Visual Arts

### Art History

- Begins to understand how artists are influenced by their culture

### Communicating Through Art

- Continues to develop skills using a variety of materials, tools, techniques and processes while creating works of art

### Art Criticism

- Observes and describes differences in art works which have the same subject

### Valuing Art

- Develops an openness to opinions and ideas that differ from their own

## Music

### Historical, Cultural, and Social Contexts

- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of a variety of music styles, cultures, and musicians both past and present

### Creative Expression and Communication

- Sings, plays instruments, moves, reads, notates, improvises, and creates music

### Analyzing and Responding

- Listens to a varied repertoire of music and responds by analyzing and describing music using correct vocabulary
- Evaluates the creating and performing of music

### Valuing Music/Aesthetic Reflection

- Develops an understanding of why people value music and is encouraged to respect diverse opinions regarding music preferences
- Expresses the significance of music in his/her life

### Connections, Relationships, and Applications

- Identifies the similarities and differences and recognizes the relationship between music and other arts disciplines, as well as other curricular subjects
- Develops a desire for lifelong learning in music

## Wellness 4 Life

### Value of Lifetime Fitness

- Engages in regular physical activity inside and outside of school to meet national recommendations for daily physical activity

### Sport Skills and Strategies

- Demonstrates locomotor and non-locomotor skills in a variety of ways
- Demonstrates developing control of fundamental manipulative skills
- Demonstrates knowledge of movement concepts related to body, space, effort, and relationships

### Character Development

- Knows and follows procedures and safe practices
- Demonstrates responsible behavior in physical activity settings

### Wellness Connections

- Enjoys participation in a variety of physical activities
- Understands that physical activities promote self-expression and positive social interaction

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## Worthington School District **Grade Level Two** Guide

### **General Characteristics of Grade 2 Children**

#### **Intellectual**

- learn best by concrete terms
- little abstract thinking
- need encouragement
- develop capacity to evaluate self
- become more verbal

#### **Physical**

- increase use of small muscles
- grow slowly, yet steadily
- have improved eye-hand coordination
- increase manipulative skill
- increase attention span
- tire easily, yet are energetic
- may develop nearsightedness
- may develop poor posture

#### **Emotional**

- are concerned about right and wrong
- have a growing awareness of self
- become more judgmental
- are self-critical
- strive to do well
- assume some responsibility
- are sensitive to criticism

#### **Social**

- are sensitive to the feelings of others
- play more with members of the same sex
- enjoy working with adults
- become aware of individual differences
- are still dependent upon the security of home
- develop responsiveness to group activities

### **District and State Assessment Schedule**

To view the [District Assessment Calendar](#), log on to the district website <http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us>, select the “Academics” tab, select “Academic Achievement” in the drop down menu, then click on “Assessment” on the left hand rail.

### **Resources**

*For additional information regarding our curriculum and programs, please refer to the following resources:*

**Worthington Schools Website:**

<http://www.worthington.k12.oh.us/>

**Ohio Department of Education Website:**

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>

*If you have questions, please feel free to discuss them with your child’s teacher, the building principal, or contact any of us in the Department of Academic Achievement. You can also use the district website to contact any administrator in the district through email.*