

## PARENT GUIDE FOR GRADE 2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### Preparing Florida's Children for a Successful Future



All Florida students deserve to graduate high school with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college, careers and life. Over the last several years, Florida has made strong academic gains. But, we know today's workforce requires our graduates to have stronger critical thinking, problem solving and communications skills than ever before. Higher standards that challenge and motivate our students are essential.

To address this need, education leaders across the state of Florida improved our academic content standards, creating new expectations for what students need to know and be able to do. The Florida Standards are designed to ensure that **ALL** students reach their greatest potential—whatever their path may be.

Preparing your child for success begins in kindergarten and continues as your child moves up through each grade. This guide will support parents and families with children in **second grade** by helping you:

- **Learn** about the Florida Standards and why they matter for your child.
- **Talk** with your child's teachers about what he/she will be learning in the classroom.
- **Support** your child's learning in practical ways at home.

### LEARN ABOUT THE STANDARDS

Florida students will continue to practice many of the same things you learned in second grade—along with some important additional skills. **Second grade** students are learning these types of lessons:

- Asking and answering such questions as who, what, when, where and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- Using information gained from illustrations and words in print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of characters, settings or plots being read.



- Knowing and applying grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- Reading with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.



who  
when  
where  
how

Every child develops at his/her own pace. The activities in this guide are recommended age-specific guidelines for growing young minds.

Download the complete English Language Arts Florida Standards for Grade 2 at [www.flstandards.org](http://www.flstandards.org)

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## TALK WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



Remember, you are your child's first and will always be his/her most important teacher. Think about a conference as a "team meeting" in which you will discover the special contributions each of you can bring to your second grader's success.

Ask the teacher for examples of reading materials that could support learning.

Together, look at an example of something your child has written. Ask the teacher what this work tells him/her about your child's start on the journey to becoming a confident reader and communicator.

## SUPPORT LEARNING AT HOME

You can encourage learning English language arts at home in ways that are fun for you and your child. Try these ideas after school, on weekends and during the summer:



Play word games. Say a word that begins with a certain sound and ask your child to think of other words that begin with that same sound—as many as possible.



Encourage your second grader to read stories to younger children, to you or other adult relatives and friends.



Talk with your child about your own family history. Share your memories. Look at photos and souvenirs together.



Help your child create a map of your neighborhood. Ask him or her to label points of interest, use directions and make a legend with symbols.



Create short audio and or video recordings of your child reading aloud, clearly and with expression.



Have fun with a free online children's dictionary, such as [kids.wordsmyth.net/wild/](https://kids.wordsmyth.net/wild/). Encourage your child to collect and illustrate his or her favorite words—writing them on file cards or in a homemade booklet.



Be frequent visitors to your local public library. Let him or her see you choosing, checking out and enjoying books.



Start a family book club.



Ask your child to help you prepare a meal that includes reading directions.



Provide your child with the tools to write and send messages electronically to relatives.

Talk to your child's teacher or principal to learn more great ideas to support learning at home.

Download the complete English Language Arts Florida Standards and other resources for parents at [www.flstandards.org](http://www.flstandards.org)

Questions? Contact [JustforParents@fldoe.org](mailto:JustforParents@fldoe.org)