

# Things your child should know before entering 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Second grade is an important year for any child. Second grade involves knowing more than just facts; they need to apply them as well. Second graders need to be able to think, solve problems, and know why they are solving the problems. Your child's critical thinking skills will increase.

Here is a sample checklist of what a child needs to know before starting second grade.

## Reading and Reading Comprehension Skills

1. Know long and short vowels-foundational grammar skills
2. Ask appropriate questions and answer questions about a text (who, what, where, when, why, and how)
3. Recall and retell events from a story-reading comprehension skill
4. Compare and contrast elements in different stories (characters, settings, plot, and problems)
5. Discuss a story or topic with their classmates (ask and respond to questions)
6. Read grade-level assigned books-AR Levels 2.1 and up
7. Know what point of view a story is being narrated in (first person, third person)

## Writing Skills

8. Write independently about a single topic-5-10 sentences long, using The D'Nealian Handwriting method
9. Write in small groups about a single topic-cooperative learning
10. Write something that tells a story-BME
11. Know sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a punctuation mark-grammatically correct, using The D'Nealian Handwriting method (Workbooks can be found on Amazon)
12. Know proper subject-verb agreement (ex: Correct = James **is** a mailman. Incorrect= James **are** a mailman.)

## Mathematic Skills

13. Add and subtract numbers up to 20 (10+8 or 20-8)
14. Understand basic rules of addition and subtraction (12+4 is the same as 4+12)
15. Solve word problems up to two-digit numbers
16. Count to 120
17. Understand the "ones" and "tens" place
18. Tell the time to the hour and half-hour on an analog clock
19. Organize data up to three categories (ex: how many children in the class like plain, pepperoni, or sausage pizza)
20. Graph data up to three categories
21. Measure objects by length and put them in order from smallest to biggest
22. Put items into categories by size, color, or shape

## Social Skills and Abilities

23. Work independently, basic routines
24. Interact with peers
25. Work in a group
26. Follow directions and participate in group activities
27. Share and communicate appropriately with other students
28. Respect their peers and all adults
29. Sit for a longer period of time than in first grade (20-30 minutes)