

Parents' Guide to Student Success in Science Second Grade

Why Are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

Here are Some Things Your Child Will Be Working on in Second Grade

- How forces can affect an objects motion
- How push and pull can alter the speed and direction of an object
- Classify matter based on physical properties
- Investigate changing sky and seasonal changes, position of the Moon, and the sun's effect on Earth
- Learn to follow rules to stay safe



Keeping the Conversation Focused:

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything instead keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In Grade 2, these include:

- How science relates to everyday situations in your child's life
- Places in the community that can help your child learn science

Help Your Child Learn at Home

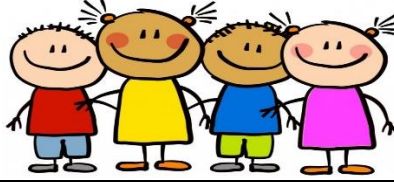
Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time every day when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

- Ask your student what they learned today
- Check the homework and testing expectations so you can prepare your child
- Go on nature walks ☺

Resource: <http://www.pta.org/parents/> and <http://www.georgiastandards.org>

Grade 2

Nine Week Checkpoints for Parents and Students



Helpful Websites	
Science for Kids Discovery Kids NASA Climate Kids	National Geographic Kids NASA Kids' Club Ask a Biologist
First Nine Weeks	Second Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Matter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate changes in matter • Identify the three common states of matter • Classify and describe matter based on physical properties • Explain how heating and cooling can change matter • Explain that some changes in matter are reversible and some are irreversible 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Force and Motion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how pushes and pulls affects the motion of an object • Design a device that can change the speed and/or change direction of an object
Third Nine Weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Astronomy (Day and Night Sky)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and carry out an investigation to determine the effect of the position of the sun in relation to a fixed object on Earth at various times of the day. • Use data from personal observations that shows how the moon change throughout the day • Use data to display the length of day/night to help recognize the change in seasons <p><u>Astronomy (Stars)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct an argument to prove that the sun is not the largest and brightest star • Ask questions to describe the physical attributes of stars 	<p><i>Students should know and be able to:</i></p> <p><u>Needs of Living Things (Plants and Animals)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the sequence of the life cycle of common animals and plants • Explain how animals help plants disperse their seeds • Explain how animals help pollinate plants • Relate seasonal change to observations of how plants changes throughout the year • Explain how weather, plants, animals and human cause changes to the environment