Parent Guide to Learning in MCCSC
SECOND GRADE

A summary of what children should know and be able to do and ways for families to increase learning at home.
Each quarter, students will learn new skills and build upon skills from earlier in the year. Below are some areas students will focus on each quarter.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

- Recognize vowels to read words
- Read sight words
- Ask and answer questions using text details to show understanding
- Write legibly

- Read with expression
- Retell stories
- Make predictions
- Compare and contrast important points presented by texts on the same topic
- Use context clues and text features to help determine the meanings of words
- Write a report with a main idea and details
- Develop topics for writing letters, stories, poems, and narratives
- Use correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and grammar

- Explain the central message or moral of a story
- Identify what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe in a text
- Identify synonyms, antonyms, and words with multiple meanings

**MATH**

- Read and write numbers up to 1,000
- Determine if a group of objects is odd or even
- Add and subtract within 1,000 and use models, drawings, or number lines

- Plot and compare whole numbers up to 1,000 on a number line
- Sort, draw, and name shapes
- Divide circles and rectangles into equal parts and describe the parts as fractions
- Find the value of a collection of coins and dollars

- Add and subtract numbers up to 100
- Tell time on an analog clock and know the difference between a.m. and p.m.
- Solve real-world problems that use addition and subtraction of time
- Use graphs to represent and compare data to solve simple questions
**SCIENCE**
Students learn about science through hands-on exploration. In second grade, they learn about insects and plants, air and weather, and solids and liquids.

**MUSIC**
In music, students learn to keep a steady beat using correct dynamics and tempo, use singing voice to match pitch, read perform and write expanding rhythm and pitch patterns using notation and identify instruments by sight and sound. Students also play classroom instruments and identify uses of music and the community and throughout history.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
In PE, students demonstrate motor skills and movement patterns and concepts, exhibit respectful and responsible personal and social behavior, and learn the value of physical activity. They also achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
Second graders learn about community service, citizenship, American culture, and past and present during social studies instruction.

**ART**
In art class, students generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work and make art with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity. Students also compare and contrast artwork and reflect with peers about artistic choices.

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING**
MCCSC is using the Second Step curriculum with our elementary school students. Lessons build on students’ K–1 skills, including skills for learning. Students hone their ability to pay attention, listen, and ignore distractions. They also learn how to respond to others with empathy, calm down, manage strong feelings, and solve problems.
SECOND GRADE DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

• Keep belongings neater at home and school than in 1st grade
• Conscientious and serious; have strong preferences
• Benefit from humor and games to help moderate seriousness
• Need security and structure; rely on adults for help and constant reassurance
• Inward-looking; can be moody, touchy, sulky, or shy
• May change friendships quickly and feel “nobody likes me”
• May not like to take risks or make mistakes
• Sensitive to others’ feelings, but sometimes tell on others
• May prefer working and playing alone or with one friend
• Benefit from advanced warning to any changes in routine at home and school
• Can get sick from worrying about tests, assignments, etc.
• Benefit from close communication between teachers and parents to help ensure needs are understood

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME

• Build a routine that allows for homework and studying time and enough sleep to help your child establish a healthy balance.
• Read with your child nightly.
• Ask your child about what they read. You can ask about main idea, details, problem, solution, main characters, setting, etc.
• Have your child keep a daily journal or diary where they write about what they did each day or about other topics.
• Inquire about any technology, websites, and apps that can support learning away from the classroom and reinforce the concepts being taught at school.
• Play math games with your child. For example, you can both estimate the height, length, or weight of something and then check it to see who was closer.
• Try a variation on the card game “War.” When the higher card takes the lower card, subtract the lower number from the higher number, and the player who won that play wins those points.
• As you’re shopping, compare the amounts in the Nutrition Facts on packaged foods or the amounts in various containers of similar products.
• Play games that use strategic thinking such as checkers, Monopoly, Mancala, Dominoes, and Clue.

USEFUL LINKS

Indiana Department of Education Academic Standards
https://www.doe.in.gov/standards

MCCSC Curriculum and Instruction
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/42

MCCSC Special Education
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/53

MCCSC High Ability
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/62

MCCSC School Age Care
https://www.mccsc.edu/domain/64