

Darlington Community School's Parents' Guide to Second Grade

Traits Exhibited by Many Seven- to Ten-Year Olds

All children develop differently but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Second, Third, or Fourth Grades.

- Persist longer at tasks and works until they complete a project.
- Can talk meaningfully about tomorrow and yesterday
- Are aware of others and are willing to share
- Desire acceptance from their peers
- Have defined preferences, such as choice of toys, clothes and television programs.
- Typically sleep about 10 hours daily.
- Need close friendship with a playmate
- Enjoy making things and is inventive. Concocting new things is a favorite activity.
- Desire better skills performance and are interested in group games and activities
- Want everyone to obey stated rules and regulations
- Strongly identify with own gender and age group

Art

- Use materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, texture, shape and line as elements of art
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art

Language Arts/Reading

- Use language to convey appropriate message
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Follow verbal directions
- Use story mapping to analyze text
- Read books for information and enjoyment
- Read with fluency and self-correct decoding errors using phonics and context
- Use picture clues, letter-sound relationships (phonics), high frequency words and prior knowledge to read and understand texts
- Make predictions about a variety of texts
- Write stories, personal thoughts or react to reading
- Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Recognize and read high frequency/sight words
- Understand and use plurals, possessives and contractions
- Write complete sentences
- Identify naming and action parts of a sentence
- Spell high frequency words correctly
- Research topics of interest
- Use writing process to plan and create written work
- Increase written and spoken language
- Use appropriate beginning and ending punctuation
- Use computers to organize and communicate information

Mathematics

- Use problem-solving strategies
- Understand and communicate mathematical ideas (plus, minus, equals, less than, greater than)
- Recognize addends and sum in addition problems
- Solve simple addition and subtraction word problems
- Be able to add and subtract on a number line
- Understand and write fact families
- Add three numbers correctly
- Understand and use basic units and processes of measurement (rulers, thermometers, scales, clocks, etc)
- Estimate measurements
- Predict mathematical outcomes
- Do subtraction problems requiring "borrowing"
- Do addition problems using "carrying"
- Understand and use graphs
- Work with money and decimals (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters)
- Recognize two- and three-dimensional figures
- Be able to manipulate geometric shapes
- Understand basic geometric principles
- Use coordinates to locate places on a map
- Understand and use fractions (1/2, 1/3, 1/4)

- Use language to explain problems and solutions
- Solve for unknowns

Music

- Sing with expression a variety of songs
- Hear and duplicate rhythms
- Play and create simple melodies and rhythms on classroom instruments
- Identify rhythm instruments
- Recognize basic music symbols
- Listen respectfully to others' performances
- Perform dances from other cultures
- Sing with syllables (so, mi, la, fa)

Physical Education

- Use a variety of basic motor movements (walk, skip, hop, jump, leap, gallop, run)
- Use a variety of basic non-loco-motor movements (bend, twist, turn)
- Demonstrate eye-hand coordination
- Be able to control several body parts at once
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Understand the relationship between physical activity and good health
- Understand the purpose of rules in games
- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork)
- Engage in activities that increase respiration and heart
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Perform fitness activities including jumping jacks, push-ups, sit-ups, etc.
- Demonstrate jump rope skills
- Demonstrate basic juggling
- Move to different rhythms

Science

- Understand how weather changes
- Understand that objects are made of more than one substance
- Classify objects and substances based on properties
- Use simple science equipment
- Plan and conduct simple science experiments and communicate results
- Construct a simple model of the water cycle
- Understand how technology is used in daily life and in people's careers
- Learn about the stars and planets
- Learn about electricity, heat and light
- Learn how plants and animals meet their survival needs
- Learn about the human body and understand how the parts work together
- Learn how simple machines do work

Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Read a timeline
- Read and construct maps
- Distinguish between continents and oceans
- Identify directions on a map
- Learn about elections and voting
- Learn about famous Americans in history
- Understand environment affects people's lives
- Understand how people can affect the environment
- Understand the US is a multi-cultural society
- Understand that we depend upon workers who produce goods or services
- Understand where Darlington is located
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Understand that there are other countries in the world
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of stories or discussions

Information and Technology

- Use computers to practice math and reading skills
- Understand basic computer functions and terms
- Produce a word processing document
- Conduct a simple search using the internet
- Understand that information is organized in the library in a logical manner
- Choose appropriate library materials
- Use reference materials

- Learn to assess one's own progress and quality of work
- Work with a group to complete a project

Self-Directed Learning

- Follow school and classroom rules
- Use self-control
- Show respect for others
- Work to solve own problems
- Work cooperatively with others
- Work independently to a greater degree as the school year progresses
- Use time productively
- Make plans and organize before working
- Work quietly when directed
- Complete work in a timely manner
- Evaluate own work

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