

## Assessment

- Throughout the year, classroom teachers will assess each student's growth and progress toward achievement of the learning goals specified in the state curriculum (GPS or QCC if GPS have not been implemented).
- These classroom assessments will be used to guide instruction in order to provide every child with the opportunity to learn and to succeed.
- Students will be made aware of the performance expectations for 2nd grade and will acquire self-monitoring and self-assessing skills to help them maximize their achievement.
- In the spring, Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests in Reading, Language Arts, and Mathematics will be administered to 2nd graders in order to provide a standardized measure of student learning.
- Beginning in the year the Georgia Performance Standards are implemented for a content area, the CRCT will directly align with those GPS.

## Dear Parents,

Thank you for all you do as parents to guide your children's learning! I am confident that the future of all our children will be bright because of your continued support of public education in Georgia.



We are beginning the most extensive improvement in Georgia education undertaken in the last 18 years—the implementation of the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS). The new state curriculum sets high standards, maintains clear expectations, and will place our schools and our students not just at the top of the Southeast, but at the top of the nation.

As a parent, I personally understand that this kind of change may generate questions and concerns: Why do we need a change? How will this impact my child? What will be different in my child's classroom?

For this reason, I have made communication and keeping you informed an absolute priority. Georgia's teachers and administrators have been preparing for this change, and they will be able to answer many of your questions at your local schools. I also encourage you to visit the Georgia Department of Education website to find out more about the new curriculum: [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org).

It is a great day for education in Georgia. Like never before, our state is unified behind a mission to raise the achievement level of all students in our public schools. Toward this aim, we have rallied together and successfully tackled many challenges, ushering in a new level of accountability and quality in education. Thank you for your support as we continue to raise the bar for our state's most precious resource, our children.

Kathy Cox,  
State Superintendent of Schools

## Implementation Schedule for the Georgia Performance Standards in 2nd Grade

2005-2006  
English Language Arts

2006-2007  
Mathematics

2007-2008  
Science

2008-2009  
Social Studies

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# 2nd Grade

## THE NEW GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS



*We will lead the nation  
in improving student achievement.*



Kathy Cox,  
State Superintendent of Schools

[www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org)

## 2nd Grade Language Arts

*Second grade students will be engaged in reading, writing, and listening, speaking, & viewing. By the end of 2nd grade, students will demonstrate mastery of many concepts and skills, including the following:*

- Read high frequency words and second grade text with appropriate speed, accuracy, and expression
- Recognize and use grade level vocabulary
- Use strategies to gain meaning from grade level text
- Apply more advanced phonics skills when reading and writing words, sentences, and stories
- Read longer, more complex texts, including chapter books
- Begin editing and revising their work

## 2nd Grade Mathematics

*Second grade students will be actively engaged in developing mathematical understandings in real and relevant contexts. By the end of 2nd grade, students will be able to:*

- Understand and use multiple representations of numbers to connect symbols to quantities
- Understand multiplication as repeated addition
- Understand fractions as parts of a whole
- Understand relationships using =, <, and >
- Describe and classify 2 and 3 dimensional figures
- Directly compare length, weight, and capacity of concrete objects
- Tell time to the nearest 5 minutes
- Count back change, and use decimal notation and dollar and cent symbols
- Problem solve, develop arguments, use language of mathematics, make connections, communicate
- Pose questions, collect data, and create simple tables, picture and bar graphs, and Venn diagrams

## 2nd Grade Science

*Second grade students will use inquiry to focus on questions about the world around them, including questions related to earth science, physical science, and life science. By the end of 2nd grade, students will be able to:*

- Raise questions about the world around them and seek answers through observation and exploration
- Recognize attributes of sun, moon, and stars
- Identify and describe sources of energy
- Demonstrate changes in speed and direction using pushes and pulls
- Locate sources of heat and light energy
- Form ideas about natural and manipulated changes such as changes in the Earth's surface and changes in the attributes of materials
- Determine the sequence of the life cycle of common animals in their area
- Relate seasonal changes to observations of how trees change throughout a school year

## 2nd Grade Social Studies

*Second grade students will study important historical figures in Georgia, as well as the Creek and Cherokee cultures in Georgia. In addition, 2nd graders will begin to examine the basic concept of government and continue to acquire basic economic concepts. By the end of 2nd grade, students will be able to:*

- Identify and describe the lives of significant figures in Georgia history and show how these figures exhibit positive traits of citizenship
- Describe the Georgia Creek and Cherokee cultures
- Locate and describe the major topographical features of Georgia
- Describe the cultural and geographic systems associated with historical figures in Georgia and with the Creek and Cherokee people
- Define the concept of government, identify the roles of specific elected officials, and identify specific government buildings
- Relate the concepts of opportunity costs and allocation of goods and services to prior understanding of economics

