

K-2 Learning Goals

The main intent at the early grades is for students to value learning and develop the skills to gain knowledge and understand their world.

The Learning Goals described below reflect the belief that K-2 education should address the intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and ethical development of children. While the K-2 Core Curriculum focuses primarily on content and the intellectual development of children, it is important to create a classroom culture that fosters development of many aspects of a person. Nurturing children in these interrelated human domains will enable them to discover their own talents and dreams, develop healthy, social, and civic competencies, and express themselves effectively.

The goals identified below are to provide a direction for general classroom instruction, management, culture, environment, and inclusion. These goals should be interwoven throughout the K-2 Core Curriculum which offers more specific and measurable standards for instruction.

Beginning in kindergarten and by the end of second grade students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a positive learning attitude.
 - a. Display a sense of curiosity.
 - b. Practice personal responsibility for learning.
 - c. Demonstrate persistence in completing tasks.
 - d. Apply prior knowledge and processes to construct new knowledge.
 - e. Voluntarily use a variety of resources to investigate topics of interest.

2. Develop social skills and ethical responsibility.
 - a. Respect similarities and differences in others.
 - b. Treat others with kindness and fairness.
 - c. Follow classroom and school rules.
 - e. Include others in learning and play activities.
 - f. Participate with others when making decisions and solving problems.
 - g. Function positively as a member of a family, class, school, and community.

3. Demonstrate responsible emotional and cognitive behaviors.
 - a. Recognize own values, talents, and skills.
 - b. Express self in positive ways.
 - c. Demonstrate aesthetic awareness.
 - d. Demonstrate appropriate behavior.
 - e. Express feelings appropriately.
 - f. Meet and respect needs of self and others.

4. Develop physical skills and personal hygiene.
 - a. Respect physical similarities and differences in self and others.
 - b. Learn proper care of the body for health and fitness.
 - c. Develop knowledge that enhances participation in physical activities.
 - d. Display persistence in learning motor skills and developing fitness.
 - e. Use physical activity for self-expression.

5. Understand and use basic concepts and skills.
 - a. Decode, read, and comprehend written text and symbols.
 - b. Develop vocabulary.
 - c. Develop reasoning skills.
 - d. Demonstrate problem-solving skills.
 - e. Observe, sort, and classify objects.
 - f. Make and interpret representations, graphs, and models.
 - g. Recognize how content ideas interconnect.
 - h. Make connections from content areas to application in real life.

6. Communicate clearly in oral, artistic, written, and nonverbal form.
 - a. Share ideas using communication skills.
 - b. Use creative expression to share ideas.
 - c. Use appropriate language to describe events, objects, people, ideas, and emotions.
 - d. Listen attentively and respond to communication.
 - e. Use mathematical concepts to communicate ideas.
 - f. Use visual art, dance, drama, and music to communicate.