

**Poudre School District**  
**LANGUAGE ARTS**  
**ESSENTIAL STANDARDS for SECOND GRADE**

If no specific skills are listed under a benchmark, then skills are taught to mastery at another level.

**STANDARD 1: READING**

**Students read and understand a variety of materials**

**1.1 BENCHMARK: COMPREHENSION SKILLS**

**Students will use a variety of comprehension skills in reading (e.g., preview, predict, compare and contrast, self-monitor, summarize)**

- Use a variety of comprehension strategies before, during and after reading
- Select appropriate reading materials based on interest and readability
- Know that paragraph structure organizes meaning with one main idea and supporting details
- Use and integrate prior knowledge and context to construct meaning
- Know sequence of events in **narrative** and **expository texts**
- Identify/explain main idea in **text**

**1.2 BENCHMARK: PRIOR KNOWLEDGE**

**Make connections between texts and prior knowledge and identify knowledge needed before reading about topic**

- Make connections between **text** and self

**1.3 BENCHMARK: READING PURPOSE**

**Adjust reading strategies for different purposes**

- Read for a variety of **purposes** (e.g., information, writing ideas, directions, enjoyment)

**1.4 BENCHMARK: WORD RECOGNITION STRATEGIES**

**Use a variety of word recognition skills and resources**

- Use knowledge of long vowel patterns, vowel digraphs and consonant digraphs to decode unfamiliar words
- Read second grade **texts** with appropriate fluency

**1.5 BENCHMARK: VOCABULARY**

**Use information from reading to increase vocabulary and enhance language usage**

- Use context to determine word meaning

**STANDARD 2: WRITING AND SPEAKING**

**Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences**

**2.1 BENCHMARK: GENRE**

**Write and speak in a variety of genres**

- Write **narrative texts** with characters
- Write friendly letters (e.g., thank you letters)
- Write brief **expository texts** creating beginning, middle and end

**2.2 BENCHMARK: AUDIENCE AND PURPOSE**

**Write and speak for a variety of audiences and purposes**

- Write for a specific **purpose**, such as to entertain, inform and explain

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**2.3 BENCHMARK: WRITING PROCESS**

**Use the steps of the writing process (e.g., plan, draft, revise, edit, share)**

- Write a first draft and edit writing using a check list to look for spelling, capitalization and punctuation errors

**2.4 BENCHMARK: DEVICES AND WORD CHOICE**

**Use a variety of devices (e.g., figure of speech, symbolism, dialect, vocabulary) to convey meaning**

- Use **descriptive** vocabulary (adjectives)

**2.5 BENCHMARK: ORGANIZATION**

**Use a variety of strategies to organize written and oral presentations (e.g., lists, outlining, cause/effect, comparison/contrast)**

- Write several **sentences** on one topic
- Use webs to organize writing
- Organize writing using beginning, middle and end

**2.6 BENCHMARK: PRODUCT PRESENTATION**

**Use appropriate strategies to publish writing**

- Presents final copy in a variety of formats (e.g., read aloud, deliver book talks, display, publish, mail and perform)

**STANDARD 3: LANGUAGE STRUCTURE**

**Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization and spelling**

**3.1 BENCHMARK: GRAMMAR AND USAGE**

**Use conventions of grammar and usage in writing and speaking**

- Use regular plurals in simple **sentences**
- Identify adjectives in a **sentence**

**3.2 BENCHMARK: SENTENCE STRUCTURE**

**Use correct sentence structure in writing**

- Write simple **sentences**

**3.3 BENCHMARK: PUNCTUATION**

**Use conventions of punctuation in writing**

- Use question marks and exclamation marks to end **sentences**
- Use period in common abbreviations (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Ms., St., Rd., Ft.)

**3.4 BENCHMARK: CAPITALIZATION**

**Use conventions of capitalization in writing**

- Capitalize simple abbreviations (e.g., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr.), greeting and closing of friendly letters, and simple proper nouns

**3.5 BENCHMARK: SPELLING**

**Use conventions of spelling in writing**

- Use dictionaries and other resources to spell words, with support

**STANDARD 4: THINKING AND VIEWING**

**Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing**

**4.1 BENCHMARK: THINKING AND ANALYTICAL SKILLS**

**Use thinking and analytical skills in writing, reading, speaking, listening and viewing**

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**4.2 BENCHMARK: PROBLEM SOLVING**

**Use reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing to define and solve problems**

- Suggest solutions to a conflict

**4.3 BENCHMARK: OPINIONS**

**Recognize, express and support opinions orally and in writing**

- Identify specific facts

**4.4 BENCHMARK: AUTHOR'S POINT OF VIEW**

**Know the purpose, perspective and historical and cultural influences of a speaker, author or director**

- Identify how characters and setting of a **text** are different from student's experience

**4.5 BENCHMARK: EVALUATION**

**Use a variety of criteria to evaluate information (e.g., reliability, accuracy, relevancy)**

**STANDARD 5: RESEARCH**

**Students read to locate, select and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference and technological sources**

**5.1 BENCHMARK: RESOURCES**

**Understand the structure, organization and use of resources to gather information for research**

- Alphabetize to the second letter
- Use dictionaries, glossaries, and other sources for research, with support

**5.2 BENCHMARK: ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATION**

**Use a variety of strategies to organize information**

- Identify graphs, charts, tables and illustrations as ways to record observations and report events

**5.3 BENCHMARK: DOCUMENTATION**

**Document information sources**

**5.4 BENCHMARK: RESEARCH PRODUCTS**

**Communicate the results of research**

**STANDARD 6: LITERATURE AND CULTURE**

**Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience**

**6.1 BENCHMARK: LITERARY TERMINOLOGY**

**Recognize and use literary terminology**

- Identify characters and setting (place) in a favorite story

**6.2 BENCHMARK: READING GENRES**

**Read a variety of literary and informational texts**

- Read, respond to, and gain meaning from **fiction, non-fiction** and poems

**6.3 BENCHMARK: CULTURE**

**Read to learn about culture**

**6.4 BENCHMARK: LITERARY ANALYSIS**

**Use a variety of strategies to understand and analyze texts**

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