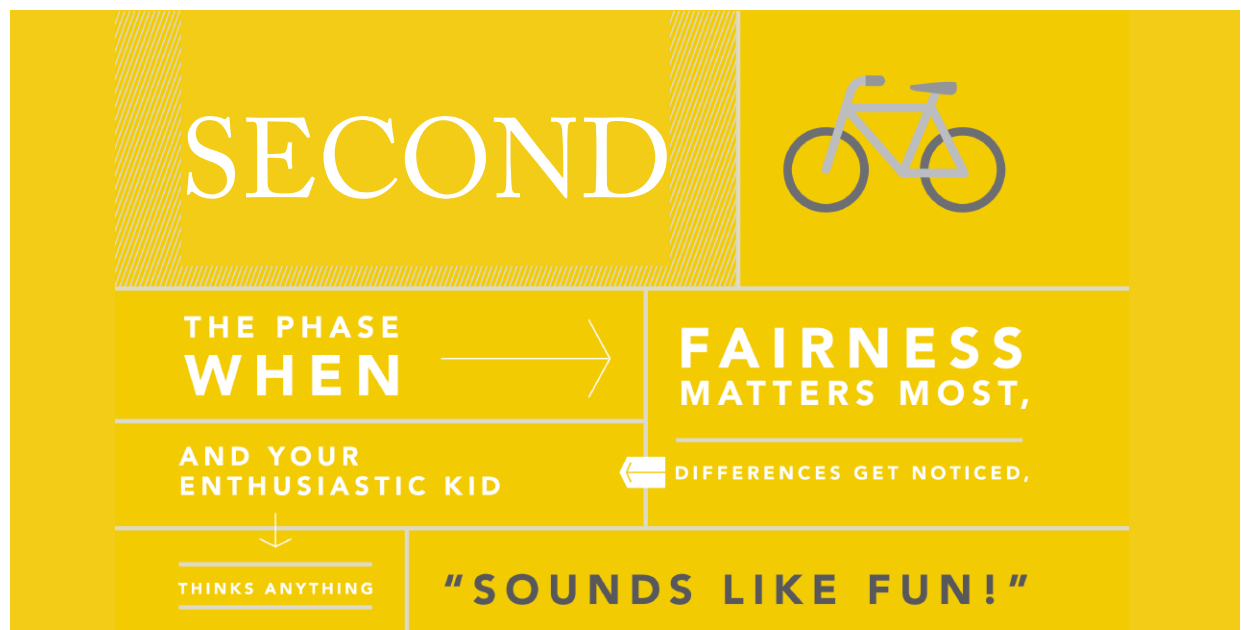


SO YOUR KID IS IN --- 2ND GRADE NOW!

For many parents, second grade is the beginning of the “golden years” of childhood. Your child’s brain is changing in some amazing ways, and they are beginning to notice differences that make them unique to their peers. Your second grader is impressive, enthusiastic, and eager to respond to you. If you find yourself enjoying this phase of parenting a lot, you are not alone!

Every child is different, but here are some general principles we think will help you parent your second grader this year.



One question we believe almost every second grader is asking is

“WHAT DOES IT TAKE?”

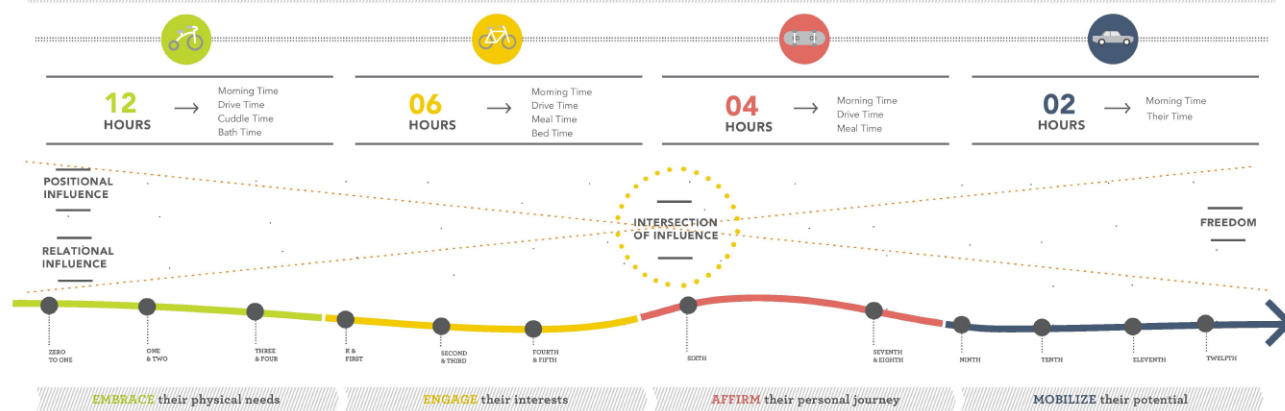
Your second grader is becoming increasingly self-aware...aware of their thoughts, their abilities, and their mistakes. They are also growing in their awareness of others – beginning to notice the qualities that make one kid “artistic” and another “athletic.” More important, their ‘awareness of fairness’ kicks into high gear. Your second grader may call you out for perceived offenses of unfairness. They may also be quick to announce the short-comings and mistakes of other kids, teachers, and random strangers.

This is the phase where kids generally begin to embrace the concept of their own sin and their need for forgiveness. When second graders come to CCKids, we want to present to them a God who loves them so much, He provided a way to cover (for-give) their short-comings, offenses, and mistakes!

Your second grader may be starting to enjoy reading on their own. If they don't have a full-text Bible in an easy-to-read translation (like NIV), this is the time to invest in one!

Each week CCKids has a Bible story with a passage for the kids to look up. They can read along as the story unfolds, and there are rewards for bringing their Bible. In addition, The Action Bible is an animated version that many second graders will enjoy reading alone. (See resources list below.)

PARENTAL INFLUENCE



YOUR ROLE IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR UNIQUENESS & AFFIRM THEIR SELF-AWARENESS.

Your second grader is becoming increasingly self-aware. Aware of their unique qualities and abilities...and VERY aware of their mistakes. This is an ideal time to focus on Jesus and His desire to help us when we fall short. Parents can send a powerful message as they acknowledge their own mistakes and ask others for forgiveness.

They think like a judge: Fairness Matters. You can help them learn about grace when you admit your own mistakes and ask for forgiveness.

They want to know, "Do I have what it takes?" You can capture their heart when you acknowledge their efforts and point them to Jesus for help.

They are (still) motivated by fun! You can influence their moral choices when you play on their level.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOUR KID IS CHANGING.

PHYSICALLY

- They are growing in spurts.
- Hand-eye coordination is improving.

SOCIALLY

- Fairness & consistency are of the utmost importance.
- Begins to show preferences with friends (gender, likes, dislikes, etc.)
- Begins to enjoy alone time and independent work.

MENTALLY

- Can focus on one activity for up to 30 minutes.
- Has a better understanding of time.
- Enjoys hands-on learning and problem solving.

EMOTIONALLY

- Able to control their emotions more.
- Easily embarrassed by failure & criticism.
- Operates well with routine and clear boundaries.

HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES WE RECOMMEND.



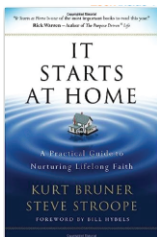
Parenting Your Second Grader.

This has a lot of blank pages for processing questions which isn't for everyone, but the other pages are full of very insightful information and practical advice or ideas that can help clarify how to engage with your kid.



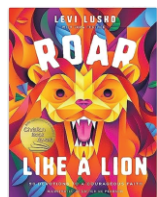
Parent Cue Blog.

This website is crammed with tons of articles on many subjects with practical helpful advice.



It Starts at Home.

This is a practical guide for embracing our call as parents to nurture faith at home. Great insights and observations on our culture, and the importance of forming foundations for our kids as a family. The first half is highly intentional and motivational. The second half offers more practical ideas and models that may or may not be for you.



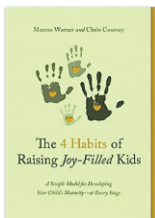
Roar Like a Lion.

90 Devotions to encourage a growing faith in your child. Parents can read this at bed-time, or older kids will enjoy branching out and reading it regularly on their own. Really colorful and fun!



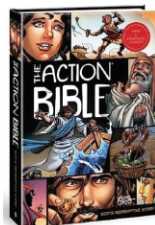
Marvel at the Moon.

90 more devotions that focus on God's majestic universe, and the fact that He created each of us on purpose and for a purpose! Full of cool space facts, Bible verses, and age-appropriate action steps. Great for inquisitive kids who are science-minded and parents as well!



The Four Habits of Raising Joy-Filled Kids.

A parenting book that introduces a simple model and applies key principles for raising the 'Joy-level' in our kids. These parenting principles are derived from the way our brains are hardwired. It's a short book, and worth the read!



The Action Bible.

A former Marvel & DC Comics artist, Cariello has brought God's redemptive story in the form of a comic book – a very large comic book! With stunning pictures and graphics, over 200 Biblical narratives are presented in chronological order. This shouldn't replace your kid's Adventure Bible, but it is a great supplement to motivate them to get into the Word!



The NIV Adventure Bible.

This is the Bible translation we encourage our CCKids to use. It is easier to understand, but is also a direct translation of an 'adult version' Bible. Kids can look up verses and begin to navigate through the pages of God's Word.

If you're not able to afford one of the above resources, please reach out to us - we'd love to help!

HI, I'M JANNA CLARK!



I'm the CCKids Director at Christ Community Church. I have been working in Children's ministry for 23 years, and each year has brought me such joy as God has given me a passion for kids and helping them to experience who Jesus is and how much He desires them. If you ever have any questions - let's connect. I am happy to help in any way I can (preferably over an iced chai)! You can reach me at: jannac@cccgreeley.org.

CCKIDS IS FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 4TH GRADE AND MEETS DURING EVERY WEEKEND ADULT SERVICE TIME.

In addition, CCKids Club meets most Wednesday nights during the school year from 6-8 pm.