



## FOCUS AREAS FOR SECOND GRADE:

- ▶ Understand that different kinds of plants and animals live in different environments and areas. For example, compare living things in a desert with living things in an ocean.
- ▶ Understand how wind and water can change the shape of land, and how people can prevent or slow down those changes by doing things like planting trees and building fences.
- ▶ Explore how materials like wood and stone look, feel, and act differently. For example, test how hard they are and whether they bend or break.
- ▶ Begin to understand friction: what happens when objects rub against one another. For example, compare how a toy car slides on smooth and rough surfaces.



## BY THE END OF SECOND GRADE, STUDENTS CAN:



- ▶ Create maps to show the bodies of water (like rivers) and landforms (like mountains) in an area.
- ▶ Explain that water exists on Earth in different places (like lakes) and forms (like ice).
- ▶ Ask questions about how plants and animals depend on their surroundings to meet their needs (like finding food and water).
- ▶ Describe and sort materials by how they look, feel, or act: for example, things that are green or things that absorb water.
- ▶ Observe that breaking something does not change its material. For example, tearing a paper in half does not change the fact that it is paper.
- ▶ Explore how heating and cooling things can cause them to change. Understand that some changes (like melting ice) can be reversed but other changes (like cooking an egg) cannot.
- ▶ Compare two ways of solving the same problem and think about which one is better. For example, test two paper bags to find out which is stronger.

## QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD:

- ▶ Which of these towels is better for wiping up water? Why?
- ▶ Where can we find water near our home? What about hills?
- ▶ What do plants and animals need to survive?

## TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER:

- ▶ How science relates to everyday situations in your child's life
- ▶ Places in the community that can help your child learn science