



Second Grade Curriculum 2009-2010

Reading: McGraw Hill/SRA: *Open Court*; Modern Curriculum Press: *Phonics*; *Explode the Code*

Reading is an essential part of a student's educational program. The goals of reading in the second grade include building fluency while instilling in students a lifelong love of reading. Reading instruction includes a combination of explicit instruction in word recognition skills and reading comprehension strategies with opportunities to apply and practice these skills in literature. Students experience a wide variety of literary forms and genres.

Phonics: Sequential, systematic phonics instruction helps teach decoding and spelling through sound/symbol relationships to increase fluency and improve comprehension. Phonics lessons include: initial, medial and final consonants, short vowels, long vowels, compounds, le- words, hard and soft "c" or "g", blends, "y" as a vowel, digraphs, r-controlled vowels, contractions, endings, suffixes, vowel pairs, vowel digraphs, diphthongs, prefixes, synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms. Decodable books help reinforce the learning of the sound symbol relationships.

Comprehension Skills: Comprehension skills and strategies taught include: considering the purpose of the reading, asking questions, clarifying meanings, making connections, making predictions, summarizing, and visualizing. Students learn to consider the author's point of view, understand the author's purpose, comprehend cause and effect relationships, classify/categorize information, compare and contrast, draw conclusions, distinguish fact from opinion, identify main idea and details, make inferences, distinguish reality from fantasy, and understand sequence of events.

Genres: Genres of literature studied include: biography and autobiography, description of a process, expository writing, folklore, historical fiction, informational text, and persuasive writing.

Writer's Craft: In studying the writer's craft, students learn about characterization, descriptive writing, effective beginnings, figurative language, plot, problem and solution, rhyme, and setting.

Vocabulary: To develop vocabulary, students explore antonyms, comparatives and superlatives, compound words, context clues, contractions, high-frequency words, homophones, homonyms, inflectional endings, irregular plurals, multiple meaning words, multi-syllabic words, position words, prefixes, root words, selection vocabulary, suffixes, synonyms, time and order words, utility words and word families.

Extended Reading: To extend their reading, students complete read and respond exercises and book reports. Students participate in small group literature circles where they read aloud or partner read one-on-one with their classmates. Students also have classroom and school library time.

Spelling: McGraw Hill/SRA: *Spelling*

Spelling instruction in second grade is systematic and sequential. Spelling words are chosen from high-frequency word lists, so students learn to spell words they use regularly. Word lists are also based on dependable spelling patterns which demonstrate and reinforce how English spelling works and encourage contextual learning rather than isolated memorization. Units include:

- Words with /wh/ and /sh/, /ch/ and /th/
- Easily misspelled words
- Words with /sl/ and /sp/
- Final double consonants
- Words that sound alike, compound words, number words
- Sounds: /a/, /o/, /e/, /i/, /u/, /ā/, /ō/, /ē/, /ī/, /ōō/
- /är/ sound, /ûr/ sound, /or/ sound
- Words with /r/, /fr/ /tr/
- Words with -ed or -ing
- Final /el/ sound

Religion: Harcourt: *Call To Faith*

The Eucharist is the center of religion instruction in second grade as second graders are called to enter into a sacramental relationship with Jesus and with the Christian community. The curriculum explores the nature of celebration, the saving actions of Jesus, and the moral choices involved in being a follower of Jesus.

The theme of belonging leads the children to the study of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Students learn the laws of the kingdom: the Great Commandment, the Ten Commandments, and the Golden Rule. Through stories and activities, the children are helped to understand the process of making moral choices, of asking and granting forgiveness, exploring Social Justice, and of celebrating Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Sacraments: Students make their First Reconciliation and First Communion in their home parish. Parents should contact their parish Faith Formation Office for dates and additional preparation requirements.

Prayer: There will be daily prayer times using various prayer experiences, both formal and spontaneous. Prayer experiences include prayer journals, a prayer basket, a daily Hail Mary and Our Father, lunchtime blessing, learning the Act of Contrition and exploring the WWJD theme.

Mass: Second graders participate in a special way (reading, singing, etc) in one of the all school Masses.

Social Justice: Using *The Call to Discipleship Through Justice: Service & Advocacy* curriculum, students put their faith into action, engaging in practical works of justice, service and advocacy in age appropriate ways.

Language Arts, Writer's Workshop: McGraw Hill/SRA: *Open Court*

Writing is taught in second grade using a writer's workshop format. Mini lessons are taught on various subjects: procedures for the writing workshop, ideas for writing, the writing process, setting, matching pictures with text, writing that creates mind pictures, writing with a beginning, middle, and end. Lessons in the writing process include:

Prewriting: Students use prewriting activities (T-charts, and "what, why, how") to discover topics they know and care about. Students are encouraged to develop a sense of their purpose and the effect they have on their audience.

Rough Copy: When writing a rough draft, the focus is getting ideas down on paper. Second graders are encouraged to spell as best they can or use the word wall or the dictionaries for help.

Revising: Students will be encouraged to share their work for clarification and questions with their peers. They will take feedback and incorporate it into their work.

Editing: Students will use their knowledge of the conventions of writing to check for correct spelling and sentence structure. They will underline words they think need to be spelled correctly.

Final Copy/ Publishing: Students will then copy their piece onto publishing paper. They will be required to use their best handwriting for published pieces and draw a picture to go with their writing.

6+1 Traits of Writing: Writing in second grade will also focus on the six traits of writing.

1. *Ideas and content:* "This is the heart of my message; my writing is full of the kinds of details that keep the reader's attention and show what is really important about my topic."
 2. *Word choice:* "I picked just the right words for just the right places."
 3. *Voice:* "My paper has lots of personality. It sounds different from the way anyone else writes."
 4. *Organization:* "I've chosen an order that works well and makes the reader want to find out what's coming next."
 5. *Sentence Fluency:* "The sentences in my paper are clear and delightful to read aloud."
 6. *Conventions:* "There are few errors in my paper. It wouldn't take long to get this ready to publish."
- + 1. *Presentation:* "My paper has an illustration, is neat and ready to display."

Handwriting: Proper formation of letters and spacing of letters are taught following the manuscript style of writing. Proper handwriting is encouraged in all work.

Conventions and Grammar: Students will study rules for capitalization and punctuation, parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adverbs, proper nouns, adjectives), paragraph structure and sentence order. "Daily Oral Language" topics include commas, apostrophes, double negatives, pronouns, homophones, run-on sentences, alphabetical order, abbreviations, analogies, and categorizing.

Mathematics: McGraw Hill/SRA: *Everyday Math*;
Creative Publications: *Problem Solvers 2*

In second grade mathematics, students are encouraged to work from, and to continue to develop, their own mathematical thinking. Program highlights include partner and small group activities that promote cooperative learning, discussion, and mathematical communication. Through a hands-on concrete approach, students will develop their ability to:

- Problem solve in everyday situations which develops critical thinking.
- Practice basic skills through ongoing routines and mathematical games.
- Revisit topics regularly to ensure full concept development.
- Explore a wide variety of mathematical content and apply their basic fact skills to geometry, measurement and algebra.
- Think visually, make connections between ideas, see patterns and make estimates.

The program emphasizes the following concept/skill areas:

Numeration: Students practice counting and writing numbers to 10,000. Students learn the number line, identify place value to 10,000 (base 10), compare numbers, work with fractions, equal parts to whole, and estimation. Students also use money to develop place-value, decimal and fraction concepts.

Operations/Computation: Students master basic addition and subtraction facts, explore the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction, and explore fact families. Students compare quantities using greater than, less than, or equal to; add 1-, 2-, 3-digit numbers, are introduced to multiplication and explore the relationship between multiplication and division. Students practice mental math.

Measurement and Reference Frames: Students use tools (ruler, yard/meter stick, scales, thermometer, clocks, calendars) to measure height, distance, weight units, time and temperature.

Data and Chance: Students collect, organize, and analyze real-life data using charts, tables and graphs. Students practice estimation in working with data, and construct tables and graphs, use tally marks, find middle value (median) and mode, and compare pairs of data. Students explore concepts of chance.

Geometry and Spatial Sense: Students explore 2- and 3- dimensional shapes, classify geometric shapes, and identify & construct prisms, pyramids, cylinders, spheres, cones, and regular polyhedrons and quadrilaterals.

Patterns, Functions, and Algebra: Students explore patterns and attributes of numbers in sequences, relations, functions, number grids, and fact tables. Students sort attribute blocks to match a rule.

Problem Solving: Students learn step-by-step strategies to help them become confident in tackling more complex problems. Strategies include: use a picture or diagram, use a table, make an organized list, guess and check, use or look for a pattern, work backwards, act it out/use objects, logical reasoning, make it simpler, and brainstorm.

Library & Technology

Library: Second graders visit the library once a week. This gives them the opportunity to be exposed to different forms of literature, fiction and non-fiction. This also teaches them responsibility and care for books.

Technology: Once a week, second graders go to the computer lab to build their technology skills and complete projects using various software programs. Projects are integrated with other curriculum areas such as writing and math. Students focus on learning keyboarding & other technology skills.

Personal Safety Curriculum

The personal safety curriculum for grades K-3 focuses on teaching children basic skills designed to help them keep safe from dangerous or abusive situations. In grades 1-3, lessons include walking safety, fire safety, and gun safety. A unit on touching safety emphasizes the positive aspects of touch in children's everyday lives. A unit on assertiveness and support seeks to increase children's ability to stand up for themselves in an assertive, but not aggressive, way and to ask for help in difficult, uncomfortable, or dangerous situations.

Social Studies: Rand McNally: *Storypath—The Wampanoags and the First Thanksgiving*, and *Safari to Kenya: The Land and the People*

Themes for Social Studies are drawn from and enhance other subject areas. Units in Social Studies weave together history, geography, and civics topics. Units include:

Pilgrims and Colonies: Students are introduced to basic historical concepts as they describe the life in the early U.S., including the Pilgrim and Colonial periods.

Regions and Cultures: Students investigate and describe basic elements of civilizations and their interrelationship by studying selected civilizations from around the world including Japan and Africa. Students describe the contributions of various cultural groups, as well as how cultural traditions are expressed through clothing, art, architecture and literature. Students learn how people adapt to their environment and study the climates, products, and animals of these regions.

Maps/Globes: Within the study of Japan, South America, Europe and Africa, students use a variety of maps, charts and grids to locate points and describe basic mapping elements (cardinal directions, land formations, measurements, continents, bodies of water, map scales and symbols).

Specialists

Second Graders meet with the following specialists:

Art: 45 minutes — once a week

Music: 30 minutes — twice a week

PE: 30 minutes — twice a week

Technology: 45 minutes — once a week

Physical Education

Second grade students will enhance motor and manipulative skills in games and activities and apply activity-appropriate rules.

Fitness Concepts: Students participate in and enjoy fitness games and activities that promote cardiovascular fitness, strength, and flexibility. Students develop a fitness vocabulary.

Movement Experiences: Students participate in and enjoy games and activities that enhance movement and manipulative skills. Students develop a movement vocabulary.

Responsibility: Students follow rules in individual and group games and activities, and use equipment appropriately and safely. Students develop problem-solving strategies and a positive sportsmanship vocabulary.

Science: Foss

Science in second grade builds on the first grade curriculum. Units of study include:

Physical Science: Students learn about waves, energy; and magnetism; they understand how the pitch of sound can be changed and how echoes are produced. Students learn how electricity passes from source to object, and how energy that produces light also produces heat.

Earth Science: Students explore and classify rocks and minerals. Students learn about the rock cycle and the layers of the earth (core, mantle).

Ecosystems: Students define ecosystems and learn about: Rainforest, Desert, Oceans, and the Polar Regions. Students study the habitats, climates, populations, resources of each as well as animal and plant life cycles, and threats to the ecosystem.

Art

The Art curriculum in second grade will focus on a different art element each month (based on the art objectives developed by the State of Washington). Students study one or two artists monthly, examining how they use the art element in focus. Students use collage, drawing, paper maché, mosaic, sculpture, painting and additional projects to encourage creativity and skill building.

Elements of Art examined include:

Line: identifying types of lines and using types of lines to make designs and compositions.

Shape/Form: creating a design using shapes; recognizing the difference between 2- and 3-dimensional forms.

Pattern: using color to create patterns.

Color: recognizing and making shades and tints.

Space: creating a design using overlapping shapes.

Texture: identifying and creating types of textures.

Music

- The elements of music taught in second grade include beat, rhythm, form and melody.
- Students play percussion and Orff instruments.
- Students participate in movement activities, creative choreography and folk dances.
- Students sing, identifying meters and rhythmic passages.
- Students create simple rhythmic compositions and read and perform them.
- Students create simple melodic composition and experiment with improvisation.