

# Second Grade Curriculum

## **RELIGION**

The Religion curriculum for second grade is divided into five main topics: belief, worship, commandments, prayer, and liturgical seasons.

Students will:

- Learn how to trust and love God
- Understand the Holy Trinity
- Know God is our Father
- Know Jesus is the Son of God
- Understand how Jesus is our Savior
- Understand how the Holy Spirit helps us live our lives
- Realize we are the people of God
- Know why we worship God
- Know why we celebrate Baptism and Confirmation
- Know God is forgiving
- Realize we should give thanks to God
- Know we are children of God
- Study the Ten Commandments
- Understand we have the right to make choices
- Understand we share in God's life
- Realize we talk with God through prayer
- Know that Jesus taught us how to pray to his Father
- Study Ordinary Time
- Study the Season of Advent
- Study the Season of Lent
- Study Holy Week
- Study the Season of Easter

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

The standard course of study for Language Arts consists of five major components: English, Reading, Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting. Writing, though a separate entity, is not isolated. It is integrated throughout all of language arts area of study as well as the rest of the second grade curriculum.

**English** -- Students will:

- Recognize and write complete sentences
- Recognize and write telling, asking, command, and exclamatory sentences
- Recognize nouns, adjectives and verbs
- Understand the writing process
- Read and write a personal narrative, a problematic story with a solution, and a set of instructions
- Write a class story
- Tell a story about themselves

- Retell a spoken message
- Give and follow directions
- Use a dictionary and a thesaurus

**Reading** – Students will:

- Understand cause and effect
- Classify and categorize
- Draw conclusions
- Distinguish fact from fantasy
- Recognize main ideas and details
- Make predictions
- Sequence events
- Develop vocabulary using phonetic/structural and contextual clues

**Spelling** – Students will:

- Study individual words that coincide with the reading anthology
- Take a weekly test that involves knowledge of individual words as well as dictation for listening skills and proper grammar usage

**Phonics** – Students will:

- Study long and short vowels
- Study initial, medial, and final consonants
- Study diphthongs: ow, ou, oi, oy, and ew
- Study soft and hard C and G
- Study initial R, L, and S blends
- Study compound words
- Study Y as a vowel
- Study initial consonant digraphs: th, sh, ch and wh
- Study final consonant digraphs: ck, th, sh, and ch
- Study consonant digraphs kn and wr
- Study R controlled words
- Study vowel pairs: ai, ay, ea, ee, oa, ow, oe, ui, ue, ie
- Study vowel digraphs: ea, oo, ou and ow
- Study contractions with not, will, am, is, are, have, has, and us
- Study plural ending -s and -es
- Study inflectional endings -es, -ing, and -ed
- Study prefixes and suffixes
- Study synonyms, antonyms and homonyms

**Handwriting** – Students will:

- Maintain upper and lower case manuscript letters
- Be introduced to upper and lower case cursive letters

**MATH**

There are nine major strands covered in second grade math. Each strand is broken down into specific objectives. These strands include patterns, relations

and functions, problem solving, number and number relations, geometry, measurement, estimation, data analysis and probability. These strands are intertwined through four main units of study.

Students will:

- Identify and extend patterns by finding a rule
- Use patterns to make generalizations and predictions
- Identify important information in problem solving and organize this information in order to solve the problem
- Write a specific number sentence that represents the given data in the problem
- Explain with words how the problem was solved and why the solution is correct
- Compose original one-step problems
- Relate numbers to a specific point on a number line
- Recognize, construct, compare and order numbers through 1,000
- Develop a concept of place value in the ones, tens and hundreds place
- Develop the concept of odd and even numbers as well as what number comes before and after a given number
- Develop early concepts of multiplication and division through repeated addition and sharing equally
- Develop skills in estimation and mental computation with sums and differences
- Solve multi-step problems using addition and subtraction
- Use inverse operations or “fact families” to solve problems and check for accuracy
- Identify plane figures and locate their various parts
- Identify and compare three-dimensional figures
- Explore the concept of perimeter by measuring distances
- Locate points on a coordinate plane
- Find missing addends in addition facts
- Add and subtract up to three digits with and without regrouping
- Perform linear measurement with both standard and non-standard devices
- Select appropriate metric and conventional units for capacity, mass and length
- Understand the value of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters
- Tell time to the quarter, half and hour on both standard and digital clocks
- Identify the number and name of all 12 months in a year
- Summarize and interpret information from various types of graphs
- Carry out simple probability experiments and be able to explain their results

## **SCIENCE**

The second grade science curriculum is broken down into four main areas of study: life science, physical science, earth science and the human body. The science curriculum contains objectives for knowledge in each category as well as performance of science process and inquiry based discovery.

Students will:

- Observe using the senses to gather information about various topics
- Classify objects based on shared properties
- Measure using standard and metric systems
- Communicate through oral language as well as graphs, drawings and tables
- Plan and conduct a simple investigation using simple scientific devices such as thermometers, hand lenses, balances, etc...
- Identify that organisms have basic needs and can only survive when these needs are met
- Observe change over time and conclude that animals closely resemble their parents
- Recognize ways that animals interact with their environment for survival
- Identify the steps in the life cycle of a butterfly
- Classify plants and identify their parts
- Examine fossils and their use in learning about dinosaurs
- Identify the observable properties of matter and its states
- Explore the manners in which matter can change
- Explore sound, light and heat, and specifically how they move
- Identify magnets and their uses
- Recognize magnetic poles and the acts of attracting and repelling
- Identify how electricity moves
- Demonstrate a live circuit using a battery, wire and a light bulb
- Discuss the features of the earth and how erosion happens
- Discuss and seek out ways to protect the earth
- Recognize that weather changes day to day and season to season
- Observe the water cycle
- Investigate wind direction and the anemometer
- Record the phases of the moon
- Identify the functions of the major organ systems such as heart and lungs
- Identify the importance of proper nutrition and exercise for a healthy body

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The main focus for the second grade social studies curriculum is neighborhoods. This concept is subdivided into five major categories: geography, citizenship/government, history, economics, and cultures.

Students will:

- Recognize a globe as a representation of the earth and identify the north and south poles and the equator
- Recognize the existence of seven separate continents and four oceans and be able to locate them on a map or globe
- Name and label major landforms such as mountains, hills, oceans, lakes, rivers and valleys
- Be able to construct and follow simple maps and directions pertaining to familiar places such as the classroom, school, and individual neighborhood
- Read and interpret various types of simple graphs and charts
- Recite the pledge of allegiance and explain its meaning

- Understand the importance of rules and laws as well as their penalties
- Understand the importance of voting as a citizen of the United States
- Understand our basic freedoms as citizens of the United States
- Identify reasons to respect others and their various cultures
- Recognize the contributions various groups have had on the culture of America
- Identify the roles of important Americans such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Identify community services
- Recognize that people make goods, near and far
- Recognize the differences between makers and users and buyers and sellers
- Recognize money as a means for exchange
- Identify the major means of communication such as letter writing and telephone
- Recognize major means of transportation
- Discuss the various types of neighborhoods
- Explain how tradition and stories are passed from generation to generation

### **ART**

Students will:

- Develop the skills necessary for understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes of art
- Develop knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design
- Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures
- Appreciate the expression, subject matter, symbols, and ideas used in art
- Reflect upon and assess the merits of their work and the work of others
- Perceive the connection between art and other disciplines

### **COMPUTER**

Students will:

- Use and understand basic computer related terms
- Be able to identify and demonstrate appropriate care for computer hardware components
- Be able to create, format, edit and save a word processing document
- Use age appropriate educational software to reinforce skills

### **LIBRARY**

In grades one and two, students begin to learn how to acquire basic information from using library materials. They learn to find books they are interested in and how to check them out independently. The Accelerated Reader program is introduced in first grade and fully implemented in second grade through fifth grade. Basic book care is stressed at this level.

### **MUSIC**

Students will:

- Sing songs, representative of varied styles, some from memory
- Read, write, compose and play a simple melody on pitched instruments

- (glockenspiel / recorder) using traditional and non-traditional musical notation
- Read and write rhythmic patterns using traditional notation and demonstrating an understanding of meter, and play these while maintaining a steady tempo
  - Improvise with simple instruments, singing and body movements in response to recorded music and to accompany play activities, games and books
  - Identify musical forms such as motive, phrase and verse/refrain
  - Integrate music into other disciplines including storytelling, writing, drawing and dramatic play
  - Sing, move and use dramatic play (speaking roles) in an ensemble, responding to the cues of a conductor
  - Describe emotional responses to and personal preference for specific musical works and their own performances

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Students will:

- Learn how to develop locomotion skills
- Learn special awareness
- Learn chasing, fleeing and dodging
- Learn correct throwing techniques
- Learn to work with others
- Learn different jumping sequences