

THE SECOND GRADE CURRICULUM

RELIGION: The religion curriculum uses stories from the old and new testaments to emphasize God's love and care for each child. The children also learn about God's greatest gift to His people: sending Jesus to die on the cross and take away our sins. Memorization of Bible verses and the Ten Commandments rounds out the religion curriculum. Students participate in daily devotions, share prayer requests, and practice showing God's love to each other and members of their community.

LANGUAGE ARTS: The Language Arts curriculum in second grade builds on the priority skills learned in first grade: *Spelling, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension*. We use *The Scott Foresman* series; a literature-based reading program using a theme-based text. The text offers stimulating and age-appropriate fiction and non-fiction selections. Differentiated instruction is accomplished by using Leveled Readers. These Readers allow students at all ability levels to apply comprehension and vocabulary skills. Grammar lessons and writing opportunities are integrated throughout the curriculum. In second grade, the children learn to be effective writers by responding daily to the assigned literature. Through the Accelerated Reader Program, the students choose books at their reading levels, and based on their own interests, to practice the reading skills covered in class.

HANDWRITING: The second grader students master manuscript writing and then begin to learn cursive writing using the Zaner-Bloser method.

MATHEMATICS: During second grade, the students develop skills in the following areas of mathematics: addition and subtraction up to three digit numbers, practical math skills (money; time; measuring length, capacity, weight, temperature), basic geometry and fractions, interpreting and presenting graphical data, place values and number relationships to 1000, multiplication and division.

Differentiated instruction is accomplished by using Leveled Practice workbooks.

SOCIAL STUDIES: The second grade curriculum uses stories citizen heroes and colorful biographies to capture the students' interests. Students learn about current civic systems as well as gain a historical perspective of how our country has developed. Students learn to appreciate local, state, and federal governments through role playing activities and voting on their own laws. The students are American Indian cultures including the Powhatans, the Sioux, and the Pueblo Native Americans. Students are also introduced to the colonists and learn basic geography as they identify the thirteen colonies. The students discover how our country grew by becoming pioneers and traveling out west. The curriculum concludes by introducing the students to important Americans who made sacrifices to make our country free.

SCIENCE: The second grade science program develops concepts through inquiry, observation and investigation. The students engage in hands- on activities which enables discovery and mastery of science skills. The students gain an understanding of how God designed life cycles for plants and animals. They identify and classify the types of animals. The students discover living and non-living things in an environment, as well as investigating stream and woodland habitats. The students enjoy the treasures of the earth by investigating rocks, soils, and fossils. The science curriculum concludes by using and saving resources.

SECOND GRADE CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

- Making original Native American shelters and Pioneer Day
- The Biography Bash and Adjective Show and Tell
- Creating original streams and habitats using various materials
- The Classroom Store during the money unit
- Field Trips
- Participate in Junior Choir
- Community outreach to local senior center