

Grade 2

Course Descriptions

Phonics

The main goal of the second grade phonics program is to review and reinforce the reading skills acquired in first grade. Through the use of the Phonics by Pearson textbook and workbooks as well as various games students are taught short and long vowels, blends, diagraphs, diphthongs, contractions, suffixes and prefixes, synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms. Students are given time on a daily basis to practice the new sounds they learn through writing and reading assignments.

Resource – *Phonics, Pearson*

Spelling

Students will be given weekly spelling assignments. Through the use of games and written assignment children will learn how to spell the words orally and in writing. The lists cover high frequency words, as well as words that use the special sounds taught in Phonics. An average list consists of 20 words plus 3 vocabulary words with definitions. By the end of the month of May second grade students will be prepared to participate and be successful in our annual Spelling Bee contest.

Reading

AEA uses the Journeys reading program by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Journeys is the most widely used reading curriculum across the country of the United States of America and provides a variety of varied reading texts and genres. The goal of AEA is to instill a love of reading and learning in our students.

English

AEA uses the Houghton Mifflin English textbook, which follows Common Core standards. The program provides instruction in grammar, writing, phonics, and communication. Not only will children learn how to personal narratives, but also will practice writing instructions, descriptions, and expressing opinions, in order to get the whole spectrum of the writing process.

Resource: English, *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Education*

Mathematics

AEA follows the Common Core standards for second grade math, which include:

Understanding place value relationships with numbers up to 1,000

Building computational fluency with addition and subtraction

Using metric and customary units of measure

Describing and analyzing shapes

In order to accomplish these goals, AEA uses the Go Math curriculum, which not only includes modern, up-to-date textbooks, but also online resources for the students to use. This program makes learning math a fun process!

Resource – *Go Math, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company*

Social Studies

In the second grade, students study about government, the world around us, natural resources, history, and different cultures, as well as some economics. It is important to introduce students to the world around them in order to develop respect for other cultures and people.

Resource – *People We Know, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company*

Science

The Science Fusion program introduces our students to the exciting field of science. It instills in children the joy of discovering how things work and react together. In the Science program the students will learn about the Scientific method, the plant and animal kingdom, environments, resources, weather, the solar system, matter, and energy. Students will be involved in experiments, as well as using online resources.

Resource – *Social Studies, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company*

Physical Education

The Physical Education in grade 2 will developed mature loco motor, non-loco motor and manipulative skills. They will practice these skills to adapt and refine them to be used in a variety of specific situations, primarily, in sports and games. Students will improve their individual performance and social skills.

Art

This course offers students an introduction to Visual Arts. Students will explore the creative process through studio projects (drawing, painting, composition, sculpture, fiber, graffiti, decoupage, collage, written work, art appreciation and art history). The elements and principles of art will be emphasized as they apply to each artist's style. Some art

projects will be self- directed, fueled by the students' own interests with research in art history, cultures, modern and contemporary art.

Course objectives: The students will identify and create artwork based on the elements of art and principles of design, demonstrate through their artwork how to use the elements of art to show movement and express feelings, recognize, compare and use different media to create their artwork, develop a respect and appreciation for the artwork of artists, including classmates' art, recognize and compare differences in several art mediums, create representational and abstract art, learn to create depth in 2-dimensional artwork using one point perspective, communicate thoughts, feelings and experiences to others through art, develop creative problem solving and higher-level thinking skills, learn about modern and contemporary art, develop critical thinking and imagination, understand terms that are basic to art media, procedures and techniques, as well as appreciation, maintain a sketchbook for a variety of drawings assignments to perfect their hand-eye ability and drawing skills.

Course topics: Fundamentals of Drawing and Composition, Elements of Art, Principles of Design, Art History and Art Criticism, Drawing, Color theory, Sculpture, Painting, Fibers, Graffiti, Decoupage, Collage.

Resource: *"The Visual Arts: A History"*, by Hugh Honour and John Fleming; *"The Art Teacher's Survival Guide for Elementary and Middle School"*, by Helen D. Hume; *"Children and their Art"*, by Michael Day and Al Hurwitz.

Music

The music class contains simplified instruction on the basics of music, such as melody, harmony, rhythm. The students will be introduced to different in style songs as they take part in performing in the school's musicals.

Course objectives:

Completing this course, students will develop:

- A. Self confidence in performing in front of audience.
- B. Better artistic expression and speaking skills.
- C. Intelligent listening and understanding of different musical forms.

Course requirements:

We understand that different students have different levels of artistic ability. The teacher will expect though that all students do their best and will grade each one not only according to their ability, but on their effort and participation in class as well.

Resource: *"Music Express "*, Collins