

Reading/Language Arts/Phonics Curriculum Guide

Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive and interrelated sequence of lessons for students to continue building their proficiency in literature and reading comprehension, writing skills, vocabulary, and spelling. Through exploration of a variety of texts and daily development of their skills as readers, writers, speakers, and active listeners, students experience the power of literacy. We use the *Reading Wonders* program which fosters a love of reading by providing a comprehensive set of connected resources for all learners in the areas of science, social studies, and literature. It incorporates structured phonics instruction that explicitly teaches and assesses. Additional resources are included throughout the year to complement certain concepts.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will demonstrate understanding of the following state standards in second grade:

- Reading standards for Literature: Key ideas and details; craft and structure; range of reading and level of text complexity.
- Reading standards: foundational skills (K-5): phonics and word recognition; reading fluency
- Reading standards for informational text: integration of knowledge and ideas; text complexity
- Writing standards: text types and purposes; research to build and present knowledge
- Standards for speaking and listening: comprehension and collaboration; presentation of knowledge and ideas
- Language standards: conventions of standard English; knowledge of language; vocabulary acquisition and use

Instructional Methods/Strategies:

Through classroom instruction, independent work, projects, and assignments, students become proficient in listening by following multi-step directions, attending to academic tasks in small/large groups, and exhibiting appropriate audience manners. Students use phonics skills in decoding and spelling unknown words, use context clues, structural analysis, and dictionary skills to expand and apply vocabulary words in reading, science, and social studies lessons. Students become independent readers, reading for knowledge and enjoyment while appreciating and identifying various genres of literature. Fluency, expression, and intonation are practiced throughout the year in different ways and through a variety of reading and writing activities. Exposure to different kinds of writing are offered in a formal and informal manner such as journals, friendly letters, stories, research, and responding to open-ended questions in all content areas.

Math Curriculum Guide

Course Description:

This math course provides students with the instruction necessary to demonstrate the ability to perform basic mathematical functions and problem solving in the areas of addition and subtraction of whole numbers, money, time, geometry, numbers to 1000, measurement, fractions, beginning multiplication and division concepts, graphing, place value, and patterns to 100. The textbook used in second grade is McGraw-Hill 'My Math' Volumes 1 and 2. Supplemental materials include teacher created resources, math games, interactive journals, and math applications. In addition, students are provided with enrichment worksheets, manipulative materials, formal and informal tests, daily mental math puzzles, and fun critical thinking activities/games.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will demonstrate understanding of the following state standards in second grade:

- Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction
- Add and subtract within 20
- Understand and use place value and properties of operations to add and subtract
- Measure and estimate lengths in standard units
- Relate addition and subtraction to length
- Work with equal groups of objects to gain foundations for multiplication
- Work with time and money
- Represent and interpret data
- Reason with shapes and their attributes

Instructional Methods/Strategies:

Whole group lessons and small group guided instruction focused on extending students' understanding of place value; building fluency with addition and subtraction; using standard units of measure; and decomposing and combining shapes. Addition and subtraction fluency are practiced throughout the year in different ways and through a variety of fun and engaging activities. Exposure to different stories and real-life situations teach students to solve problems within 1000 by applying their understanding of models for addition and subtraction. Cooking and baking are frequently done to provide students with opportunities to measure, compare, and work with numbers while having fun.

Science Curriculum Guide

Course Description:

In second grade, students will study various forms of science, including life science, Earth and space science, and physical science. During the life science unit, students will study what plants need to survive as well as how plants and animals depend on one another for survival. Also, they will learn about the human body and how to stay healthy by avoiding germs when possible. For the Earth and space units, students will study the effects of weather, wind, and water. They will also study landforms and bodies of water. In the physical science units, students describe and classify different kinds of materials by their apparent properties and anticipated purposes, the basics of force, gravity and magnets. Finally, the students will study the water cycle. Some of the materials used are Inspire Science (McGraw Hill), National Geographic Science program *Big Ideas* content books, practice and enrichment worksheets, manipulative materials, quizzes, tests, as well as teacher created resources, science applications, Brain Pop Jr video clips, hands-on labs, journals, enrichment activities (field trips, egg-to-chick classroom incubation process, planting a garden), and visits/lessons from topic experts.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will demonstrate understanding of the following state standards in second grade:

- Nature of Science: the practice of science
- Earth and Space Science: Earth structures; Earth systems and patterns
- Physical Science: properties of matter; changes in matter; forms of energy; forces and changes in motion
- Life Science: organization and development of living organisms; heredity and reproduction; interdependence of living organisms

Instructional Methods/Strategies:

This curriculum creates a rich and fun learning environment for whole group lessons and small group guided instruction where students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate proficiency by asking questions; developing and using models; planning and carrying out investigations; analyzing and interpreting data; designing solutions; engaging in discussions from evidence; and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information through charts, records, graphs, or journal entries. Cooking and baking are frequently done to provide students with opportunities to compare, observe physical and chemical changes, and work together while having fun. Students will conduct inquiry-based investigations through fun, hands-on lab experiences. Students will also be introduced to various STEM careers as the learning occurs.

Social Studies Curriculum Guide

Course Description:

This class uses the ideas of neighborhoods to introduce and expand upon many different subjects: what a neighborhood is, how people work and live together, how maps and globes are used to describe an area, how people move via immigration, and how this movement is related to inventions. This leads to a unit about the first Americans, American Indians, including their homes, food and culture, the pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. The students then learn about needs and wants, and how different goods and services are provided. Next, we learn about the structure and functions of government. Lastly, the students learn about why people work and different types of jobs; how we earn money, how to manage it, and how to save it. Throughout the year, students will work on developing character education traits by practicing 'thinking, feeling, and doing', by caring for others and the community, and through self-motivation with the intentional effort of strengthening core values and working on continuous growth through ethical and compassionate decision-making. Course materials include Impact Social Studies - *Exploring Who We Are* (McGraw Hill), Scholastic News Social Studies Nonfiction Magazines, practice and enrichment worksheets, manipulative materials, teacher created resources, social studies applications on Chromebooks, virtual field trips, Brain Pop Jr video clips.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will demonstrate understanding of the following state standards in second grade:

- American History: examine primary and secondary sources; utilize media center, technology and other sources to locate information; historical inquiry and analysis; historical knowledge
- Civic and Government: foundations of government, law, and the American political system; structure and functions of government
- Beginning Economics: recognize that people provide goods and services; explain the personal benefits and costs involved in saving and spending; recognize that the United States exchanges goods and services with other nations
- Geography: use maps and globes to identify map elements; label on a map/globe the continents, oceans, and equator; use a map to locate the countries in North America

Instructional Methods/Strategies:

Whole group lessons and small group guided instruction with discussions on the topic at hand are utilized. Students work on organizing and producing oral and written history and geography projects appropriate to their level. They also analyze images of the time period and culture being learned, or observe artwork from that era, which will be utilized to make flip books, pop-up cards, dioramas, postcards, travel brochures, or lap books. Students are encouraged to use technology and a variety of other sources to explore and to come in contact with social studies. Examples of this include comparing music from a specific era with today's beats, or recreating a

detailed experience by re-enacting a meal by implementing methods and ingredients from a particular time/culture. Exposure to different stories and real-life situations teach students to communicate, accept, understand, and solve problems collaboratively.