

Second Grade

My Belief Statements

A safe and supportive environment to learn that is print-rich and talk-rich.

Children learn best by doing.

Children learn best if the people around them model a love of learning.

Maintain consistency and clear and high expectations for our students in the classroom.

It is vital to continually assess so we can start what children know and bring them into the unknown.

Curriculum

Language Arts

Reading And Writing

Our classroom literacy instruction consists of:

- *Reader's Workshop
- *Writer's Workshop
- *Shared Reading and Read Aloud
- *Word Study (phonics, spelling, word wall)
- *Handwriting

Reader's Workshop includes:

- *Focused mini-lessons with the whole class learning about the reading process, skills, and strategies. (See Café Menu)
- *Students independently reading and the teacher conferencing with individuals.
- *Teacher instructing small groups (guided reading and strategy lessons)
- *Students reflecting upon and responding to their reading orally and in writing.
- *Students working on assignments relative to the mini-lessons.
- *Whole group sharing time and peer conferencing.

Writer's Workshop

Writer's workshop has a similar format to Reader's Workshop. It begins with a brief instructional lesson with the whole class, time for students to write, and ends with a sharing time. Students are thinking about writing, talking about writing, reading about writing, but mostly by doing the writing during this time. Writing workshop includes instruction of the 6+1 Traits of Writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, convention, and presentation.

Shared Reading And Read Aloud

Shared reading allows students to participate in reading material that may be beyond their reading levels. The teacher models a reading strategy using the texts. All students have access to and can interact with the text.

Word Study

We use the Houghton-Mifflin spelling and vocabulary curriculum. This program emphasizes phonics in action, using spelling skills in writing and building vocabulary. I also use the Word Wall. The Word Wall is used to teach phonemic awareness and high frequency words.

Handwriting

We use Zaner-Bloser second grade manuscript handwriting in second grade.

Math

Text- Math Expressions

Philosophy- Math Expressions is a comprehensive mathematics curriculum that offers new ways to teach and learn math combining the most powerful elements of standards-based instruction with the best of the traditional approach. Math Expressions uses objects, drawings, conceptual language, and real-world situations to help build math ideas that make sense to students. The program also includes homework each night that reinforces the learned skills.

Second Grade Units of Study:

1. Understanding Addition and Subtraction
2. Measurement and Shapes
3. Solving Story Problems
4. Triangles and Quadrilaterals
5. Addition to 200
6. Tables and Graphs
7. Diagonals and Midpoints
8. 2-Digit Subtraction
9. Shapes and Patterns
10. 3-Digit Addition and Subtraction

Social Studies and Science

We will begin the year in social studies with a focus on our school community, learning about respecting ourselves and others. One major project during this unit of study will be to create Me Boxes. This will be explained in more detail in the upcoming weeks.

In October, we will begin a Rocks and Minerals science unit, using our new hands-on Foss Science Kit. As the year progresses, we will keep you updated on the upcoming curriculum.