



Grade 2 Curriculum 2023-2024

2 English Language Arts

The Language Arts program focuses on the study of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The components of the program emphasize the development of skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

Reading

The textbook used for reading is *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) Into Reading*. Students will explore different genres, which are a mix of fiction and nonfiction from diverse cultures, as a class and in guided reading groups.

Emphasis is on:

- reading fluency
- asking & answering questions about key details in text
- central messages, main idea, & morals
- analysis of details, characters, & illustrations
- making predictions
- sequence of events/steps
- story structure
- text features
- compare & contrast
- using context clues
- vocabulary & decoding skills
- point of view
- author's purpose
- weekly spelling tests



Writing

The textbook used for writing and grammar is *Voyages in English* from Loyola Press.

Students will work through the steps of the writing process to develop and publish several pieces including

- personal narratives
- friendly letters
- how-to articles
- descriptions
- book reports (including opinions)
- research report



The development of each piece sets in motion the goal of producing creative and articulate communicators. Students will apply grammar skills taught into their writing in all content areas.

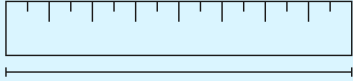
Zaner-Bloser Handwriting

Students will begin the year by continuing their knowledge and practice with manuscript (print) handwriting. After all the letters are reviewed and practiced, students will begin cursive handwriting. Students will be expected to finish the year completing their spelling tests and assignment notebook in cursive.



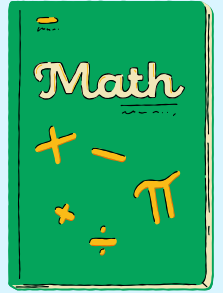
2 Mathematics

The University of Chicago *Everyday Mathematics-Common Core Edition* builds on understanding mathematics with a focus on problem solving in everyday situations.



Emphasis is on:

- place value
- time & money
- measurement
- 2D & 3D shapes
- problem-solving
- operations & number stories
- patterns & rules
- decimals & place value
- introduction to fractions
- multiplication & division using arrays
- frequent practice of basic facts



2 Science

Students use concrete and hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning, and explaining. The series used is online program called *Mystery Science*.



Students will explore the following:

- all about plants & animals
- how plants & animals live together
- properties of matter
- earth's features, weather & water
- STEAM activities
- Biome research project

2 Social Studies

Students are given the tools to investigate where they live, including its history, geography economy, and government. They learn about people who have made an impact on the world and explore ways that they can impact their own world as well. Connections between their community's past and present are encouraged as they prepare for roles in their community's future. The textbook series used is *Impact Social Studies: Exploring Who We Are* published by McGraw Hill.

Students will explore the following:

- Why Is It Important to Learn About the Past?
- How Does Geography Help Us Understand Our World?
- How Do We Get What We Want and Need?
- Why Do We Need Government?
- How Can People Make a Difference in Our World?

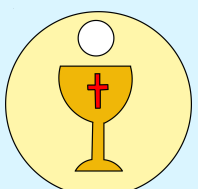


2 Religion

Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion class, but in all learning. Students will learn about the Catholic faith through stories, activities, scripture, prayer, discussion, and reflection. The text used for instruction is *Finding God* from Loyola Press.

Emphasis is on:

- Sacred Scripture & Tradition
- Nicene Creed
- Preparation for Reconciliation & Holy Communion
- Forgiveness
- Thankfulness
- Examination of conscience
- Participation in worship ministry
- Service to others
- Religious diversity
- Prayer in a variety of forms, especially the Act of Contrition



Service Theme: Children's Rights & Responsibilities

Students learn that throughout the world, children have the same rights. On Service Day, the students will visit St. Catherine-St Lucy School in Oak Park.



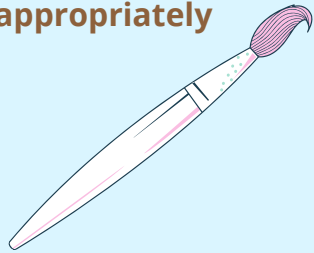
Grade 2 Curriculum 2023-2024

K-2 Art

Students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

Emphasis is on:

- identifying the elements of line, shape, space, color, and texture, as well as the principles of repetition and pattern
- using various types of tools appropriately when painting, drawing, and constructing
- creating visual works of art using manipulation, eye-hand coordination, building, and imagination
- using art vocabulary appropriately



2 Music

Students will have the opportunity to participate in music activities and to develop an appreciation for music.

Emphasis is on:

- singing in groups & during performances (Christmas Performance)
- involvement in music ministry
- learning about & exploring beat, singing, meter, melody, rhythm, the Baroque period, notes & rests, composing, dynamics, & form
- introduce the orchestra seating chart & the role of the conductor; discover members of the brass family
- studying the composer of the month

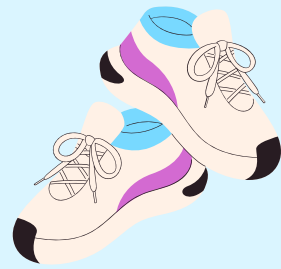


K-2 Physical Education

Students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Emphasis is on:

- development and demonstration of gross motor and locomotor skills
- sportsmanship & participation in cooperative group games and activities
- personal health and fitness
- following rules and utilizing strategies in various activities



K-2 Spanish

Students will continue to explore basic concepts of the Spanish language by listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

Emphasis is on:

- learning everyday Spanish words through song and toys
- pronouncing words correctly
- repetition of Spanish words introduced through yes or no questions
- responding to and asking simple questions with prompts
- using common forms of courtesy, greetings, and farewells
- responding to and recognizing information from stories or songs
- engaging in simple conversations on familiar topics
- learning & reciting prayers in Spanish



K-3 Technology

Students in grades K-3 each use a school-owned iPad in their classrooms. Technology skills are taught through content areas with a focus on good digital citizenship. Use of the devices complements student learning standards and objectives. Students use the application Seesaw to create a digital portfolio to showcase their learning.

