

St. Mary of Gostyn School

Grade 2 Curriculum Guide



Social Studies

Second grade students develop an awareness of themselves and people around them.

The focus will be:

- Communities
- Cities
- Cultures
- Meeting needs through goods and services
- Celebrations

Religion

Second graders will learn through stories, activities, Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion, but in all subject areas.

The focus is on:

- Traditional common prayers
- Creation
- God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit
- Celebrating liturgy
- The Sacraments
- First Communion and Reconciliation

Physical Education

In second grade, students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will:

- Maintain personal fitness
- Acquire an awareness of personal health needs
- Develop and demonstrate gross motor skills
- Participate in cooperative group games
- Engage in activities that increase heart rate
 - Jogging
 - Jumping rope
 - Tag games
- Engage in activities that develop eye-hand coordination/eye-foot coordination using a variety of equipment

Science

Students use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning and explaining.

Students will focus on:

- Matter and its Interactions
- Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy and Dynamics
- Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity
- Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats
- Earth's Place in the Universe
- Earth's Systems

Math

Second grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems through the use of the text McGraw-Hill My Math, extended activities and hands-on experiences. Students will:

- Identify place value
- Use a number line
- Add and subtract 2 and 3 digit numbers
- Solve word problems
- Chart, compare and graph data
- Use a clock to determine time
- Identify patterns using fact families
- Identify, classify, compare and describe characteristics of shapes
- Units of measurement

Music

Students will:

- Discern sensory elements of music such as high, low, fast and slow using music
- Terminology (pitch, allegro, andante, adagio, forte, piano, etc.)
- Demonstrate the mood or emotion expressed in a piece of music presented through body movement, drawing, painting and verbal expression
- Accurately sing songs related to the season and the Christmas program
- Play hand percussion instruments and demonstrate hands on manipulation of musical concepts presented and to explore artistic expression through music
- Introduction of basic musical notation such as staff, note movement and counting beats
- Emphasis is on a broader understanding and manipulation of basic musical concepts
- Terminology and experience of musical concepts via music games

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Language Arts/Writing

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those 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. The textbook used for reading is Wonders. The publisher offers information and activities at their website <https://McGrawHill.com>

Reading/Literature:

Children will experience authentic literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, biographies, fantasies and plays. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with different skills.

Students will:

- Link spoken and written language
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary (includes listening and sight)
- Using structural analysis
- Comprehending the main idea
- Sequencing events of a story
- Analyzing details
- Use context clues
- Make predictions
- Self-correct while reading
- Distinguishing fact from fantasy
- Use an index and dictionary

Writing:

Second grade students use writing to convey meaning.

Students will:

- Write legibly
- Write multiple sequential sentences on a given topic in paragraph form
- Apply spelling knowledge (skills are developed through a variety of spelling and phonetic patterns)
- Apply grammar and mechanics
 - Parts of speech
 - Simple tenses
 - Writing formats
 - Punctuation

Listening/Speaking:

Second grade students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions.

Students will:

- Present material orally
- Make presentations to individuals and small groups
- Participate in small and large group discussions
- Read, analyze and retell stories

Spanish

The focus is on:

- Pronunciation
- Conversation
- Grammar

STEAM Lab

The Robotics and Programming section of STEAM will focus on technology activities including the Sphero robotics program. These activities will be more teacher-led and focused on using critical thinking and problem-solving skills to program and code the robots to solve problems and accomplish goals.

The Makerspace section of STEAM will focus on hands-on activities in which students will work independently and collaboratively with their peers to devise solutions to problems and utilize a wide variety of tools to accomplish goals. The Makerspace is more student-led and explorative, while still maintaining structure with students working towards a common goal.