



Curriculum Outline Grade 2

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SOCIAL STUDIES

Second grade students develop an awareness of the world around them. The text used for instruction is *My World Social Studies, We Do Our Part*.

Emphasis is on:

- my community, my country
- working to meet our needs
- the world around us
- celebrating our traditions

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. The textbook series used for science instruction is The *Scott Foresman, Science* series and also *Mystery Science*.

Emphasis is on:

- life science
 - all about plants/animals
 - how plants and animals live together
- earth science
 - earth's land, air, and water
- physical science
 - properties of matter and sound
- STEAM activities

MATHEMATICS

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

Emphasis is on:

- numbers and routines
- addition and subtraction facts
- place value
- money
- time
- 3D and 2D shapes
- operations and number stories
- patterns and rules
- introduction to fractions
- measurement
- decimals and place value
- introduction to multiplication and division using arrays

RELIGION

Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in Religion class, but in all learning. The textbook series used for religion instruction is *Finding God* and *God's Gift and Eucharist*

Emphasis is on:

- traditional common prayers
- Creation
- God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit
- celebrating liturgy
- Baptism, First Holy Communion and Reconciliation
- liturgical seasons/parts of the Mass
- participation in prayer services

Service Theme: Children's Rights and Responsibilities

Students learn that children, throughout the world, have the same rights. On Service Day they visit Saint Vincent De Paul in Lincoln Park.

LANGUAGE ARTS/READING

The Language Arts Program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. 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 textbook series used for instruction is *Journeys Common Core: Catholic School Edition*.

READING/LITERATURE

Children experience authentic literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, fantasies and plays as a class and in guided reading groups.

Emphasis is on:

- spoken and written language
- word identification strategies
- vocabulary (includes listening and sight)
- structural analysis
- main idea, sequence of events and analysis of details
- use of context clues
- distinguishing fact from fantasy
- making predictions
- self-correction while reading
- use of index and dictionary

WRITING

The Common Core curriculum is used for writing instruction. Students are encouraged to write about personal experiences including small moments, letters, persuasive essays, informative writing, opinion writing, and how-to articles. They are also introduced to poetry, the seven steps of the writing process, the traits of good writing, and poetry.

ZANER-BLOSER HANDWRITING

Students will begin the year by continuing their knowledge and practice with Manuscript handwriting. After all 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.

ART

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

Emphasis is on:

- communicating through the Arts
- elements of shape/line/texture/ color
- creation of visual works of art using manipulation, hand-eye coordination, imagination
- various types of media tools

MUSIC

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

Emphasis is on:

- singing in groups and performance opportunities (Carol and Light)
- involvement in music ministry
- developing pitch awareness
- learning basic musical notation and rhythmic patterns
- exploring melody and the major scale

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle.

Emphasis is on:

- personal fitness and health
- development and demonstration of gross motor and locomotor skills
- participation in cooperative group games and activities
- individual responsibility

SPANISH

Students will learn basic concepts of the Spanish language by listening, reading, and speaking.

Emphasis is on:

- pronouncing words correctly
- responding to and asking simple questions with prompts
- using common forms of courtesy, greetings, and leave-takings
- identifying family and friends
- describing the date, season, and weather
- using masculine and feminine words
- exploring the universality of our Catholic faith

TECHNOLOGY

Students in grades 1-3 have access to school-owned iPads in their classrooms with a ratio of 2:1. Technology skills are taught through content areas with a focus on good digital citizenship. Use of the devices complements student learning standards and objectives. They will use the application Seesaw to create a digital portfolio to showcase their learning. Students in grades 1-3 are also introduced to coding. They will work with Blockly, a visual drag-and-drop, block based coding app to program robots by Wonder Workshop.