

2nd Grade Academics

The Academy provides a venue in which all students can be educated and assessed in both traditional and non-traditional ways, thereby helping children to thrive in all learning environments. The second grade curriculum is fully aligned with state content expectations, is challenging, differentiated, project driven and real-world connected both in and through the arts and technology. At WMAAA, your child will become a confident and excited learner.

Language Arts:

Our second grade English Language Arts program continues to focus on phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary and text comprehension strategies. Students learn to use structural cues to recognize and decode words. Your child will increase his/her ability to read aloud and to apply various aspects of fluency, such as pauses and emphasis, punctuation cues, and intonation. Students will practice responding in a variety of ways to multiple texts. Students will work on becoming confident readers, writers and speakers using various communicating skills and mediums to gain or share knowledge. The second grade English Language Arts student will do the following:

- Continue to develop phonics knowledge, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary and text comprehension
- Demonstrate the ability to use structural cues to decode words and recognize frequently encountered words
- Increase knowledge of style, organizational patterns and elements of information genre and use this knowledge to improve and apply comprehension strategies
- Develop strategies, knowledge, and organization tools to self-monitor reading comprehension
- Strengthen process writing skills while focusing on the development of pre-planning and drafting strategies, develop sound, well organized, paragraphs with well structured sentences, personal style, voice, grammar usage, mechanics and spelling
- Predict, infer, ask questions and make connections to make reading meaningful
- Respond to the writing of others.

Science:

Second grade students combine open-ended project learning and informational learning skills to study specific units within the earth, biological and physical science fields. Science processes of inquiry, reflection, and constructing new knowledge that have been initiated in previous grades are continued to be strengthened and broadened. Students are provided opportunities to apply significant knowledge from what is read in grade level science texts of various origins. Specific units of study include the following:

- Science in the kitchen, including states of matter
- Light, color and sound
- The changing landforms of the earth
- Biomes, diversity, adaptations and challenges (rainforest, desert, ocean, deciduous forest.)

Mathematics:

Second grade mathematics continues to build addition and subtraction skills, fluency and sophistication of thought. Students gain further knowledge in counting principles and place value as students compose and decompose numbers into various formats. Work continues with unit fractions and measurement, basic elements of geometry, simple coordinate systems and slides, flips and rotations. Estimation skills continue to be expanded as well as displaying data sets in multiple ways. The year concludes with an introduction to multiplication and division concepts. Units of study include the following:

- Number notation and place value
- Operations in addition and subtraction and application of concepts
- Estimation and measurement of length and temperature
- Unit fractions
- Money operations and decimal notation, and making change
- Geometric shapes and their attributes
- Data interpretation and graph making
- Problem solving
- Foundations of multiplication and division concepts and models.

Social Studies:

Using the context of the local community, second grade students learn fundamental concepts in history, geography, civics and government, and economics. The concept of community is explored first from their classroom and school then expands to the local communities. Local history, geography, resources, economics, cultural values, essential services, jobs, transportation systems, and local government organization are studied. Units of study include the following:

- Our school as a community
- Working, playing and solving problems in a community
- Communities change
- Being a good citizen within a community/ People who make a difference
- Our community environment
- Communities are different
- Celebrate cultural diversity
- Exploring the geography and history of our community
- Transportation in and out of our community.



Every Child Successful, Everyday !

2nd Grade Arts



The Academy places an equal emphasis on the arts and academic subjects within our curriculum. To help achieve this, our arts programs have two distinctive goals. The first goal is achieved through the arts and academics integration process, whereby academic concepts studied in the classroom are studied and reinforced through the arts. Secondly, specific arts skills, which have been aligned with the state and national standards for the arts, are studied with the intent to developing basic arts competencies. In grades 1 and 2, scheduled arts classroom time includes both of these components and all students receive instruction in all four arts forms on a weekly basis.

Dance

Concepts introduced in second grade include the use of space, musicality, skill-building and confidence in performing.

Second grade dancers will do the following:

- Demonstrate basic loco-motor and non loco-motor movements
- Demonstrate the ability to define and maintain personal space
- Move to a musical beat and responding to changes in tempo
- Demonstrate simple movement sequences
- Demonstrate the ability to work with a partner
- Use dance to learn about or reinforce knowledge from other disciplines.

Music

Concepts introduced in second grade include introduction to patterns in vocal music, introduction to instrument families and building performance confidence.

Second grade musicians will do the following:

- Identify instrument families
- Maintain musical patterns in a group
- Play harmonic patterns
- Identify note values
- Create a rhythmic accompaniment
- Sing in a head voice
- Use music to learn about or reinforce knowledge from other disciplines.

Drama

Concepts introduced in second grade include learning to demonstrate characterization, creating story lines, group work and stage presentation.

Second grade actors will do the following:

- Apply variations in body and voice to create characters
- Work in groups to dramatize characters in their environments
- Work in groups to create characters, plot and setting for short skits
- Demonstrate self-confidence in pretending and performing
- Identify basic stage direction
- Understand different genres of theatre
- Use drama to learn about or reinforce knowledge from other



Visual Art

Concepts introduced in second grade include the elements of art, colors, and themes in art and imaginative drawings.

Second grade artists will do the following:

- Create artwork to tell a real or imaginative story, use art materials that best communicate the mood or idea
- Apply proportion when drawing existing objects
- Mix primary colors to make secondary colors applying the basic rules of color mixing
- Prepare a work of art for display and presents it to a group
- Identify and describes elements of art: line, color, shape, space, texture and form
- Use art to learn about or reinforce knowledge from

