

About Our Day in Second Grade 2015-2016

Morning Routine

As students come into our room they follow our morning routine procedures including putting their belongings away, turning in their homework, responding to our morning message and completing a math word problem of the day or an alternate activity.

Morning Meeting

We have a morning meeting each day to help strengthen our classroom community. At our morning meeting we greet one another, children share with the group, we play a game or activity (often that reinforces our learning), we read our morning message, and we talk about the day ahead of us.

Chinese

Each Wednesday Mrs. Chun Thomas teaches Mandarin Chinese. Second graders enjoy this weekly experience.

Extended Learning Time

During this time of our day we enrich, reinforce, and/or remediate skills in Language Arts and Math. These activities vary and depend on our current learning needs. This is a new time of day introduced in grades K-8 this year.

Language Arts

Our Language Arts block includes all of our literacy activities. In our Reading Stations we have small group and individual reading conferences while children work in reading workshop stations. Reading stations can include independent reading, buddy reading, writing in journals, publishing on computer, using various computer programs, word games, reading poetry, manipulating words and letters, spelling skill building, proofreading and editing practice, word origin lessons, creating art projects related to stories being read, literature circles, handwriting practice, listening to books on tape, writing activities, reading books on our ipads, and other language rich activities. During Language Arts we also set aside time for us to participate in language review lessons, various content related mini lessons, weekly spelling practice, weekly wordly wise practice, writing workshop projects, etc. that are based on the current learning needs of the class. During writing workshop children write in their class journals and participate in other writing. We will focus on works of literature to develop our own writing skills and will utilize all steps of the writing process. At times we will be focusing on a big writing project that will take a few weeks and then there are other times that we will be sharpening our overall writing skills through short term daily journal writing, writing reflections, and other writing activities.

Math

Math in second grade is a hands-on approach to problem solving. Students will be actively engaged in the learning environment. We will use

math manipulatives, games, math centers and pencil and paper tasks to build our math skills. We begin our math block with our daily math review, then we have a whole group lesson and independent practice of the skills we are working on. As students demonstrate proficiency with the lesson they then move into a math center to reinforce our skills.

Free Choice

Children make independent learning choices in the classroom. Children may choose to work in the reading center, math center, discovery center, computer center, writing center, creative play center, art center, or on a research project. This time is also used to help students get caught up on unfinished work and we also use it to continue to remediate skills students are not grasping as well as to enrich students' learning.

Special Classes

Second grade specials include Library (once a week) taught by Mrs. Terri Knight, Music (once a week) taught by Mrs. Allyson Ross, Guidance (once a week) taught by a graduate assistant under the supervision of Mrs. Aleeta Shaw, Art (once a week) taught by Mrs. Ellen Pitts, and Physical Education (four times a week) taught by Mrs. Sharon Cradic.

Discovery

Science and Social Studies curriculum goals and objectives are introduced through the use of themed units. The children are provided guided and independent practice using the concepts introduced. Children move at their own pace and ability through daily activities. Theme related activities are also weaved throughout our day in other content areas.

Planners/Closing Gathering/Dismissal

Children record their daily homework in their planners and then meet at closing gathering to discuss our day and enjoy a read aloud.

Revised 7/14/15