

About Our Day in Second Grade 2017-2018

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 morning work.

Morning Meeting

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

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 by reviewing our morning work. We then typically have a whole group mini lesson followed by independent and/or small group practice. As students demonstrate proficiency with the focus skills they then move into a math center to reinforce our skills. We often also typically engage in math stations to reinforce and practice our math skills.

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.

Language Arts

Our Language Arts block includes all of our literacy activities. We have whole group mini lessons focusing on key skills. 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 our writing, using various computer programs, word games, reading and illustrating 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, word games 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, and writing workshop projects that are based on the current learning needs of the class. During writing workshop children write in their class journals and participate in other long

term writing projects. 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.

Free Choice

Children make independent learning choices in the classroom. Children choose an activity from our choice board during this time. The choices include things such as reading in our loft, word games, buddy reading, math center activities, discovery center activities, computer time, writing activities, arts and crafts projects, ramps & pathways, building and constructing with various tools, 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 Mr. Zachary Alegria, 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. We rotate back and forth between science and social studies. 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.

Updated 7/20/17