

### **Music**

Rhythm and melody are the key emphasis of second grade Musicplay curriculum. The students practice body movements to rhythmic patterns and begin to understand how these are represented by rhythm bars and notes. They also learn that melody is the way the notes go up and down and begin to sight-read phrases of songs. Simple rhythms and melodies are played on rhythm instruments or tone bells. Children also sing many hymns and praise songs along with songs for fun and games, and some of these are performed in musicals, concerts, or as part of worship. Near the end of the year, each child prepares and performs a musical Show & Tell before the class. A Kindergarten –2nd grade musical is presented every third year.

### **Art**

Painting a fall tree, drawing a self-portrait, sculpting a clay dinosaur, crafting a pueblo house, making a color wheel, and printing designs with objects and paint are some of the projects that second graders do to explore their artistic skills. They are also learning various techniques using a horizontal line, drawing the body in proportion, techniques of overlapping, planning a group project, and proper use of materials. Impressionism and the work of Claude Monet are also introduced. During Art Appreciation month in November, volunteers bring in artworks from the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Every third year the second graders prepare an individual art project for the School Art Fair.

### **Physical Education**

Second graders participate daily in directed physical activities either on the playground or indoors. Students are developing fitness and movement skills, i.e.; running, skipping, hopping, jumping rope, throwing, catching, and kicking of balls. They are also learning game skills for playing soccer, hockey, bowling, and kickball. Other activities include simple tumbling skills, parachute activities, relays, rhythm activities, fitness testing, and free play. Students are developing behaviors of cooperation, sharing, and encouragement while participating in all physical activities. Daily recess allows time to choose

physical activities, develop social skills and cooperative play. Every spring there is a track and field day with other Lutheran schools.

### **Computer**

Students in second grade go to the computer lab every other week to develop their keyboarding and word processing skills. They type poems, career reports, add graphics and pictures, and play educational games.

### **D.A.R.E.**

In the DARE program presented by the Maple Grove Police, an officer teaches students about safety issues.

## **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School**

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### **CURRICULUM REVIEW**

#### ***SECOND GRADE***

***Teacher: Mrs. LeAnn Cummins***

**Principal**

**Gary L. Volberding**

### **Religion**

Religion lessons are taken from the Concordia Voyages program. They are based on Bible stories which reveal God's wonderful plan of salvation for us through Jesus Christ. During this study we read stories from the Bible, do related written activities, role play, and discuss how these stories apply to our lives as God's children. Sharing prayer requests and praising Him in word and song demonstrates our trust in God and thankfulness for all His blessings in our lives.

### **Memory Work**

Related Bible verses, commandments and their meanings, plus books of the New Testament are assigned as memory work.

### **Reading and Decodable Books**

Second grade readers are expanding their reading vocabulary, skills, and fluency using the SRA Open Court Basal Reading program. Individual assessments are administered during the year to evaluate each child's progress and set up lessons of skill interventions. In this program sound spelling cards are the basis of the structured phonics which includes sounding, blending, and spelling strategies. Daily oral reading and discussions of literature help to develop reading comprehension. Students learn to select books at their reading level during weekly library visits. As these are read at home, they are recorded in each student's Reading Record notebook. Many of these books are in the Accelerated Reader program, so computer tests are also taken.

### **Language Arts**

Various activities are included in the second grade SRA language arts program. The students expand on their writing skills through writing paragraphs, journal entries, story maps and stories, poems, letters, and prayers. Grammar usage includes recognizing nouns, verbs, adjectives, and complete sentences. Capitalization and punctuation are used in daily writing. In the Daily Oral Language program the students practice correcting and writing sentences. Besides this, they also practice dictionary skills, complete oral and written book reports,

develop speaking skills during Show and Tell, and even perform a short play for parents.

### **Spelling**

Spelling is part of the *SRA Open Court language arts* program. Students learn to spell high frequency and phonics words in weekly spelling activities. Religious words are also assigned. Students are evaluated on tests, sentence dictation, and spelling in daily work.

### **Handwriting**

D'Nealian manuscript handwriting is reviewed and cursive writing is introduced in second grade.

### **Science**

As we study science in the MacMillan/McGraw-Hill series, A Closer Look, we recognize the many wonderful ways God creates and protects all living things. There are six units in our science course: how plants and animals live in their habitats, earth's resources, weather and water cycle, forms of matter (solids, liquids, gases, and healthy living. Hands on activities in all these units lead us to discoveries and conclusions about the world we live in. Second graders also use the scientific method to prepare a science project for our Science Fair every third year. Sex Education is taught every other year.

### **Social Studies**

Second graders learn about many interesting topics in *Make a Difference* by Harcourt Brace. They are learning to recognize the continents and oceans of our world as well as other map skills including the identification of our state and country. They are introduced to the three branches of government and the process of voting. Goods and services are defined and they learn how taxes pay for services in the communities. They learn to appreciate community workers and report on a career of their choice. Every year they visit a one-room school to experience school days of years past. They also learn of years past in Minnesota at the Minnesota History Museum. Holidays are observed and important people in history are studied. Every third year, there is a Social Studies Fair in which one country is studied in depth

to become familiar with its geography, climate, language, customs, and people.

### **Current Events**

Students learn about current events using Time for Kids" or Weekly Reader leaflets once a week.

### **Math**

In the *MacMillan/McGraw Hill* series the second graders begin the year by reviewing addition and subtraction of numbers below eighteen, using them in number sentences, and in solving story problems. They also review the value and counting of sets of coins and learn to make change. All these money skills are practiced in the classroom grocery store. Place value of hundreds, tens, and ones are also reviewed, and they also learn to add and subtract them using regrouping. Second graders are also able to write and tell time to the hour, half hour, quarter hour and in five-minute increments after the hour. They also learn to estimate and measure using non-standard units and become familiar with tools and units of measurement using metric and standard units. Other skills include identifying odd and even numbers, skip counting, use of calculators, calendar work, and taking timed tests of addition and subtraction facts.