

SECOND GRADE CLASS OVERVIEW

We have invested in what we consider to be the best, most effective curriculum available that is consistent with our philosophy of education that is also either biblically-based or does not conflict with our biblical values. All curriculum is proven, highly effective, provides a multi-sensory learning approach, and is engaging.

Bible:

ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) theme is Bible Heroes with a focus on character traits. The second-grade curriculum builds on what students learned in first grade. Students continue learning about a variety of Old and New Testament Bible characters, as well as New Testament stories of Jesus and some of his parables. Strong emphasis is placed on the application of biblical truths to the daily lives of second grade students. There are cross-curricular connections with other academic subjects and music and memory verses are integrated into lessons. Each student has a workbook that includes daily real-life applications and engaging activities.



Phonics, Reading, Spelling, & Handwriting:

Foundations, by Wilson Language, is a recognized leader in multisensory, structured language programs. It brings more than a decade of research-based materials and strategies essential for a comprehensive phonics, spelling, and handwriting program. It develops foundational skills in phonemic awareness, phonics and word studies, high frequency word study, reading fluency, comprehension strategies as well as handwriting and spelling. Students participate in both guided and silent reading daily, and are placed in reading groups based on their reading level. Wilson Foundations makes learning to read fun and ensures no student "falls through the cracks". The Institute for Excellence in Writing curriculum is also used to begin teaching students the basics of good writing.



Writing:

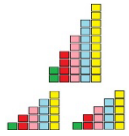
The Institute for Excellence in Writing curriculum is used to begin teaching students the basics of good writing by modeling what good writing looks like. Second grade builds on what was taught in first grade and begins with a pre-writing review, which includes oral and visual interaction between the teacher and student. It then quickly progresses to students identifying key words from preselected poems and stories that model good writing, from which students begin building what is called a key-word outline. From this outline, students learn to re-write the original poem or story in their own words. They also begin to develop comprehension skills, and are introduced to terminology students will need for later writing. The goal in second grade is to encourage expression and create a safe and effective writing environment, as well as learning to become good writers, differentiate between different types of poems, identifying the elements of a story, and build patterns of rhythm and rhyme. They will also be introduced, and challenged to identify, basic awareness of sentence structure, parts of



speech, capitalization and punctuation in the poems and stories they are exposed to, as well as in their own writing.

Math:

Big Ideas Math, Modeling Real Life is a rigorous program that provides a balance of three important building blocks. These are: (1) Conceptual Understanding-Discovering why; (2) Procedural Fluency-Learning how; and (3) Application-Knowing when to apply what has been learned and applying it to real life. Newton and Descartes are a dog and cat team of math assistants who encourage students to think deeply about math concepts and develop strong mathematical mindsets. Music, games, and hands-on manipulatives help ensure that math is both fun and understandable. In Second Grade students learn more about numbers and arrays, build fluency and strategies for adding and subtracting numbers, understand place value to 1,000, count and compare number to 1,000, measure, estimate, and solve problems for lengths, data and graphing, money and time, and identifying and partitioning shapes and equal shares.

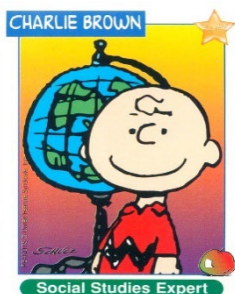


Science:

Mystery Science and ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) curriculum are both utilized throughout the year. Mystery Science will be utilized as the primary curriculum, and is an online, video-based, hands-on curriculum covering Life, Earth, Space, and Physical Science. All lessons are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Each lesson is aligned to a topic, performance expectation, science and engineering practice, disciplinary core idea, and crosscutting concept. Every lesson begins with a mystery to solve and incorporates interesting and informative video clips and hands-on activities that lead students in the doing of science and engineering. A complete kit containing most of the hands-on materials needed for each lesson has also been purchased. ACSI's science program will serve as a supplementary curriculum and provides students with a biblical worldview of science and will supplement or replace some of the Mystery Science content. It provides engaging, inquiry-based instruction that develops critical thinking skills. Lessons offer many hands-on activities engaging students in discovery, exploration, and investigation of God's purposefully designed world.



Social Studies:



Bob Jones University Press' Heritage Studies use a chronological narrative approach to acquaint elementary-level students with historical people, places, and events. Activities, discussion questions, timelines, maps, and online searches are also employed to aid students' comprehension and retention of the materials. Second-grade explores American culture in colonial times from Jamestown to the War for Independence.