

Second Grade Curriculum

Religion

Second Graders will learn and grow in their faith through active participation in prayer, written activities, daily devotions, and worship. The Religion curriculum is integrated throughout the entire school day.

Students will be introduced to:

- Bible stories and characters
- The life of Jesus
- Faith, forgiveness, and Christian living
- Weekly chapel services
- Memory work: Bible verses and parts of the Catechism
- Songs and hymns
- Martin Luther and the foundation of Lutheranism
- Sex education (*How Are Boys and Girls Different?*)

Language Arts

Writing:

Through writing across the curriculum, reports, and journaling, students will be introduced to the writing process.

Students will:

- Write using complete sentences
- Be introduced to writing paragraphs
- Create stories
- Write Friendly Letters
- Use Writer's Voice

Reading:

Through the use of the Scott Foresman *Reading Street* program, read alouds, and a novel study, students will be introduced to many concepts.

Students will:

- Be introduced to theme studies
- Study vocabulary and learn about context clues
- Focus on comprehension and drawing conclusions
- Use critical thinking
- Recall details, understand sequencing, and summarizing what they have read
- Understand decoding strategies: phonics, word patterns, and structural analysis

- Learn different genres such as: Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction, Fantasy, Folk Tales, and Fairy Tales
- Develop as fluent readers

Phonics/Spelling:

Our school uses the Scott Foresman *Reading Street* program and the Rebecca Sitton Spelling curriculum.

Students will:

- Learn how to spell and use high-frequency words
- Study letter sounds
- Recognize short and long vowel sounds
- Identify vowel pairs
- Speak r-controlled vowels
- Recognize and use suffixes and prefixes
- Study homophones

Grammar:

Through targeted Grammar lessons and daily classwork, students will be introduced to many concepts.

Students will:

- Identify types of sentences
- Understand capitalization and punctuation rules
- Identify plurals
- Use contractions
- Identify and create compound words
- Study nouns, pronouns, proper nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs
- Understand noun/verb agreement and tense

Listening and Speaking:

Children will learn listening and speaking skills through classroom instruction, sentence dictation activities, classroom reports, reading fluency activities, memory work practice, and weekly chapel.

Students will:

- Listen attentively
- Respond appropriately
- Participate in discussions
- Form and verbalize opinions
- Present oral reports
- Fluently read with expression

Handwriting:

The Second Graders use the *Handwriting Without Tears* program, in addition to daily practice in regards to their handwriting instruction.

Students will:

- Study the correct handwriting technique
- Learn the correct production of all capital and lowercase letters

Mathematics

Second Graders build upon their foundational Math skills.

Students will:

- Study addition and subtraction basic facts and strategies
- Begin learning problem solving skills and strategies
- Explore place value to four digits
- Solve two and three digit addition and subtraction problems with regrouping
- Explore money (one cent to one dollar)
- Learn time to five minutes
- Study measurement (U.S. Standard and Metric System)
- Explore fractions
- Be introduced to geometry
- Solve basic multiplication and division problems
- Learn graphing

Science

Students will learn about God's creation.

Students will:

- Study nutrition
- Explore habitats
- Investigate matter
- Develop an understanding of fossils and dinosaurs
- Study force, simple machines, and magnets
- Explore the solar system

Social Studies

Students will learn about God's world and his people.

Students will study:

- Maps/Geography
- Communities and rules/laws
- Holiday celebrations
- Our Earth and the environment
- Chinese culture
- U.S. History, government, and patriotism
- Economics through the Jr. Achievement program

Fine Arts

Art:

Students will improve fine motor skills through detailed drawing, painting, and sculpture.

Students will:

- Participate in Art class one period per week
- Be introduced to artists and their styles
- Study proper use of techniques in various mediums
- Be taught proper care of Art equipment
- Listen and follow directions
- Create artwork themes based on our Second Grade curriculum
- Be introduced to artistic reflections and discussions

Music:

Second Graders will learn songs and liturgical music to assist in leading the liturgy at BLCS.

Students will:

- Sing "Echo" songs line by line with the teacher
- Sing "simple" songs as a class
- Listen to the teacher sing "song tales"
- Conduct "finger plays" to rhymes and music
- Move or dance to classical music
- Engage in dialogue with the teacher using "arioso" (sing-speech)
- Keep the steady beat while singing or saying beat motion songs
- Sing hymns from the Hymn of the Month curriculum

Spanish

Students participate in Language Stars Spanish Program once a week. They will focus on vocabulary such as colors, animals, greetings, etc.

Second Step

Our school utilizes the Second Step program to introduce and develop social/emotional skills in students of all grades. These skills will help students to be successful in school and in life, as well.

Students will:

- Learn the steps needed for learning
- Understand what empathy is and how to demonstrate it to others in our world
- Gain knowledge of emotion management
- Explore problem-solving techniques
- Discuss bullying and ways to overcome it

Technology

Technology is incorporated into classroom instruction through the use of interactive white boards, a document camera, and iPads. A set of Chrome books will be utilized by students in each grade, as well

Students will:

- Type and format a document using different fonts, text sizes, and styles
- Be instructed on iPad use
- Take pictures and videos
- Understand the basics of Internet safety and privacy
- Navigate the Internet and properly use a desktop computer

Physical Education

Physical Education is provided twice each week. In addition students are involved in the 26.2 Marathon Program throughout the year. At the end of the year, students participate in the Royal Run/Walk and Field Day activities. We begin the year with an introductory unit that establishes class environment, behavioral expectations and management/organizational protocols.

Students will:

- Learn body and spatial awareness
- Develop locomotor and non-locomotor skills, directionality, pathways, levels and tempos
- Develop hand-eye coordination

- Enhance their social and personal development
- Learn to share, cooperate, take turns and experience personal success through movement
- Experiment with different types of equipment and manipulatives

Extra-Curricular Activities

Second Graders can participate in camps and clinics offered through the athletic program such as basketball and cheerleading. They may also participate in other organized clubs or activities such as bowling, STEM classes, and Girl Scouts.

Field Trips and Service Projects

In Second Grade, the students will participate in a variety of small trips/service projects.

- Students will visit Green Earth Institute to see how food is grown responsibly
- Children will attend a concert at Wheaton College
- Second Graders will explore habitats at Red Oak Nature Center
- Students will visit the DuPage Children's Museum and GeoSpace Learning Lab
- Our class will tour the local fire station and deliver a thank-you project
- Students will support school chapel offerings
- Children will, also, support projects organized by the Student Council, church, and school as a whole
- Our class will correspond with elderly Church members through the Bethany Senior Buddies program
- The students will visit a local nursing home

Homework

Second Graders can expect small amounts of homework most nights this year to practice skills and complete daily work. Work is expected to be turned in the following day, unless otherwise noted. There will also be one at-home project where students and parents learn to work together. Your Second Grader will also need to read to you frequently as he/she practices fluency. Many supplemental practice activities will be provided to use at home as ways to reinforce concepts practiced at school.

Parents Can Help By:

- Modeling active participation in weekly worship and daily devotions
- Checking homework for understanding upon completion
- Looking through graded papers with your child to monitor progress
- Encouraging your child to grow in responsibility
- Encouraging good nutrition, exercise, and rest
- Reading with your child and listening to him/her read regularly
- Practicing memory work, spelling words, and basic addition facts at home
- Staying up-to-date through school/class newsletters and checking our classroom blog