

Second Grade Language Arts

Literature

Second grade students participate in a balanced literacy program that uses a guided reading approach along with the Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Treasures anthology, which is literature based and incorporates non-fiction, fiction, drama and poetry into the development of reading skills. Students participate in reading groups and workstations that focus on reading language arts skills and reinforcing concepts. The stations run throughout the reading groups allowing for individual instruction. The students will begin to read for understanding and information and develop the relationship between reading and writing. The curriculum strives to help instill a passion and enthusiasm for reading. This is supported through the introduction of the second grade classroom library full of rich literature of differing genres.

Recognizing that children do not all learn in the same way, the Academy provides strategies for differentiated approaches for reading and writing. The F.A.S.T. reading system continues in second grade, highlighting the skills to develop high fluency rates of reading.

Listening

Students will develop appropriate listening skills in both large and small groups through daily oral reading, discussions on a variety of topics, mini lessons to develop specific skills, Readers' Theatre, responding to music, and spontaneous speaking in response to what was presented. Speaking and listening skills are developed throughout the year allowing Academy students to gain confidence as public speakers beyond the level of a typical second grade student.

Speech/Communication

Students will memorize poems and recite

Students will read to a group a piece that has been rehearsed.

Students share reports in science, history, and literature.

Students complete dramatic performances.

The Writing Process

Students will develop written communication skills through personal writing, expressive writing workshop, poetic writing. Grammar and spelling are woven throughout the reading/language arts curriculum through writing and directed activities, reading, games, and direct instruction. Daily writing to increase comprehension skills is included through the balanced literacy approach to the reading program.

Students will engage in learning and using the 6+1 Writing Traits: Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Conventions, and Presentation

Creative writing is emphasized through journal writing, book reports, and original stories.

Viewing and Visually Representing

During the year the students will obtain information from and produce charts, graphs, posters, and drawings. They will view films relating to areas of study and participate as an audience while others present projects and reports.

Teachers will select from learning expectations at lower or higher levels to differentiate for individual needs.