

Second Grade Curriculum Overview

New Ulm Public Schools - Independent School District 88



A leader in education through engaging and innovative programs and support structures

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Jefferson Elementary School is a child-focused primary school located at 318 South Payne Street. It shares the site and parking lot with the Middle School. The original school building was completed in September of 1962. Improvements to the growing school were completed in 1997, 2005 and 2016. The school houses grades 1 – 4 with an enrollment of approximately 635 students.

Jefferson Elementary School offers a variety of experiences, focusing on the academic, emotional and social growth of children. Some unique opportunities for Jefferson students include a free breakfast for students, Title I services for reading and math, a S.M.A.R.T. room and an autism resource room. Students also receive physical education, music, art, media, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) taught weekly by specialists.

ART

Students in this grade level will be able to use their creativity by experimenting with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media, and art-making approaches. They will develop their skills through practice and constructive critique by presenting their works of Visual and Media Art. First grade students receive one hour per week of Art instruction.

SCIENCE

By the end of second grade, students will be able to:

- Understand that science is a human endeavor practiced throughout the world.
- Understand that engineering design is the process of identifying problems and devising a product or solution.
- Understand that objects can be sorted and classified based on their properties.
- Understand that the motion of an object can be described by a change in its position over time.
- Understand that living things are diverse, with many different observable characteristics.
- Understand that weather can be described in measurable quantities and changes from day to day and with the seasons

MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

Upon completion of the second grade Technology curriculum, students will be able to:

- Understand the school policies and how to care for and respect technological equipment.
- Continue to learn basic keyboarding: cursor, word wrap, punctuation, and spacing, saving, and retrieve word files.
- Internet research and introducing electronic library catalog
- Use computer software to create graphs and small samples of written work
- Know and follow copyright laws and understand the concept of plagiarism
- Protect themselves for the harmful acts of others by recognizing threats to their privacy and property (i.e., adult supervision, Internet, email, viruses, chat rooms, cyberbullying, etc.)

Jefferson Elementary School

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ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS

The Language Arts curriculum will help ensure that students become life-long, independent learners who can use language to communicate, to stimulate the imagination, and to construct meaning. Learner outcomes for 2nd Graders include Foundational Skills, Literature, Informational Non-Fiction Text, Language, and Writing. Students will gain knowledge in the following areas:

- Know and apply grade level phonics; distinguish long and short vowels when reading regularly spelled one-syllable words.
- Learn and use new vocabulary; understand word relationships.
- Read with grade level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- Ask and answer questions about key details in the text.
- Recount stories from diverse cultures and determine their message, lesson or moral
- Know the structure of a story and how the components relate to each other
- Correct use of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing
- Use of resources such as dictionaries to check and correct spellings
- Follow two and three-step directions and work cooperatively; learn to ask questions in group conversations.
- Form opinions upon reading materials and learn how to support the opinion
- Write informative/explanatory texts in which a topic is introduced, using facts and definitions to develop points and provide a concluding statement.
- Identify and use different types of print, digital and other sources of media.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This curriculum enables students to develop motor skills further. It also encourages students to attempt new activities, interact with others, and respond safely and appropriately. Students will enhance motor skills, learning concepts, participation, and physically fit skills as well as personal and social skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students in grade two continue to build their foundational understanding in the social studies disciplines of citizenship and government, economics, geography, and history. They learn the purpose and services provided by government, the principle of shared and separated powers, the importance of constitutions, and the need for fair voting processes. They study indigenous people and the influence of various cultures on our society, gaining an understanding of the United States' shared heritage and diverse roots. They use calendars and timelines to track the passage of time and chronicle events. By describing the trade-offs of a decision, students learn the concept of opportunity cost and its connection to the scarcity of resources. They begin to understand how resources and physical features influence the distribution of people around the world and use maps and other geographic tools to explain the characteristics of places.

MATHEMATICS

Second Grade Math curriculum allows for students to become proficient in the following areas:

- Be able to read, write and represent whole numbers up to 1000 and whole numbers between 10 and 1000
- Round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100
- Demonstrate fluency with basic addition facts and related subtraction facts including two-digit numbers
- Use addition and subtraction to obtain information from tables, bar graphs, and tally charts
- Understand how to interpret number sentences involving addition, subtractions, and unknowns represented by letters Identify and name two and three-dimension shapes such as squares, triangles, rectangles, trapezoids, hexagons, cubes, rectangular prisms, cones, cylinders and spheres
- Understand measurement and how to measure
- Tell time to quarter-hour and understand the difference between a.m. and p.m.
- Identify pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters and find the value of groups of coins and create different combinations that equal a given amount.

HEALTH

In 2nd Grade, the students will be able to demonstrate the following:

- Develop positive decision-making and listening skills. (Bullying, anger management, recognize good qualities in self and others, encourage peers to make positive health choices, etc.)
- Recognize and promote healthy choices, including food choices, physical fitness, and maintaining healthy habits.
- Learn the rationale for rules for playgrounds, bikes, and pedestrians.
- Recognize the difference between safe and unsafe touch and determine situations as to when to call 911

COUNSELING

In the younger grade levels, counseling is comprised of School Guidance Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services and System support. By the end of 3rd grade, students will have lessons in Academic Support (communication, time management and team work), Career Development (Career awareness, goal setting and managing conflict and resolution) and Personal/Social (encourage PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) and provide individual counseling).

MUSIC

Creating, performing, responding and connecting are all standards for the K-12 Music Curriculum. In 2nd Grade, music students will be able to:

- Generate musical ideas for various purposes and contexts
- Select varied musical works to present based on interest, knowledge, technical skill, and context.
- Choose appropriate music for a specific purpose or context.
- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experience to make music.

