

Second Grade Curriculum

Math

In math this year, second graders will be building addition and subtraction strategies, developing number sense, and becoming flexible problem solvers. Students learn a variety of computational strategies prior to using the standard algorithm (stacking and regrouping). The main strategies for addition children will focus on are:

Splitting

$$\begin{array}{l} 58+22 \\ 50+20=70 \quad 8+2=10 \\ 70+10=80 \end{array}$$

Compensation

$$\begin{array}{l} 58+22 \\ (58+2)+(22-2)=60+20 \\ 60+20=80 \end{array}$$

Keeping one number whole

$$\begin{array}{l} 58+22 \\ 58+20=78 \\ 78+2=80 \end{array}$$

Reading

We started this year by building our reading community and thinking about what reading time should look like, sound like, and feel like. Students learned how to take care of our books and how the library is organized. One focus this year will be choosing “just right” books and developing a love for reading. All students will work with teachers in small groups to receive targeted reading instruction focusing on decoding and comprehension strategies.

Strategies for picking a “just right” book:

- Do I think the topic will interest me?
- Do I understand what I’m reading?
- Do I know almost every word?
- When I read it aloud, can I read it smoothly?

Writing

In writing this year, we are beginning by launching our writer’s workshop and building a writing community. This year students will learn to write reading responses, narratives, informational texts, poems, and how to write to persuade the reader. They will learn how to plan, draft, and revise to improve their work. They will edit and learn how to follow conventional rules for punctuation and grammar. As the year progresses, students will learn to develop a rubric for each genre and use it to revise their work.

Social Studies

In social studies, students will explore and learn about the world around them. They will ask and answer questions through experiences, discussion, and research. We will be studying the NYC subway system this fall and NYC birds in the spring. Social studies will be a time for kids to develop critical reading and writing skills, through inquiry-based projects and learning.