



Grade Level Introduction: Second Grade 2016-2017

Teacher Contact Information

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Grade Level Description

Second grade is full of wonder and excitement as the students learn many new skills. Instructionally, we incorporate differentiation and problem-based learning, with a variety of hands on activities which meet or exceed state standards. To achieve this, we often use games, centers, role play, and a variety of activities to keep the learning lively and engaging. This strengthens students' learning, enhances enjoyment, and provides opportunities for higher level learning. All of this is done from a Biblical worldview.

Bible is taught as an independent area of study, but we are constantly exploring how all of our topics reveal the character or nature of God in alignment with Biblical truth. Our aim is to help the children to think "biblically" *while* thinking "critically," rather than viewing the two as separate ways of thinking. This will allow them to be more independent by being wholly dependent upon God to help them grow in social, emotional, spiritual, and academic areas.

Having a school-wide math block allows us the luxury of doing some very specialized ability grouping for mathematics. The Saxon program is masterful at spiraling new learning into reinforcement of familiar skills to diminish math anxiety and systematically build a solid foundation. Our accelerated section moves more quickly through the materials.

We use the Six Traits of Writing model as a foundation for our writing instruction. There are numerous opportunities for students' writing to be

celebrated. Students are required to write across genres ranging from poetry, narrative, fiction, summary, to letters.

Units of study in social studies include U.S. history, government, basic economics, mapping skills, citizenship, history of cultures, landforms and landmarks.

Units of study in science include the human body systems, plants, life cycles, states of matter, air and weather.

Some of the highlights of second grade are:

Big Bartering Booths- Students barter their homemade goods
Human Body Studies-Making life-size bodies with organs
Technology- learning keyboarding skills, Microsoft Word and research skills
Handwriting-learning cursive!
Student Treasures Books

Grade Level Resources

Bible: Purposeful Design

Reading/Language Arts/Writing: McGraw-Hill's Wonders

Multiple Skills: McGraw Hill

Math: Saxon (3rd Grade)

Science: Harcourt Publishers

Social Studies: Harcourt Publishers

Handwriting: Zaner-Bloser

Special Events & Field Trips

Colonial Days

Slim Goodbody

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

Science Fair

Fire Safety with Golder Ranch