

## Grade 2

### Description of Second Grade Courses

- Art
- Communication Arts and Reading
- Health and Physical Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Computer Education
- Library Skills

### Art

- draws based on experiences, fantasy, stories, poems, and songs selected from diverse cultures
- paints designs and story content pictures using thinner brushes, creating a variety of shapes
- models with clay more proficiently
- creates free-standing three-dimensional designs with paper
- uses the brush stroke to make letters
- develops skill in printmaking by rubbing and stamping
- makes more detailed puppets that reflect a variety of cultures using simple household materials

- constructs with wood objects from the real and imaginary world

## Communication Arts and Reading

- listens and responds to others with interest and enjoyment
- retells a story in the proper sequence and with expression
- shares thoughts and ideas through announcements, invitations, statements, drama, individual, and committee reports
- follows a series of oral directions
- listens to messages and deliver them accurately
- begins to gain understanding of him or herself and of basic human values through reading and listening to stories from other cultures
- enjoys reading for pleasure and information
- uses imagination and original ideas in re-telling stories
- knows the difference between fiction and non-fiction
- identifies different literary forms such as stories, folk tales, biographies, plays, poetry, and fables
- recalls the events of a story in full detail and proper order
- identifies how a character's actions cause certain results
- predicts what is going to happen at the end of a story from what happens at the beginning; checks the prediction after reading the story
- reads for specific information
- uses word structure in comprehension (s or es makes a word plural; ed indicates past tense; er or est compares, etc.)
- recognizes that an apostrophe shows possession or

## contraction

- demonstrates understanding that words may have many meanings
- uses many strategies to find meaning of unfamiliar words (e.g., sound, word structure, prefixes, and the meaning of the sentence)
- writes for different purposes and audiences (personal journals, newsletters, stories, lists, invitations, poems, etc.)
- puts sentences together to make short paragraphs
- begins sentences with capital letter; ends each with a period, question mark, or exclamation point; and uses quotation marks
- spells words most frequently used in student writing and reading while continuing to use invented spelling when needed
- begins to write in script

## Health and Physical Education

- explores general and personal space
  - distinguishes between opposites such as inside/outside, around/through, over/under, and front/back
  - balances on a low beam
  - catches and throws with two hands
  - moves and stops smoothly
  - knows the difference between even and uneven rhythms in movement
  - takes part in physical fitness activities such as aerobic walking for a healthy heart and good circulation, stretching for flexibility, and resistance work for strength
- continues to develop listening and safety skills
- knows the importance of good nutrition and avoiding addictive habits for a healthy lifestyle

- develops self-esteem and respect for people of other cultural backgrounds
- relates learning to other subject areas and daily family life
- knows about germs and where they are found
- understands proper nutrition is needed for tissue growth and repair
- appreciates the eyes as delicate organs that need proper care
- respects certain objects in the home, such as matches and electrical appliances, which require special care to ensure safety
- understands that daily exercise such as rhythm games and dance are important for good health
- demonstrates dances from many cultures

## Mathematics

- estimates and measures length using customary (foot, inch) and metric (meter, centimeter) units of measurements and measures of other cultures
- estimates and measures weight using both customary (pound, ounce) and metric (kilogram, gram) units of measure as well as weights of other cultures
- explains money value relationships among penny, nickel, dime, quarter, half-dollar, and dollar and compares these coins to money of other countries
- explains calendar relationships: days, weeks, months, and years
- reads time on a clock and measures elapsed time
- reads Celsius and Fahrenheit thermometers, counts forward and backward by ones, twos, threes, fives and tens (up to 100)
- counts numbers from zero through one thousand and explains their "place value" meaning
- describes and continues simple number sequences

- makes up and solves story problems involving fractions
- translates "word problems" into mathematical sentences
- explains the meaning of fractions, including fractions with numerators greater than one (e.g.,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{4}{5}$ )
- explains the meaning of "dozen" and "half-dozen"
- explains the relationship between "addition" and "subtraction"
- explains the meaning and relationship of "multiplication" and "division"
- finds sums of pairs of numbers (each between 10 and 1,000)
- matches objects in one-to-one and two-to-one correspondence
- multiplies whole numbers up to  $5 \times 5$
- identifies geometric shapes (rectangles, squares, triangles, circles in the environment)
- recognizes mirror symmetry
- investigates probability experiments (flipping a coin and guessing the odds of its landing on heads or tails, etc.)

## Science

- learns to read a thermometer, measure objects, uses a balance
- measures and explains length, area and volume
- identifies the physical characteristics common to most plants
- describes the general growth and development of several common plants
- identifies the characteristics common to most plants
- describes the general growth and development of several

## common plants

- identifies characteristics of all living things
- compares various animals
- matches certain animals and plants with the environment that suits their needs
- observes and describes the behavior of water
- observes and explains objects floating or sinking
- conducts experiments with magnets
- observes and describes how water, wind, and sun affect our environment
- studies the physical relationship between the sun and the earth
- reviews biographies of scientists from various cultures
- learns how different cultures impact the environment

## Social Studies

- understands how people from diverse cultural groups live and work in and around New York City
- identifies the cultural diversity of New York City
- understands and appreciates the diversity of cultures represented in the school and local community
- understands that family structures vary and that all families deserve respect
- understands that New York City and Long Island are made up of urban, suburban, and rural communities
- understands how people live and work in other urban, suburban and rural communities in the United States
- understands that people living in the United States communities have come from all over the world
- understands how people are brought closer together through group communication and common goals

- understands how communities observe special days and customs
- understands how current affairs affect his or her life
- recognizes the factors which influence community development and change
- develops certain work study skills, such as making reports from information found in books, newspapers, television, magazines, and through interviews

## Computer Education

- describes computers as tools
- identifies different uses of computers
- cares for computer hardware
- identifies and explains the disk drive
- uses a disk drive properly
- uses appropriate software to reinforce learning in subject areas, and develop basic. problem-exploration, and critical-thinking skills
- handles diskettes properly
- loads programs from diskettes properly
- uses a simple word processing program to develop language and writing skills
- develops skills of logic and ordering by learning a simple programming language (e.g., Logo, BASIC)
- creates original designs in Logo
- uses repeat commands in Logo

## Library Skills

- continues to review the library skills already learned
- learns the meaning of "publisher", "spine", "jacket", "author" when used in the Library Media Center or School Library
- learns how to locate books by markings found on the spine and on the title page
- identifies the main idea in books, filmstrips, recordings, and other media
- prepares oral and written book reports for sharing, reading, listening, and viewing experiences
- uses reference materials to locate information
- recognizes and enjoys the works of illustrators