



Middle Country Central School District

Parents Guide to Elementary Curriculum

Grade 2

By the end of their second grade year, students should acquire the following knowledge and skills. Expectations here reflect current New York State standards in each subject area:

Language Arts:

The second grade language arts program is fully aligned with the NYS Next Generation ELA Standards and the HMH Into Reading Program.

Second grade teachers provide ELA instruction through integrated modules, collaborative and individual work, and student-centered learning in order to make children active, independent learners and highly literate members of society. Professional development and literacy blocks support teachers and students.

In reading, second grade students learn to understand key details, use of words and phrases, literary elements, and central messages in various types of texts from diverse cultures. Students also learn how to compare and contrast different versions of text and identify connections between the texts, themselves, and the world. In writing, students learn to organize and develop their ideas to effectively inform, narrate, and express their opinion. They also collaborate and use a variety of resources to revise and publish their writing, and they participate in shared research and writing projects in which they read a number of books to answer questions and/or inform others about a topic. Second grade students also build a strong foundation for literacy as they engage in activities that develop phonological awareness, phonics skills, spelling, handwriting, recognition of high-frequency sight words, and fluency.

The following are some of this year's second grade HMH modules:

Reading Modules

Be a Super Citizen
Look Around and Explore
Meet in the Middle
Once Upon a Time

Writing Modules

Personal Narrative
Descriptive Essay
Persuasive Text
Imaginative Story

Lead the Way
Weather Wise
Reading Modules (cont.)
Everyone Has a Story
Time to Grow!
Home Sweet Habitat
Many Cultures, One World

Poetry
Procedural Text
Writing Modules (cont.)
Research Report
Thank You Letter
Opinion Essay

Mathematics:

The goal of the mathematics curriculum is for students to understand the concepts of and to become proficient with the skills of mathematics. Students will communicate and reason mathematically. They will become problem solvers by using appropriate tools and strategies through the study of number sense and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and data. This will be accomplished through the implementation of the Middle Country Central School District Content and Process Strands, which are aligned with the New York State Next Generation Learning Standards for math.

Students will:

Number Sense and Operations

- Count within 1000; skip count by 5's, 10's, and 100's
- Understand base ten system
- Read and write numbers to 100 using base 10 numerals, number names, and expanded form
- Use concrete materials to justify even/odd numbers
- Determine sums and differences by various means
- Develop readiness for multiplication and division
- Estimate quantities

Algebra

- Use $<$, $>$, $=$ to compare three-digit numbers
- Understand three-digit numbers using place value
- Describe and extend number sequences and patterns
- Add up to 4 two-digit numbers
- Add and subtract within 1000

Geometry

- Identify, name, compose and decompose two-dimensional shapes
- Group shapes by similar properties
- Recognize and draw shapes given number of angles or equal faces
- Partition circle or rectangle into 2, 3, or 4 equal shares and use words or phrases to describe

Measurement and Data

- Use non-standard and standard units to estimate and measure length
- Measure length using appropriate tools
- Compare and order objects
- Know and recognize coins and bills (penny, nickel, dime, quarter, \$1, \$5, \$10, and \$20) and using symbols appropriately
- Identify equivalent combinations to make one dollar
- Tell time to ½ hour and 5 minute intervals
- Collect and record data using tallies
- Display data in pictographs and bar graphs
- Compare and interpret data
- Discuss conclusions and make predictions from graphs
- Show measurements by making a line plot

Social Studies:

The ultimate goal of the social studies curriculum is for students to assume their role as responsible citizens and as active contributors to a society that is increasingly diverse, and interdependent with other nations of the world. The Middle Country social studies program is fully aligned with the standards and practices in the NYS K-12 Social Studies Framework.

In second grade, students study “My Community and Other Communities.” Learning is organized around 5 themes—Individual Development and Cultural Identity; Civic Ideals and Practices; Geography, Humans, and the Environment; Time, Continuity, and Change; and Economic Systems. Students will study their local community and learn about characteristics that define urban, suburban, and rural communities. Democratic principles and participation in government are introduced. Interaction with and changes to the environment and their effects are examined. The concept of change over time and examining cause and effect are also introduced. In addition, students will examine the availability of resources and the interdependence within and across communities.

Topics to be explored include:

- Comparing rural, urban, and suburban communities
- Changes and continuities over time in communities
- Democratic principles of equality, fairness, and respect for authority and rules
- Roles of government and roles and responsibilities of citizens
- Geographic tools and skills
- Impacts of human-environment interactions
- Challenges to and interdependence in meeting needs and wants

Science:

In accordance with New York State Science Standards, the Middle Country Central School District emphasizes a hands-on and minds-on approach to learning. Students actively engage in the discovery process, utilizing science and engineering practices to explore scientific concepts. Experiences provide students with opportunities to interact with the natural

environment in order to construct explanations about their world. This approach allows students to practice problem-solving skills, develop positive science attitudes, learn new science content, and explore how to think like scientists and engineers.

Second grade units include the following:

- Scientific Inquiry: The Nature of Science
- Exploring Plants & Trees
- States of Matter/Water Cycle
- Earth Science
- Plants & Animals

Special Areas:

Music, Art, Health, Physical Education, SEL and Technology are an important part of your child's educational experience. By participating in special area programs, children are introduced to the fundamentals of each specific discipline, then involved in learning situations which are applications of basic concepts. In all of them, active experiences are provided and children are encouraged to express themselves and to communicate through various subject area media.

MUSIC:

Through singing, listening and movement activities, children learn to differentiate between high and low pitches, recognize groups of metric units, respond orally to the rhythmic flow of music, determine melodic direction (up and down), express personal reaction to consonance and dissonance, begin to recognize that music consists of organized sounds and silences, and learn to distinguish between "soft" and "loud".

ART:

Emphasis is placed on eye-hand coordination and manipulation tasks. Children are asked to cut, fold, tear, paste, paint, draw, sculpt, and make crafts. Through these activities, students can communicate their concepts vis-à-vis their completed art projects.

HEALTH:

The health curriculum focuses on the whole child by analyzing physical, social and emotional well-being. Children learn to make responsible health related decisions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

The curriculum stresses personal living skills in all grades. They begin to develop a sense of the importance of cardiovascular wellness and music fitness. Movement skills are taught which deal with safety and creativity. The entire area of positive self-esteem is developed through various activities. Social emotional learning is also addressed as part of the curriculum.

SEL:

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) - Through literature, students will delve into the areas of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills. Students will learn how to manage emotions and behaviors, discern how to make responsible and caring decisions, and set personal goals. Research shows SEL improves academic performance, curtails bullying, and builds character.

TECHNOLOGY:

Our technology program is designed to support classroom academic instruction with 1:1 devices. All students are issued their own ChromeBook allowing students access anywhere they have internet access. District subscribed, web-based supplemental products support instruction across all subject areas.

MISSION:

The mission of the Middle Country Central School District is to empower and inspire all students to apply the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be creative problem-solvers, to achieve personal success, and to contribute responsibly in a diverse and dynamic world.