

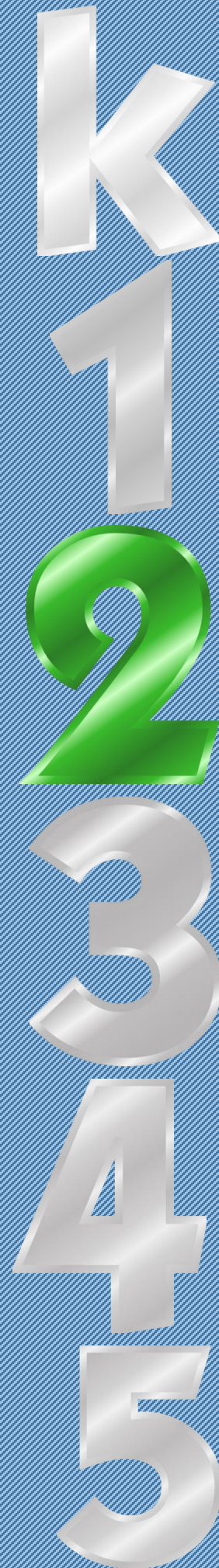


Whitewater Unified School District

Elementary Curriculum Brochures

Grade Two

<http://www.wwusd.org/page/3113>



Literacy

Students in kindergarten through third grade are immersed in at least 90 minutes of daily literacy instruction. This provides a focused time to develop skills in reading, writing, and word study.

Through a balanced literacy framework our elementary schools conduct standards based instruction through various instructional methods and programs. These include: guided reading, shared reading, independent reading, guided writing, shared writing, independent writing, and word study All students are supported as they learn to apply new skills and strategies in authentic reading and writing tasks.

Fountas and Pinnell Phonics (Washington and Lakeview)

At the second grade level, students begin to apply the emergent literacy skills developed in kindergarten and first grade. *Fountas and Pinnell Phonics* is a research-based phonics program designed to teach children the building blocks of literacy. “As readers and writers build their word solving competencies, they develop a repertoire for solving words that they use in powerful and flexible ways.” (Fountas and Pinnell, p 11).

Superkids – Reading, Writing and Handwriting

(Lincoln)

Superkids is a core reading program designed for kindergarten through second grade students, with a cast of characters that children love. It provides a clear sequential path of instruction that leads to reading mastery while it simultaneously teaches students to write and spell. It is a powerful and engaging combination of rigor and fun. This program integrates reading with spelling, handwriting, grammar, and written expression.

In 2nd grade, students have a rich and varied curriculum using multiple components:

- Decodable Reader
- Word Work Book
- SUPER Magazine
- The Book Club for Super Kids
- Write It Right

Handwriting (Washington and Lakeview)

Washington and Lakeview Elementary utilize the *Handwriting without Tears* program. The readiness and writing materials in this program are hands-on and include multisensory activities. The earlier we teach children to master handwriting, the more likely they are to succeed in school, and write with speed and ease in all subjects.

When a child writes well, they’re doing so many things simultaneously. There are eight key components of handwriting instruction embedded in this program: memory, orientation, placement, size, start, sequence, control, and spacing.

Writing

The district uses *Units of Study in Opinion, Information and Narrative Writing*, developed by Lucy Calkins and her colleagues from the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project. Each year, teachers deliver “units of study” lasting four to six weeks. Second grade writing emphasizes the following content:

- Lessons from the masters: Improving narrative writing
 - Studying the masters for inspiration and ideas
 - Noticing author’s craft: Studying imagery, tension, and literary language
 - Study your own authors
- Lab reports and science books
 - Writing as scientists do
 - Writing to teach others about our discoveries
 - Writing about forces and motion in information books
- Writing about reading
 - Letter writing: Sharing opinions about books
 - Raising the level of our letter writing
 - Writing nominations and awarding favorite books
- Poetry: Big thoughts in small packages
 - Seeing with poets’ eyes
 - Delving deeper: Experimenting with language and sound to create meaning
 - Trying structures on for size

Math

Children's experiences shape their attitude toward mathematics for a lifetime. The Math Expressions curriculum is engaging and designed to build children's understanding over time. Math Expressions combines elements of standards-based instruction with the best of traditional instructional approaches. Through drawings, conceptual language, and real-world examples, it helps students make sense of mathematics.

The Second Grade program emphasizes the following content:

- Addition and Subtraction Within 20
 - Become fluent in single-digit additions and the related subtractions using the mental Level 2 and Level 3 strategies as needed
 - Master all addition and subtraction problem subtypes and solve one-step and two-step problems
- Addition Within 200
 - Extend base-ten understanding to hundreds
 - Compute sums within 1000 using place value and the commutative and associative properties of addition
 - Become fluent with addition within 100
- Length and Shapes
 - Use rulers to measure lengths to the nearest whole-number unit
 - Build line plots to display measurement data
 - Recognize and draw shapes with specific attributes
- Subtract 2-Digit Numbers
 - Compute differences within 1000 using place value and the relationship between addition and subtraction
 - Become fluent with subtraction within 100
- Time, Graphs, and Word Problems
 - Draw and use picture graphs
 - Draw and use both horizontal and vertical bar graphs and relate the scale to a number line diagram
- 3-Digit Addition and Subtraction
 - Extend base-ten understanding to 1000
 - Compute sums and differences within 1000 using place value
- Arrays, Equal Shares, and Adding or Subtracting Lengths
 - Continue to use fraction language to describe partitions of shapes into equal shares

Science

The Whitewater Unified School District elementary science curriculum has been developed to leverage the inquisitive nature of our students, leading them through exciting, inspirational and motivating learning activities. The program has been developed in accordance with the Next Generation Science Standards, with foundational units from the Mystery Science program providing a framework from which our teachers springboard their program.

The Following units are taught in Second Grade:

Animal Biodiversity

This unit helps students develop a sense of wonder for biodiversity: the sheer range and variety of animals found on earth. Students gain practical experience in identifying animals and sorting them into scientific groups, and apply their knowledge in an engineering design challenge. This unit introduces two critically important concepts in biology: “habitat” and “species,” foundational concepts which will be revisited and refined at higher grade levels.

Plant Adaptations

This unit develops the idea that plants are truly alive and face challenges every bit as dramatic as those of animals. Students will learn that plants have needs, and will reason from evidence to understand how plants meet their needs. Their attention will be drawn to exciting connections they can observe in their everyday world: why forests are dark, why trees grow so tall, and more.

Erosion & Earth’s Surfaces

This unit helps students develop the idea that water is a powerful force that reshapes the earth’s surface. Students see that water isn’t just something we drink. It carries sand to create beaches, carves out canyons and valleys and, as ice, scrapes entire areas flat.

Properties & Phases of Matter

This unit develops the idea that by taking advantage of the properties of materials, we can solve many problems in our lives. Students will develop an appreciation for the manmade materials of everyday objects, and learn to recognize that those materials are chosen based on their properties. Through hands-on investigation, students will explore the material properties involved in meeting basic needs (such as clothing and cooking). They’ll consider the solid and liquid states of matter to understand why plastic was invented. The unit ends with a brainstorming activity about futuristic inventions that might be possible using new materials.

Social Studies

It is the mission of the WUSD Social Studies department to develop participatory, civic minded, culturally literate citizens, who are empowered to make informed and responsible decisions in a diverse and interdependent world.

The WUSD elementary social studies curriculum is based on Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies, which has its foundational philosophy in the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) framework for Social Studies. Across all grades, K-12, the Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies encompass the integrated study of geography, history, economics, political science, and the behavioral sciences. Our elementary program uses content and materials from the *Into Social Studies* program to provide a framework for a high quality social studies foundation.

In Second Grade, the scope and the social studies curriculum includes:

- Location
- North America
- Communities & Resources
- Heroes
- Why People Work

Visual Arts

Art is a way of understanding ourselves and our relationship with the world around us. Throughout the K-5 Art program, Art Educators teach students visual arts instruction twice per six-day cycle. Our art curriculum is based from the National Art Standards.

Artistic Processes are the cognitive and physical actions by which arts learning and making are realized. National Core Arts Standards are based on the artistic processes of Creating; Performing/Producing/Presenting; Responding; and Connecting, which include the following:

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
- Refine and complete artistic work
- Select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation
- Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation
- Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work
- Perceive and analyze artistic work
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work
- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art
- Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding

Music

Music education at the elementary level develops the creative capacities for lifelong success. The WUSD Music Standards and Curriculum reflects the actual processes in which musicians engage. The standards cultivate a student's ability to carry out the four areas of Creating, Performing, Responding and Connecting. Through music, students learn to connect to themselves and society. In 2nd Grade, music students will:

- Create and perform musical ideas to demonstrate grade level concepts in a Tuneful, Beatful and Artful way.
 - Utilizing Solfege and Rhythmic syllables to read and write music.
- Respond to music by demonstrating the expressive qualities of the musical examples provided.
 - Utilizing voice, movement, musical instruments, writing using grade level vocabulary and drawing/mapping.
- Connect musical knowledge with other subjects and their daily life.

Keyboarding

Introducing students to keyboarding in the elementary grades ensures that they develop efficient techniques instead of acquiring self-taught, and sometimes hard-to-break, habits. These efficient keyboarding skills allow students to concentrate on the quality of what they are composing or producing. We cannot create an educational environment that requires keyboarding skills and not explicitly and systematically *teach* keyboarding to students. Whitewater Unified School District supports and encourages keyboarding as a key computer technology core subject with formal keyboarding instruction beginning at Kindergarten. The Keyboarding Without Tears program is the research-based curriculum used in the Whitewater Unified School District. This effective, game-based curriculum for students in grades K–5 fits perfectly into the developmental progression of writing. It teaches pre-keyboarding and keyboarding skills, alongside computer readiness, digital citizenship, and digital literacy.

At the Second Grade level our keyboarding curriculum encompasses: Key Power introduces all of the letter and keyboarding skills from earlier grades, but at a faster pace. Muscle memory of the keyboard is developed with frequently used letter combinations. Students enjoy changing themes as they learn to type words and sentences. Students practice these skills with engaging and changing themes: Start the Music, Water, Water!, and Math Mix. Spot Checks are used to gauge student understanding of specific skills. Each Spot Check measures speed and accuracy.

Physical Education

The Whitewater Health and Physical Education Program provides a quality K-12 student-centered program that instills a variety of values, skills and knowledge. The program prepares and allows all students to take ownership of leading a health and active life now and into adulthood.

- Physical Fitness – 5 Components of Fitness
 - Cardiorespiratory endurance
 - Muscular Strength
 - Muscular Endurance
 - Flexibility
 - Body Composition
- Physical fitness pre & post test
- Health
 - Nutrition – Food Identity/MyPlate/Build balanced meals
 - Body Parts
 - Heart Health
- Motor Skills
 - Hopping mastery point
 - Jumping mastery point
 - Skipping mastery point
- Manipulative Skills
 - Striking with foot mastery point
 - Hand dribble mastery point
 - Underhand throw mastery point
- Complex Skills
 - Tag (space awareness) mastery point
- Character Education Traits – Applies safe practices, adherence to rules and procedures, etiquette, cooperation and teamwork, ethical behavior, and positive social interaction.
- Integrated Core Curriculum (Literacy, Spelling, Math, Technology)

Technology

In order to prepare students for a world filled with ever-changing technology, our teachers integrate various technology tools and resources into their classrooms. The focus, however, is on the digital literacy skills that students need to excel in any environment where technology plays a role.

Students learn lessons in the context of their class projects and during their library time. A Digital Literacy Curriculum has just been completed, assuring that all important technology skills are covered at the appropriate grade levels.

Throughout the elementary grades, students receive instruction and practice in:

- Basic technology fluency (including navigating on all devices, handling files and documents, and keyboarding skills)
- Internet safety (protecting personal information and passwords, being safe online)
- Digital citizenship (cyberbullying, respect others, using information responsibly)
- Collaborating and communicating online (document sharing, email, publishing online)

Library

The role and functioning of the school library has changed significantly over the years. It is still the hub of the school for encouraging literacy and finding appropriate and engaging reading materials. Students still come to the library to learn about the new and exciting books that are available for checkout, but it is also the place for a variety of other learning.

The library staff provides instruction on some of the digital literacy skills that students need now and in their future. Each class meets in the library once every six days to learn about how to find and use information (both for projects and for their own interests.) They also learn skills and tools for creating, problem-solving, organizing, and sharing their learning. Some of the internet safety and digital citizenship lessons are taught in the library, and they learn how to use online resources, databases, and eBook collections.