



Mehlville School District

Individually Focused. Committed to All.

Parent/Student/Family
Curriculum Handbook

Second Grade

2022 - 2023



Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Families of the Mehlville School District:

The Curriculum Department is pleased to present you with the Mehlville School District Parent/Student/Family Curriculum Handbook. This handbook has been developed to help you understand what children should know and be able to do by the end of each grade level in each subject area.

This handbook is revised annually and includes Board-approved curriculum revisions to help meet the identified educational objectives for your child's grade level. Our teachers, principals and directors have provided suggestions for families to enhance and assist with your child's learning. We hope this handbook is helpful to you in having meaningful discussions with your child and your child's teacher about the curriculum being taught in their classroom.

Mehlville teachers and administrators work diligently to provide the best education possible for your children. We appreciate your support and the opportunity to serve in such a wonderful community. If you have any questions or comments regarding curriculum, feel free to contact your teacher, principal, curriculum directors (listed in the *Acknowledgements* section at the back of this book), or me. We welcome your thoughts and appreciate hearing from you.

The Mehlville School District provides educational opportunities for students and families from birth through adulthood. We are very proud to serve thousands of families beginning with our Parents as Teachers Program (PAT), Early Childhood Program, K-12 Programs, and our Community Education Program. It is our hope these important programs enhance the quality of life for all district patrons.

To access the handbook online, please go to www.mehlilleschooldistrict.com, click on *Curriculum*, then *Handbooks*. We are happy to provide hard copies for families that prefer them over online access. Please take a few moments to look at the handbook and feel free to let us know your thoughts regarding the prepared documents.

The Mehlville Board of Education, Central Office Team, Principals, Curriculum Directors, Teachers and Support Personnel all wish you and your child a successful school year.

Sincerely,

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English Language Arts

The English Language Arts Curriculum for Second Grade is developed around reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening. It encourages student development through the use of a print-rich environment, along with individual, flexible, and whole-group instruction. Initial and on-going assessment provides information to guide instructional practice. The goal is to provide a balanced literacy program that will enhance the growth of communication skills in each student.

Course Objectives:

- comprehend and explain the key ideas and details from a variety of texts, media, or speakers by using evidence from the text
- understand how the author's craft, purpose, and structure shape the content and style of text
- compare and contrast texts and/or media on similar themes or topics
- research information and integrate knowledge and ideas from multiple sources when reading, writing, or speaking about the topic
- use a variety of strategies to determine the meaning of words and phrases the author uses in a text and will use grade appropriate vocabulary when writing or speaking
- fluently read and comprehend a range of texts, at or above grade level, independently and proficiently by applying appropriate decoding strategies
- will write opinion, narrative, and informative pieces for a variety of audiences and purposes using grade appropriate craft and structure
- develop and strengthen their writing by following a writing process with guidance and support from peers and adults
- demonstrate and apply the command of Standard English grammar and usage when reading, writing, or speaking
- utilize technology to research information, collaborate with peers, publish writing, and to present knowledge and ideas
- engage in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade two topics and texts using grade appropriate discussion protocols and will clearly present knowledge and ideas for a variety of audiences and purposes

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- reading to their child and with them
- discussing, predicting, and retelling stories
- sequencing events
- practicing vocabulary and spelling words every night
- reading school notes
- reviewing work daily
- writing daily
- providing a home library with a variety of reading material
- reading local media and discussing its significance

English Language Learners

The second grade curriculum enables English Learners (ELL) students to participate actively in a social and educational setting. Particular emphasis is placed on developing communication skills and introducing students to the procedures of the American classroom. Initially, teachers work to enable the student to meet safety, emotional and social needs.

Special emphasis at this grade level is placed on gaining meaning from text, conveying meaning through both oral and written language, and listening effectively, all skills that are vital to the student's ongoing participation in the American classroom.

Course Objectives:

Beginning Proficiency - Level 1

- give information and respond to questions about home and family and state their name, address and phone number
- identify emotions depicted in pictures and stories
- express limits, "No," "I don't want to," etc.
- request clarification, help and permission
- participate in a simple game, take turns and follow rules
- understand verbal directions by comparing them with nonverbal cues
- respond appropriately to selected nonverbal cues
- follow oral and multi-step directions
- participate in group response
- participate in question/answer format
- demonstrate knowledge through application in a variety of contexts
- label classroom, home and playground objects
- label and describe activities of school workers
- recognize and name numerals from 1 to 100
- count to 100 with understanding

Intermediate Proficiency - Levels 2 and 3

- appropriately use selected math words: more, less, fewer, least, most, add, subtract, plus, take away
- match pre-printed words to 1 or 2 pages of predictable text
- recognize selected sight words
- recognize selected word patterns, including rhymes, and create words
- participate in echo reading, guided reading, choral reading, pretend reading
- create pictures to demonstrate and extend comprehension of text
- sequence pictures and explain orally
- retell a simple story (with repetition and picture cues)
- predict events in a story through interpretation of pictures
- respond to wh-questions (who, what, when, where, why) concerning content
- brainstorm, with teacher input, wh-questions (who, what, when, where, why) suitable for an interview of a story character, animal, etc.
- participate orally in songs, chants and reading of predictable texts and fill in selected missing words
- with teacher input, create a map, graph or chart and explain it orally
- as a child expert on a topic, present information to the teacher or a small group
- write (copy) from a word wall and find rhyming words, write words called, write words from clues and write words to complete sentences
- dictate language experience text and practice reading as appropriate
- create simple text with drawings and invented spelling
- demonstrate emerging awareness of use of capital letters, periods and question marks
- make oral suggestions to help the teacher create a web related to character, animal, etc., or otherwise help list salient points

Advanced Proficiency - Levels 4 and 5

- tell the story of an event that occurred in the past
- given a timeline of the student's life or other events, write from the timeline, using the past tense
- given a picture prompt, construct sentences describing a scene and demonstrating subject/verb agreement
- given regalia or a picture prompt, write a description or riddle comparing objects according to size, color, etc., using appropriate comparison of adjectives
- elaborate upon a simple story through the addition of adjectives, adverbs or simple transitions
- demonstrate effective use of vocabulary and key expression related to a topic

Gifted (STRETCH)

The primary grade level gifted curriculum incorporates the core curricular areas as an instrumental foundation. Activities are designed to introduce the students in Kindergarten through third grade to higher level thinking skills, problem solving techniques, creativity, research skills, and to promote understanding of self, others and the world.

In order to correctly identify as many gifted students as possible, a uniform multi-criteria screening process is necessary. The following battery of tests and inventories is used in accordance with state guidelines to determine eligibility for gifted education:

- ability tests
- achievement tests
- creativity test
- parent and teacher surveys of student behaviors and characteristics

Course Objectives:

- apply research skills to develop a knowledge base for use in product development
- utilize at least one of the higher level thinking skills of analysis, synthesis and/or evaluation
- demonstrate the necessary skills to recognize and solve a problem
- exhibit the creative thinking skills of fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration in written, oral and/or visual presentations
- gain self-awareness and develop interpersonal skills

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- using their questions and expressions of interest as guides into further learning and exploration
- providing opportunities that can spark interest
- visiting museums, art galleries, educational institutions and historical places
- opening their world to encompass as many and varied experiences as possible
- encouraging them to take a chance on a new activity
- helping them understand that it's okay to make mistakes
- stimulating and widening their minds through suitable experiences with books, recreation, travel, games and the arts
- being an advocate for them

Recommended reading for parents:

- *Guiding the Gifted Child* by James T. Webb, Ph.D., Elizabeth Meckstroth, M.S.W. and Stephanie S. Tolan, M.A.
- *When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers* by Jim Delisle, Ph.D. and Judy Galbraith, M.A.
- *Teaching Gifted Kids in the Regular Classroom* by Susan Winebrenner

Guidance and Counseling

Mehlville School District Guidance and Counseling activities for students in second grade will consist of experiences in the areas of learning skills, making decisions, understanding and getting along with others, understanding and accepting self, personal responsibilities and career awareness.

Assessment includes counselor/teacher/student observations, classroom activities and verbal/written quizzes.

Course Objectives:

- demonstrate appropriate listening behaviors
- demonstrate knowledge of a decision-making process
- demonstrate knowledge of how to resolve conflicts and get along with others
- demonstrate awareness of likenesses and differences between self and others
- demonstrate understanding of personal responsibilities
- demonstrate knowledge of career pathways

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- encouraging discussions with the school counselor
- sharing situations with the school counselor which may impact their school progress
- encouraging an awareness and importance of school rules
- modeling listening behaviors

Health

The second grade health curriculum will cover a variety of health topics that will enhance personal health behaviors and decisions.

Assessment includes the anecdotal records of teacher observations of student skills and performances. Paper and pencil assessments are given as well as teacher-made quizzes.

Course Objectives:

- identify and describe the basic structures and functions of the circulatory and respiratory systems
- recognize the health benefits of appropriate personal hygiene, dental health, adequate sleep, good posture, and exercise
- identify and sequence the stages of the human life cycle
- recognize the main components of a balanced and nutritious meal and snack
- identify the difference between non-communicable and communicable diseases
- explain the importance of obeying traffic signs and signals
- identify unsafe conditions and three ways to obtain assistance in an emergency
- identify and recognize safe and unsafe drugs

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- discussing strategies to avoid acceptance of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs
- encouraging a healthy diet
- modeling and encouraging good hygiene
- talking to them about healthy eating habits
- providing healthy snacks

Library Media

Second grade students will build on their library skills and will focus on using the electronic catalog, literature enrichment and other Library Media Center resources.

Assessment includes librarian and teacher observations of student skills and performances. Teacher-assigned projects are used as assessments.

Course Objectives:

- find, evaluate, and select appropriate sources to answer questions
- apply an understanding of fiction and non-fiction in evaluating information and ideas
- develop as a self-motivated reader
- use and apply information presented in a variety of physical formats
- recognize patterns and relationships such as front and back cover, spine, title page and spine label
- participate in discussions of stories using higher-level thinking skills
- identify and discuss story elements, structures of text and patterns of language
- abide by the Acceptable Use Policy for Electronic Resources

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- visiting the library with them and checking out books
- reading with them
- encouraging responsibility by seeing that books are returned on time
- helping them select age-appropriate books

Mathematics

Mathematics is designed to provide a classroom environment where the beginning learner develops number sense in everyday life by applying mathematical processes, reasoning, and problem-solving strategies. The topics covered are counting in multiples, place value, developing fluency with addition and subtraction, measuring, and describing and comparing shapes. The student will move through concrete models to pictorial representation, to abstract representation of mathematical concepts with an emphasis on problem solving and reasoning.

Course Objectives:

- make sense of problems and persevere, reason abstractly and quantitatively, model with mathematics, use tools strategically, attend to precision, make use of structure, look for and make use of repeated reasoning, construct viable arguments, and critique the reasoning of others when solving problems
- represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction
- add and subtract within 20
- work with equal groups of objects to gain foundations for multiplication
- understand place value
- use place value understanding and properties of operations to add and subtract
- measure and estimate lengths in standard units
- relate addition and subtraction to length
- work with time and money
- represent and interpret data
- reason with shapes and their attributes

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- quizzing them on simple addition and subtraction facts
- practicing counting forward or backward from any number
- estimating prices at the grocery store
- practicing reading an analog clock in 5-minute intervals
- counting various combinations of money

Music

Through a variety of artistic processes, Second Grade Music students develop creative self-expression, music literacy, and awareness of the role music plays in history and current society. Elementary music classes provide the knowledge, skills, and structure needed for students to discover their unique, personal potential. These supports create the foundation for students to appreciate and participate authentically in the arts throughout their lives.

In Second Grade Music, students broaden their musical knowledge and skills through the artistic processes of creating, performing, responding to, and connecting with music. Students engage in a variety of artistic mediums including singing, playing instruments, moving, reading, and listening.

Course Objectives:

- The student will conceive and develop new musical ideas and work.
- The student will realize artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.
- The student will understand and evaluate how the arts convey meaning.
- The student will relate artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- singing with them
- listening to them sing
- encouraging them to move to the beat of the music
- listening to a variety of music in the home/car
- providing opportunities to experience and/or participate in music outside the home
- discussing appropriate audience behavior at various musical events
- attending their school performances
- playing instruments together at home (ex - drum, kazoo, bucket)

Physical Education

The second grade physical education curriculum will provide the student with a variety of movement experiences and guided instruction.

Assessment will include teacher observation on locomotor, non-locomotor, manipulative and tumbling skills. Students will also be tested on the Presidential Physical Fitness Test twice a year.

Course Objectives:

- participate regularly in health-related fitness activities (cardiovascular, flexibility, muscular strength, muscular endurance, body composition)
- tell why it is important to be physically active every day
- identify opportunities outside of school to participate regularly in physical activities (e.g., dance practice, jogging, soccer)
- identify the relationship between physical activity and healthy food choices (e.g., energy in — energy out)
- identify changes in the body that occur during moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (increased heart rate, heavy breathing, perspiration)
- recognize what systems work together to move your body (e.g. brain, bones, heart, lungs, muscles)
- exhibit respectful and safe behaviors during physical activity
- practice fundamental movement skills as assigned (e.g., locomotor, non-locomotor, manipulative)
- exhibit cooperative, respectful and safe behaviors with others
- identify activities that are enjoyable
- show respect for others, regardless of individual diversity, while participating in individual and group activities
- perform efficient movement in activities to prevent injuries
- explain the benefits of warm-up and cool-down to prevent injuries
- tell when, how, and why to use 911 for an emergency situation
- demonstrate locomotor skills in combinations
- demonstrate locomotor skills using patterns, levels, tempo, directions, and pathways
- demonstrate non-locomotor skills in a variety of activities using different levels and speed
- demonstrate individually and with a partner the manipulative skills in a stationary position and while moving (e.g., throwing, catching, kicking, striking, volleying, and dribbling)
- recognize and perform static and dynamic balance stunts
- distinguish between static and dynamic balance (e.g., one leg balance, forward roll)
- recognize and perform individualized stunts and tumbling skills
- demonstrate the ability to stop with control at a boundary on signal
- identify and perform symmetrical and non-symmetrical shapes at different levels
- create individual movement patterns using a variety of pathways
- apply relationship experiences with a person (e.g., crawl under partner's bridge) or with objects
- identify and apply concepts relating to force (e.g., hard, soft, heavy, light)
- demonstrate motor skills and knowledge of rules while participating in low organized games involving a combination of locomotor and manipulative motor patterns
- recognize cooperative skills with partner and small groups to accomplish a game objective
- participate in chasing, fleeing, dodging activities
- demonstrate proper techniques for a variety of fundamental skills
- demonstrate basic apparatus activities on a balance beam, climbing rope, cargo net, parallel bars, vault, and climbing wall
- perform a simple dance step in keeping with a dance tempo
- demonstrate movements to different rhythms
- demonstrate ability to interpret and move to different rhythms
- participate in a variety of rhythmic activities
- create personal rhythmic pattern with a manipulative (e.g., lummi sticks)
- perform a simple dance with a partner
- demonstrate social characteristics
- identify historical origins of folk dances (e.g., Kinderpolka-Germany)

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- encouraging them to participate in an after-school activity
- monitoring them at play to improve social skills
- providing plenty of physical activities for them
- exercising with them
- making sure they wear tennis shoes on P.E. days

Remedial Reading Services

Remedial reading services are offered to eligible students at each elementary building in the Mehlville School District. Reading services are supplemental to classroom reading instruction. Reading Specialists provide remedial reading groups for grades K-3 and grades 4-5 if space allows.

Children are referred for remedial reading services by their classroom teachers. After permission to evaluate is received from the parent, the Reading Specialist administers an individual reading assessment to the student. Based on the results of the assessment, children may be eligible for remedial reading services. Parents are notified of assessment results and children are placed in the reading program as appropriate. Children who participate in remedial reading programs are reassessed at the end of each school year to evaluate progress and determine eligibility for the following school year. Parents are notified of their child's assessment results and eligibility for the following school year in May.

Science

The Second Grade student will be studying about Earth's systems (processes that shape the Earth), interdependent relationships in ecosystems, and structures and properties of matter. In addition, the students will utilize the science and engineering practices by asking questions and defining problems, developing and using models, and analyzing and interpreting data. The teacher will use a hands-on, minds-on approach to actively engage the students in constructing and revising their understanding of these concepts.

Course Objectives:

- understand patterns of how and why the earth has changed and that it is constantly changing
- understand important properties of water and that water shapes the Earth's surface
- understand that humans can design structures to solve problems related to Earth changing
- understand that there are patterns of how things work together in an ecosystem
- understand that plants depend on nonliving and living things for growth and reproduction
- understand that there is great diversity among living things in different habitats
- understand that matter can be classified by patterns in its properties
- understand that objects can be made up of smaller pieces of matter that could be reused to make a new object
- understand that there are reversible and irreversible changes in matter

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- taking trips to the St. Louis Zoo, Magic House, Science Center, Botanical Gardens, Butterfly House, Mastodon State Park, etc.
- planting a garden and observing the life cycle of the flowers
- observing caterpillars as they turn into butterflies

Social Studies

The Second Grade student will gain an understanding of the people and cultures within our community today and long ago, how to read a variety of maps, knowledge of how to spend and save money, and how to be an informed and active citizen.

Course Objectives:

- The student will determine the roles of informed and active citizens.
- The student will utilize a variety of map types for different purposes.
- The student will make connections between the locations of various settlement groups and how they lived, as well as the role location plays in the formation of culture.
- The student will understand that our community is a diverse place (geographically and culturally).
- The student will identify how money is earned or acquired and the importance of weighing needs and wants before spending.

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- reviewing with them where they live identifying city, state, country and general map features
- assisting them in recognizing national landmarks and symbols
- assisting them in identifying economic concepts such as responsibilities, wants and needs
- discussing areas and regions where ancestors have lived

Special Education

Special School District (SSD) provides special education and related services for students with educational disabilities in the Mehlville School District.

In collaboration with partner districts, Special School District provides technical education and a wide variety of individualized educational and support services designed to ensure the student's successful contribution to our community.

If you suspect that your child may have an educational disability and require an evaluation for special education, you should contact your child's teacher, school counselor, or principal.

Technology Literacy

The second grade technology literacy curriculum will identify and promote responsible use of technology in the community.

Assessment includes teacher observations of student skills. Teacher-assigned projects are used to assess the technology literacy curriculum.

Course Objectives:

- demonstrate the proper care and use of various technology equipment
- use technology tools to demonstrate basic operations and concepts involving computer applications, hardware and software
- explore both Internet Web sites and research databases in teacher-led sessions
- demonstrate positive ethical and social behaviors including compliance with the Acceptable Use Policy
- demonstrate knowledge of copyright laws as they pertain to individual work
- display proper and accurate keyboarding technique
- use appropriate computer applications to plan, create, and present a project

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- demonstrating proper use and care of the computer
- providing educational software
- supervising the use of the Internet
- supporting the computer literacy program at their school

Visual Arts

In Second Grade Visual Arts, the student will develop their creative ability and explore different art media, such as drawing, painting and collage. The students will be exposed to famous artworks from history and other cultures as well as learn skills in interpreting and discussing works of art.

Course Objectives:

- Create - The student will have opportunities to play, investigate, acquire skills and interact with art materials and art processes.
- Perform - The student will be able to select, analyze, explain and share art experiences.
- Respond - The student will be able to perceive, analyze, interpret and evaluate works of art and their art experiences.
- Connect - The student will be able to connect art work to their own personal lives or the lives of others.

Parents/Families may assist their children by:

- Making coloring important and providing blank paper and coloring books along with crayons and markers
- Visiting the Art Museum and partaking in programs designed for young children
- Checkin out art books written for young children from the library
- Encouraging creativity and providing a place for children to work and explore building with different materials

Websites to Help Your Child Continuing Learning at Home

Prior to publication of this document, each site below was checked for appropriateness. The Mehlville School District is not responsible for any content or advertisements housed/published on these sites.

District Purchased: Log In through Class Link

Discovery Education

Videos, articles, and content for all subject areas.

i-Ready

Math & ELA practice through student individualized "My Path" or digital math games.

NewsELA

Large content of authentic and accessible articles to support/enhance curriculum and engage learners. Articles available across multiple reading levels.

Reading A-Z

Leveled books for reading instruction at all ages K-5.

Scholastic Learn at Home

Activities & projects to keep kids reading, thinking and growing.

World Book Online

Online reading resources

Typing Club (Grades 3-5)

Touch typing practice and instruction for kids

Free Online Sites

[Epic!](#)

Online reading resources. Videos, read to me books, Ebooks, leveled books, and more available to support reading instruction.

[Khan Academy](#)

Standards-aligned, student-paced instruction in math and social studies.

[GoNoodle](#)

Brain break videos for children that include: movement, academic, Social Emotional Learning, mindfulness, and more!

[Kids Health](#)

Resources for teaching health and safety. Students can access information without logging in.

[Scratch](#)

Coding website. You can use scratch to create stories, games, and animations.

[Code.Org](#)

Coding website dedicated to bringing computer science skills to all learners

World Book Online Web

World Book Online, a grade-appropriate research tool that includes encyclopedias, multimedia, eBooks, and primary source databases, is available to Mehlville students both at school and at home. The online reference tool developed by education experts also includes a time-line builder, citation builder, individual research

accounts, a translation tool generating content in thirty languages, text-to-speech feature, video tutorials, interactive activities, magazine articles, newspapers and the following databases:

- World Book Kids – encyclopedia for elementary school students age 7 and up
- World Book Student – encyclopedia for middle school and high school students age 11 and up
- World Book Advanced – encyclopedia for high school and college students age 13 and up
- Living Green – online interactive site that examines causes of pollution and offers tips on green practices
- Early Peoples – online interactive site that examines history of ancient cultures
- Inventions and Discoveries – online, interactive site that examines inventions and discoveries
- Dramatic Learning – uses plays, skits and monologues to help students become more fluent readers and help them understand core concepts and retain information
- Early World of Learning – narrated stories, interactive games and reference materials to help young learners

To Access World Book Online:

- Go to <http://mehlilleschooldistrict.com>
- Select *Parents/Students*
- Select *Library Resources*
- Go to *World Book Online*

World Newspapers:

Located on the upper left side of the World Book Advanced home page is Research Tools. Within the Research Tools is World Newspapers which provides newspapers from the United States and around the world.

To access a newspaper:

- Select *World Newspapers* on the World Book Advanced home page
- Choose a location from around the world
- Click *GO*