

## GRADE 2 PROGRAM SUMMARY

### *English Language Arts*

Language Arts is an integral subject within grade two and receives the largest portion of time within the curriculum and timetable. The main components of the ELA program are reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing. These are not separate skills but are woven together.

We will be using a program called "Daily 5" in our grade 2 classroom this year. Through this program, students will be encouraged to develop independence in the areas of reading and writing. Students will be individually assessed and this assessment will be used to tailor the ELA program specifically to the needs of individual students. During the daily 5, students will practice reading, writing, and spelling. Spelling will be done through weekly word sorts using a program called "Words Their Way."

### **At home, your child would benefit from:**

- Reading nightly for *at least* 20 minutes
- Sorting and studying spelling words
- Discussing issues and feelings
- Observing the world around them (looking at the newspaper)
- Writing lists, notes, emails, and letters.

### *Mathematics*

We use concrete manipulative materials to assist in the discovery, understanding, and development of math concepts. Games, centers, small group work, direct instruction, worksheets, and a variety of other activities will be used to foster understanding and skill development. The concepts we will be covering are:

- **Number concepts and operations-**
  - counting forwards and backwards up to 100
  - representing numbers up to 100 in a variety of ways
  - addition with sums up to 100 and the correlating subtraction problems
  - numerous mental math strategies.
- **Patterns and Relations**
  - finding and using patterns in math
  - equality, inequality, and balanced equations (beginning algebra)
- **Shape and Space**
  - measurement (time, length, mass, height, distance)
  - 2D shapes and 3D objects
- **Statistics**
  - Collecting data

- Constructing and analyzing graphs

The application of these skills in a problem-solving context will be a major component of the math program.

**At home your child would benefit from:**

- Playing games involving counting and problem solving
- Discussing simple money calculations
- Observing time
- Awareness of numbers in daily life

*Science*

In science the students will be active participants in manipulating, discovering, and inquiring about the topics within the science clusters. They include:

- Solids, Liquids, and Gases
- Position and Motion
- Air, Water, and the Environment
- Animals

*Social Studies*

The grade 2 Social Studies curriculum focuses on community. Areas of study will be:

- Our Local Community
- Communities in Canada
- The Canadian Community

Because of the unique nature of our school (being that we have students that come from all areas of the city, and even some from outside of the city) we will be focusing on the city of Winnipeg as our local community in Social Studies. In order to support your child's learning at home, please take time to talk with your child about the community in which you live, including the location of services (such as police, fire stations, hospitals, etc.), types of housing, types of businesses and any landmarks or things that make your community unique.

*Health*

The goals of the health program are to develop concepts, attitudes, and skills that promote individual and community well-being and healthy lifestyle practices.

Topics will include conflict resolution, environmental concerns, nutrition, dental health, and social/physical well being (body systems).

We will be using a program called *Second Step* to facilitate social-emotional learning in the classroom.

### *Christian Education*

The major aim is to educate students in the stories, beliefs and values of the Bible. Students will be exposed to many Bible stories throughout the year, and Biblical teachings and examples will be integrated into core subject areas where appropriate and relevant. Every morning we have devotions and chapel is held on Friday mornings.

### *Art*

Art will be taught mainly in integration with other subject areas. Students will learn the elements of art while creating pieces that involve and enhance the learning happening in other subjects. Some focuses of the art program will be:

- Development of visual awareness and observation
- Drawing
- Expression of self through art
- Use of various art mediums
- Positive attitudes toward creating art
- Enjoyment!

### *Evaluation and Assessment*

Evaluation should tell us if a student has achieved his or her learning goals. Students' knowledge, skills, products (such as models and research) and reasoning (logic) will be evaluated.

Assessment (the gathering of information about students' performance) will be done in a variety of methods including daily performance activities, observations, informal conferences, worksheets, quizzes, and written assignments (to name a few). Students will also be encouraged to create learning goals and self-assess based on their goals.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child or the grade 2 program! If you would like a more detailed look at the grade 2 curriculum, you can find it online at

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/index.html>

Sincerely,

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