

## GRADE TWO CURRICULUM GUIDELINE

*Dear Parents/Guardians:* This guideline contains a brief description of each of the subjects your child will study in Second Grade. It is designed to provide you with a general overview of the content and skills which are taught as well as other pertinent information. Teaching strategies will, of course, vary according to the needs of the class. We hope that the continued use of this brochure and the meetings with your child's teachers and learning specialists will keep you informed about the goals of the Andover Public Schools and your child's learning progress.

*The Elementary School Principals*

### **English/Language Arts**

Andover's Balanced Literacy approach uses various resources to foster literacy development through reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Authentic, quality literature is utilized to guide instruction in both large and small groups. Students learn to write best when they have many opportunities to write. Students learn to write in all curriculum areas: writing in daily journals, answering literature based questions, recording scientific data and documenting historical information in social studies. Students will receive direct instruction in grammar, usage, conventions, and spelling. These skills are acquired as students are exposed to multiple experiences with words and language. Ongoing informal and formal assessments are utilized within the classroom to individualize instruction based on students' needs.

**Language** - By the end of Second Grade, students will demonstrate an understanding of the structure of the English language by participating in: Discussion, questioning, Listening and contributing, oral presentation, vocabulary and concept development, investigation of the structure and origins of Modern English, investigation of formal and informal English, and beginning reading.

**Reading and Literature** - Students will respond thoughtfully to all forms of spoken and written literature as they: understand text, read aloud with fluency and expression, make connections, investigate various genres, themes, fiction and non-fiction works, forms of poetry, myths, traditional narratives, classical literature, and dramatic readings and performance; within these works, students will look at the author's style and language to identify sensory language, mood, and tone.

**Composition** - Students will write well-organized compositions with a beginning, middle, and end, drawing on a variety of strategies as needed to generate and organize ideas. They will write with consideration of: proper sequencing/organization, audience and purpose, revision techniques, standard English conventions research.

**Media** - Students will gather information by using a variety of media and evaluate the quality of materials they obtain.

### **Mathematics**

The goal of the *Everyday Math* program is for students to become confident problem-solvers who value and enjoy math. Some of the key features of the program include acknowledging children's experiences and intuitions about math, provide problem-solving experiences in real life contexts while allowing for various learning styles, promoting practice through meaningful activities and games, and providing a spiral curriculum, ensuring that children encounter and apply concepts over time. Students learn place value, use patterns to solve problems, identify 3-dimensional shapes, use instruments to measure accurately, and collect and organize data. By the end of second grade some examples of skills students will be to demonstrate are:

**Number Sense and Operations** - identify, count, and represent common fractions, money, and decimal notation the ability to efficiently add and subtract single digits and later apply to multi-digit problems through various strategies.

**Patterns, Relationships, and Algebra** - identify, reproduce, extend, and create number patterns with reference to a number grid using +, -, <, >, and = accurately construct and solve problems with open variables, such as " $+ 7 = 10$ , therefore  $= 3$ ."

**Geometry** - Identify, describe, and compare two- and three-dimensional shapes based on attributes recognize symmetry, congruence, translations (left, right, up, down), rotations, and reflections in two-dimensional.

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**Measurement** - demonstrate understanding of calendar and time (analog and digital) to five minute intervals compare length, weight, area, and volume of objects-measure using standard (metric and English standard) and non-standard units using appropriate measurement tools.

**Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability** - represent data gathered through interviews, surveys, and observations in charts, tallies, tables, graphs, etc., and answer questions based on gathered data.

### **Science and Technology/Engineering**

The science program provides our students with the foundation and understanding of scientific topics through the acquisition of scientific knowledge, the development of thinking skills, and the application of the scientific method. The units of study in second grade align with the second grade science strands. By the end of second grade students will explore the following:

**Inquiry** -Students will ask questions, make predictions, record observations, use materials, and engage in discussions using appropriate vocabulary throughout all of the Science units.

**Technology and Human Affairs** - Students will understand that science can improve and change our world as they explore each science unit which include: ***Life Science*** - Life Cycle of Butterflies; ***Physical Science***-Balancing and Weighing /Changes; and ***Technology*** -Designing Bridges.

### **History and Social Science**

The social studies program focuses on preparing students to be responsible citizens in a democratic society. Students will learn how to appreciate the diversity and commonality of people. The essential question or big idea is "What is A Community?" By the end of second grade some examples of skills students will be to demonstrate are:

**History and Geography** - locate the seven continents, major oceans, rivers, and mountains on maps and globes.

**Civics and Government** - understand their rights and responsibilities as a classroom citizen.

**Economics**- identify people in the community who are producers and consumers and give examples of goods and services.

### **Art**

Students will develop and keep a portfolio and continue to make aesthetic decisions. Development of fine motor skills continues as students mix and control paint with a variety of tools, draw a complete circle and draw major parts of the human figure. They begin to write short paragraphs about specific processes.

### **Music**

When singing songs, listening, and moving to music, children will determine the meter, form, and mode of the song. Students can identify instrument families and can improvise their own melodies and accompany them on barred instruments. Students recognize varying tempos and dynamics and continue to use appropriate percussive instruments to accompany songs.

### **Physical Education**

The focus for grade two is to refine previously acquired skills in the areas of balance, spatial awareness, eye-hand and eye-foot coordination, locomotion and to understand the concepts of force, speed, level and range. Activities that involve sharing and cooperating in a small group are emphasized. Physical fitness is explored further by explaining the importance of stretching and introducing concept of heart rate.