

**HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**GRADE 2 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**

**English Language Arts**

*Journeys* is a research-based program that offers effective instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. The writing component provides a common language for all students K-5. This program also provides leveled interventions targeted to each individual child's needs.

**Reading** (graded)

- The students are provided with a review of phonetic elements. Decoding skills are reviewed to further develop oral fluency and comprehension.
- Comprehension strategies (i.e. monitoring/clarifying and confirming predictions) and comprehension skills (i.e. drawing conclusions, making inferences and identifying author's purpose) are reinforced using complete pieces of authentic text.
- As students study vocabulary, they use a variety of strategies to determine the meaning of words selected from the text. These include context clues and word structure.

**English** (graded)

- Daily written expression with a focus on using complete sentences and paragraphs is an integral part of instruction. Journals, story writing, and written response to literature are utilized in all curricular areas.
- Composition skills such as writing to narrate, inform, state an opinion are reinforced.
- Grammar skills with a focus on mechanics, such as capitalization and punctuation, are reviewed.
- Parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and pronouns) are introduced, reviewed and extended.
- The correct formation and spacing of manuscript letters is reinforced.
- The correct formation and spacing of cursive letters is introduced.

**Spelling** (graded)

- The spelling program consists of weekly word lists that are based on phonics skills and review words.
- Opportunities for differentiated lists are provided for students.

**Resources**

*Journeys* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), computer software, children's literature, chapter books, online resources

**Assessment**

Students will be evaluated on in-class assignments, participation, homework and tests.

**Mathematics** (graded)

*Math in Focus* is the U.S. version of Singapore's most popular and proven math curriculum. Based on a framework developed by the Singapore Ministry of Education, "Math in Focus" draws on best practices from around the world and highlights problem solving as the focus. This research-based program is effective in balancing mathematics skills, hands-on experiences and problem solving to help all students achieve greater mathematic success.

Curriculum topics include:

- Numbers to 1,000
- Addition and Subtraction up to 1,000
- Multiplication and Division

- Measurement
- Mass
- Volume
- Mental Math and Estimation
- Money
- Fractions
- Time
- Graphing
- Geometry

### **Resources**

*Math in Focus*<sup>®</sup>: *Singapore Math* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) by Marshall Cavendish, computer software and manipulatives

### **Assessment:**

Students will be evaluated on in-class assignments, participation, homework, and tests.

### **Social Studies** (non-graded)

The second grade social studies curriculum is a concept-based program that is designed to spark student interest in meaningful and relevant ways. Lessons teach key topics and facts in the areas of citizenship, geography, economics, and history.

Curriculum topics include:

- Citizenship – national government
- Geography – map skills
- Economics – goods and services/decision making
- History – United States history

### **Resources:**

*Neighborhoods* (Houghton Mifflin) Social Studies  
Trade Books, Videos, and Web-Sites

### **Science** (non-graded)

The second grade science program is designed to help the students explore the areas of earth science, life science, physical science, environmental science and concepts of health. Hands-on activities incorporate an inquiry-based approach to help students develop scientific reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Curriculum topics include:

- Life Science – life cycle of insects
- Physical Science – physical and chemical changes
- Environmental Science – habitats

### **Resources:**

Harcourt Science  
ASSET Incorporated Modules: Changes and Insects  
Trade Books

## **Library**

Students are scheduled for library once a week for 40-45 minutes. Each student in second grade may check out two books at a time. Students may visit the library throughout the week to exchange books. Curriculum topics include: book care, library terminology, parts of a book, fiction and nonfiction arrangement, biographies, autobiographies, introduction to reference books, Caldecott award winners, fairy tales, various authors and illustrators, and literature appreciation. Information skills include beginning to use Destiny as a resource to locate information and access Web 2.0 tools.

## **Competencies**

All students in second grade will:

- Demonstrate information literacy
- Demonstrate independent learning
- Demonstrate social responsibility
- Demonstrate technology literacy

## **Music**

All elementary students participate in music and performance through singing, listening, and playing musical instruments. This academic discipline enhances logical and spatial reasoning skills by incorporating and strengthening the auditory and kinesthetic learning modalities.

Second grade vocal music classes meet twice a week for thirty minutes. Formal assessments are based on group performance, reading basic rhythmic and melodic notation, and identifying orchestral instruments through a variety of repertoire in the music textbook. Achievement is determined by competency in skills, knowledge of concepts, as well as self and social responsibility. Hampton Township School District's Music Curriculum is based on the National Standards for Music Education.

## **Resources:**

*Share the Music*

## **Physical Education**

In second grade, the Physical Education program emphasizes the development of skills and fitness through the content areas of movement exploration, educational games, dance and tumbling. Student success is determined by knowledge of concepts, self and social responsibility and skill development. Tennis shoes and loose, comfortable clothing are required. Classes meet twice a week for thirty minutes.

## **Art**

The curriculum for grade two focuses on the acquisition of a reservoir of ideas for art making. Students will acquire ideas from their own experiences, their school, their communities, the environment, and the art of other cultures. Students will express these ideas using an increasing variety of art materials, skills, techniques, and process. Students will also begin working collaboratively to solve artistic problems. Formative and summative assessment strategies will be used to monitor and report student progress. Art classes will meet once a week for fifty-five minutes.