

WHAT TO EXPECT IN Second Grade

PHONICS / GRAMMAR

In second grade, students work through *Core Skills Phonics 3*, *Memoria Press Traditional Spelling II* and continue to use Classical Phonics. Cursive practice increases with *New American Cursive 2*. Additionally, they will work through *First Language Lessons for the Well Trained Mind, Level 2* to improve grammar understanding and usage.

READING

Students begin to read longer chapter books fluently with good diction and expression including:

- *Courage of Sarah Noble*
- *Mr. Popper's Penguins*
- *Little House in the Big Woods*
- Several Beatrix Potter tales

Book reports and culminating projects follow most books read. At the end of second grade, students are able to read the following passage:

Mr. Popper's Penguins

The manager stepped out on the stage. "Ladies and gentleman," he said, raising his hand, "with your kind indulgence we are going to try out a little novelty number tonight. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the Marvelous Marcos are unable to appear. We are going to let you see a rehearsal of the Popper Performing Penguins, instead. I thank you."
In a dignified way, the Poppers and the penguins walked out on the stage, and Mrs. Popper sat down on the piano.

MATH

Saxon 3

Saxon Math is a classically minded curriculum that focuses on continued review that helps to keep new concepts fresh and active. "Saxon teaches students using a spiral-format that consistently reviews older concepts, adding more and more information to concepts they have previously encountered."
- Saxon Teacher's Edition

Topics include:

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- Solve story problems
- Add and subtract multi-digit numbers
- Square numbers (perfect squares)
- Divide by single digit divisors
- Money
- Telling time to the 1 minute
- Measurement
- Skip counting

Goal: Automatic fact recall is expected by the end of second grade.

HISTORY

In second grade, students learn about the Middle Ages, using *Story of the World-Volume 2*, where they study the fall of Rome to the rise of the Renaissance.

Goals include:

- Giving students an enthusiasm for history
- Achieving a basic understanding of the Middle Ages
- Beginning to view history as a timeline of chronological events



GEOGRAPHY

In second grade, students learn about the geography corresponding to the places they study in our history book, *Story of the World-Volume 2*.

- European Countries
 - European Seas/Rivers/Mountains
 - European Cities/Empires
 - Middle East Countries/Cities/Empires
 - Middle East Seas/Rivers/Mountains
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LATIN

Students continue their study of Latin in second grade with *Prima Latina*.

Goals include:

- Learn 125 vocabulary words
 - Memorize prayers in Latin
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MEMORY WORK

Our students build a wide base of factual knowledge through recitations, chants, and jingles! They recite the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer every day. Some specific passages include:

- Genesis 1:14-19
- Psalm 119:1-16
- Psalm 145
- Psalm 147
- Third and Fourth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution
- Amendments 1-5
- The first and second paragraphs of The Declaration of Independence
- The Presidents Song
- *The Bible for Children* by Murray Watts
- Catechism 25-51
- Periodic Table Song

SCIENCE

Students go through *Swimming Creatures of the 5th Day* by Apologia, including activities and projects to make lessons come to life.

Topics include:

- Aquatic mammals
 - Aquatic amphibians and reptiles
 - Fish
 - Crustaceans and mollusks
 - The ocean as a habitat
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ENRICHMENT / SPECIALS

- Daily convocation
- Weekly art, music, physical education, and chorale classes

