

If you ask a second grader what a day at school is like you might get the typical answer “it’s ok”. If you were to ask a Harmony School of Excellence second grader the same question, his/her answer would be far from typical. At HSE the second grade curriculum is filled with exhilarating classes that keep the students excited and eager to learn. During our 22 hours of classroom instruction, the students are continually challenged by his/her teachers and peers to do their best everyday.



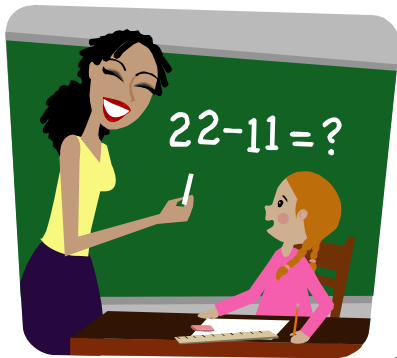
The second grade reading at Harmony School of Excellence is designed to develop comprehension and fluency. Our Second grade children come with a developmental range of skills, abilities and experiences in reading. Early in the fall we evaluate and assess each child's understanding of reading, interest in books and willingness to engage in the reading process. With the help of several resources including the Rigby PM Guided Reading Program, The McGraw-Hill Reading Series, and Readers Theater the students are able to enhance their knowledge of many different forms of literature and gain practical experience on their individualized reading program. The goal is to help children gain the confidence and interest in poetry, plays, fiction, and non-fiction books. The individual programs allow the children to progress at their competency level, giving them independence and the opportunity to grow above the second grade level by the end of their second grade year.

We all know that you must practice something to perfect it. Thanks to the parents of HSE students, we have a wonderful library full of great books. Each week we visit the library to pick out a book to read during our D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time. Twenty minutes of every day is dedicated to our students, giving them the opportunity to practice their reading for pure enjoyment.



Everyday the second graders are exposed to mathematics. The students are given a sturdy foundation that

allows them to be successful in the years to come. Continual use of manipulatives, movement exercises, games, and technology allow each student to be reached at their own cognitive level. Second grade math includes place values to 1000. By the end of the year they will be able to use place value patterns using 0 as a place holder (10, 100, etc.) and will understand that (ten) 10s are equal to 100. Additionally, in numbers up to 1000, the children will know the place value of each digit.



The Mathematics curriculum also allows the students to get a good understanding of fractions. Students will understand halves, thirds, quarters, and eighths as parts of a set. They will also know that a complete set makes one whole. The children will be able to skip-count by 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s, 25s, 50s and 100s. HSE students will be

able to count forward or backward by 1s or 10s starting with any number less than 1000. Understanding the difference between odd and even numbers will be learned.

While enjoying the interactive slideshows, PowerPoint will help the children grasp the concept of money. Coins are used by the children to count mixed groups including pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and half-dollars. They will be able to recognize equivalent forms of money values, and will count coins to one dollar or higher during the course of the year.



By the end of their second grade year, HSE's students will be able to recall addition and subtraction facts from memory. They will understand the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction, and be able to predict the relative size of solutions for both addition and subtraction. The foundation for success will be complete when the students are able to add or subtract two-digit numbers with or without regrouping.

Science and Social Studies are each covered three or more hours every week. Teaching with technology helps our students visualize things easier than just working with a textbook. Through the Harmony Network our second graders take amazing trips every day. They are given the ability to visit different countries, learn about multicultural societies, or have front row seats to some of America's greatest speakers, all at the click of a button. The students can explore the vast oceans, enjoy an African Safari, or take a trip to the moon thanks to the amazing clips shown on our classroom projector.



The HSE second graders will also cover health and character education each week. These topics teach the students how to take care of themselves inside and out.