



2019-2020

PARENT CURRICULUM GUIDE

SECOND GRADE



Hillel Community Day School partners with families to promote critical thinking, academic excellence and a love of learning for each child. In service to the entire Jewish community, we inspire a meaningful connection to Jewish customs, values and Israel.



For More Information Visit Our Website At:
www.hillelschool.org



Garden & Sustainability

The garden and sustainability program will provide students with a broad knowledge base that will empower them to take a leading role in caring for Hillel's outdoor learning garden. In addition to the practical aspects of gardening, students will gain a deeper appreciation for where their food comes from; The importance of local and global environmental stewardship, and the relationship between agriculture, ecology, and Jewish ethics.

Second grade students will learn:

- Practical gardening aspects and plant care
- The process of composting and components of soil health
- How soil affects plant growth and crop yield
- How to select plants for planting, based on season
- Plant and crop life cycles
- The concept of seed saving
- How growing food for local consumption can benefit the community and environment
- The relationship between the natural environment and plant/crop health
- The necessity of a long-term mindset for growing food
- Alternative growth systems

Classroom activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Journaling to reflect on weekly activities
- Classroom based projects related to gardening, life science, and food systems
- Outdoor garden activities like watering, weeding, planting, and harvesting
- School wide food waste collection for composting

What can parents do?

- Encourage your child to think about where the food they eat comes from.
- Examine and observe the living things around them.
- Visit farms, gardens, and the Lamberton Conservatory
- Start a home garden



Parent Notes:



Media/Library

Second grade students are moving towards informational literacy. Over the course of this school year students will tap into their innate curiosity and inquisitiveness to build understanding. Second graders become increasingly independent in finding accurate answers to their questions and efficiently summarizing, recording, and presenting their findings.

Second Grade Students Will:

- Recognize that questions can be answered by finding information
- Ask questions about a research topic
- Utilize the library to do research with support
- Write, draw and verbalize the main idea and supporting details
- Compare new ideas with what is known
- Present information in a variety of ways (e.g. poetry, art, movement, etc)
- Identify own strengths and sets goals for improvement

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Read alouds & Think Alouds
- Small group direct instruction
- Multi-media projects
- Book Reviews

What Can Parents Do?

- Talk with your child. Discuss topics that make you “wonder”. Find answers together and read with your child every day.
- Listen and encourage your child to read out loud to you each night.
- Ask your child questions about what they are reading (e.g. What is the problem in the story?; What would you do if that happened to you?; Who else might like this book?, etc.).
- Help your child choose “just right books” in a variety of genres.



S.T.E.A.M. - Ms. Tara Wiseman

Second Grade learners are naturally engaged in the STEAM Lab. The hands-on, minds-on activities are selected to foster creativity and critical thinking. The curriculum encourages learners to begin with an appropriate level of challenge and advance as far as they are able. The emphasis on choice and autonomy allows learners to further personalize learning by tailoring projects to their own interests and experience.

Second Grade Students Will:

Interact, collaborate, and publish with peers.

Group Challenges May Include, But Are Not Limited To the Following Tools:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • Animation-ish | • Osmo | • Solar Oven |
| • Hour of Code | • Ozobot | • Snap Circuits |
| • K'Nex | • Pixie | • Vernier Science |
| • Let's Go Code | • Powerpoint | • Zoomtools |
| • Maker Boxes | • Simple Machines | |

What Can Parents Do?

- Make decisions about responsible digital practices together. Talk with your child about how to judge the accuracy and bias of online news and ways to behave safely and responsibly in the immense digital world (Common Sense Media: www.p21.org/tips/online).
- Set Expectations. Set and communicate clear, specific, and appropriate expectations around your child’s use of online media and mobile devices (Connect Safely: www.p21.org).
- Create Consistent digital policies. Pay attention to the technological and online resources available at your child’s school and reinforce the policies created around mobile devices and social networks at home (Common Sense Media: www.p21.org/tips/online2).
- Set an example for collaboration and compassion: Be a strong role model and mentor to your child. Make working with others and having an open mindset a priority (Making Caring Common Project: www.p21.org/tips/rolemodel).
- Think Globally and act locally. Work with your child to consider what you can do as a family or individually to make an impact in your community. Take part in a service-learning opportunity that provides meaningful civil and community service.



Hebrew & Judaic Studies

Morah Sapir Mualem

Second Grade is organized in three discipline-based tracks: Chumash/Parsha; Conversational Ivrit; and Jewish Holidays & Israel. These tracks are aligned to reinforce the development of learning, thinking, and language skills. The brain-based design of the material, congruence, and alignment of second grade content and skills contribute to the acceleration of the second grader's learning processes.

Second Grade Students Will Learn:

- How to conduct oneself according to Jewish traditions
- The High Holidays, Hannukah, Tu B'Shevat, Purim, Pesach, Shavuot, Yom Ha'atzmaut & Yom Yerushalayim.
- The biblical narrative of Parashat Hashavua
- Gain fluency in Tefillah
- To write and read both block and script writing in Ivrit.
- Decode phonetic words in Hebrew (script) and understand a simple Hebrew story
- Read and write simple sentences in Hebrew, using pronouns, subject/verb agreement and numbers.

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Interactive posters and visual displays
- Flashcards
- Games
- Library books and Guided readers
- Audio CDs

What Can Parents Do? Parents and other family members, even those who do not speak Hebrew, can support their students in many different ways such as:

- Check to make sure your child is doing their homework
- Ask your child what they have learned in class.
- Encourage your child to use Hebrew daily, whether they are identifying objects, engaging with their environments, or singing the songs that they have learned in class.
- Listen to your child read Hebrew stories and Torah verses.



ELA — Mrs. Laura Pullem

In Second Grade English Language Arts, students learn how to become fluent readers. They study spelling patterns and increase their ability to express themselves in writing. Students have many opportunities to refine speaking and listening skills.

Second Grade ELA Students Will:

- Read a variety of materials
- Develop vocabulary
- Recognize elements of stories
- Make predictions, draw conclusions, infer, connect text to person experiences, and recall details
- Write opinion pieces, explanatory texts, and narratives
- Study folk tales, fiction, non-fiction, and poetry
- Use the writing process to write for a variety of purposes
- Use digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Reading Groups
- Writer's Workshop
- Literature-based projects
- Journal Writing
- Handwriting (Print)
- Direct instruction in Spelling and Grammar

What Can Parents Do?

- Read to your children daily. Also give your child uninterrupted time during which they can read to themselves and you. Keeping a wide variety of reading materials available at home keeps children interested in books.
- Create a Writing Center at home that is filled with interesting pens, paper, and envelopes.
- Help your child to read print found in the environment, newspapers, magazines, and on food labels.
- Celebrate and enjoy reading with your children!



Social Studies — Mrs. Laura Pullem

Topics in Second Grade Social Studies include: Fairy Tales; Tall Tales; Folk Tales; Early Asian Civilizations; Ancient Greeks and Myths; Cycles of Nature; Westward Expansion; Immigration; Geography; Fighting for a Cause, and Economics

Second Grade Social Studies Students Will:

- Develop questions about the community
- Identify which communities are urban, rural, and suburban
- Compare and contrast different communities
- Identify elements of the past, present and future in the community
- Learn characteristics of how people lived in Ancient India, China and Greece
- Demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussions and classroom debates, regardless of whether one agrees or disagrees with the other viewpoints presented
- Identify different political systems
- Show respect in issues involving differences and conflict; participate in negotiating and compromising in the resolution of differences and conflict

Classroom Activities May, But Are Not Limited To:

- Projects
- Plays and reenactments
- Research
- Interactive notebooks
- Interactive read-alouds

What Can Parents Do?

- Talk about upcoming elections and allow your child to go with you to vote.
- Look at foods and products that you buy and talk about where they came from. Look up the regional source on a map. Marvel at how far your foods may have traveled. Google the country/region and see how the people in that place/space live. See what natural resources are available in the country.
- Stop at historical sites when you travel.
- Sing patriotic songs.
- Use Google Earth to visit other states and countries.



Physical Education — Mr. Ken Soble

To build on basic functions introduced in earlier grade-levels and build upon them through added methods and rules. While students are evaluated relative to their immediate peers, if the children are in combined groups there will be shared objectives and similar curricular progressions.

Second Grade Physical Education Students Will:

- Develop physical fitness skills through regular practice, effort and perseverance
- Skill sets will advance with the level the group can best handle
- Begin more structured competition as an outlet for newly acquired skills and learned rules.
- Continue the physical fitness program, following weekly preparatory sessions.

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Jogging, musical exercise, sit ups, and pulling bar (all fitness oriented).
- Coordination and balance work (mats and balance beams).
- Floor hockey, soccer, basketball, baseball, golf, tennis, volleyball, and lacrosse (all adjusted to age appropriateness)
- Activities to understand the relationship between physical activity and well being
- Team-building exercises
- General, non-sports related games and activities

What Can Parents Do?

- Stay up to date on activities in which your child is partaking in. Involve yourself where possible.
- Encourage outside participation in physical areas of child's choosing.
- Keep children active around the house with shared chores.



Music — Mr. Jack McMahon

The content of the second grade HCDS music curriculum will include songs that teach Hebrew vocabulary, Jewish holidays, Torah stories, and Jewish values. Secular and American holiday music will also be included. Developing rhythm, pitch and choral singing skills will also be incorporated into the curriculum. The use of rhythm instruments will contribute to student learning

Second Grade Music Students Will:

- Learn Hebrew vocabulary through song.
- Learn Torah stories through song.
- Sing songs which stress Jewish values.
- Sing Jewish and American holiday songs.
- Sing traditional Jewish music, as well as songs by contemporary song writers.
- Tap out simple rhythms.
- Match pitch.

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Beginning each class with simple vocal warm-ups.
- Movement and simple dances.
- Rhythm exercises.

What Can Parents Do?

- Ask what your child learned in music class.
- Take your child to Jewish musical events in the community.
- Provide opportunities for your child to listen to a varied musical repertoire.

Math — Mrs. Laura Pullem

Second grade students learn how numbers help us solve problems every day. Topics include Basic Operations, Money, Fractions, Algebra, Geometry, Time, Measurement, and Data Analysis.

Second Grade Math Students Will:

- Add and Subtract facts to 100 using manipulatives, mental computation, written problem solving and estimation
- Add and Subtract to 20 fluently.
- Create and solve word problems
- Identify and model place value concepts
- Identify the value of money
- Understanding and demonstrating place value to the thousandths place using manipulatives, mental computation, and written problem solving
- Develop an understanding of linear measurement
- Add and subtract 2 digit numbers with and without regrouping
- Understand, recognize, and name fractions
- Problem solve using fractions
- Generate, organize, and analyze repeating patterns
- Create pictographs and bar graphs
- Compose and decompose shapes
- Measure capacity, weight, and temperature

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Keeping a math journal
- Building projects utilizing measurement skills
- Shopping simulations to practice counting money and making change
- Games to provide skills practice
- Written problem solving
- Constructions involving math

What Can Parents Do?

- Parents can celebrate the joy of math with your child.
- Help develop money skills by showing prices while shopping and thinking aloud “mathematically” as you pay for goods.
- Let your child see how measurement is used in home projects, such as measuring for carpeting, cooking, etc.
- Play math games.
- Get your child an analog watch and practice telling time.
- Look at the temperature each day using a thermometer.
- Notice all of the ways we use math in our lives each day!



General Science —Mrs. Laura Pullem

Students in Second grade are given the opportunity to inquire about the world in which they live. Topics include Matter; Insects; Earth's Systems; Earth's place in the universe; Cycles of nature; Life cycles of butterflies, frogs, chickens, insects, and trees; Water cycles; Ecosystems; The human body; and Engineering.

Second Grade Science Students Will:

- Grow butterflies
- Refine observation skills
- Practice laboratory safety
- Classify different kinds of matter
- Discover different properties of matter
- Assemble and disassemble objects
- Compare and contrast differing insects
- Discover and test what water does in different forms
- Compare and contrast volcanoes, earthquakes, and erosion
- Describe all four seasons
- Describe how plants grow and reproduce
- Compare and contrast different ecosystems, including different plants and animals found in them
- Describe different human body systems
- Problem solve while creating a structure
- Ask and answer questions about observations

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Written research reports
- Laboratory experiences
- Field investigations

What Can Parents Do?

- Take your child out to enjoy nature!
- Provide your child with a magnifying glass or binoculars.
- Go on family hikes, look at the moon and stars using a telescope.
- Talk to your child about our beautiful planet.
- Fill your home with non-fiction books that have photographs of our natural world.
- Experiment in your kitchen together.
- Let your child help you with baking.
- Notice the changes that occur during cooking.



Art — Miss Abbey Brothers

Second graders will participate in understanding art and artists through their individual creation of art works that clearly demonstrate their understanding of the National Arts Standards.

Second Grade Artists Will:

- Respond to art by understanding the meaning the art conveys
- Understand the relationships of shapes and textures.
- Use direct observation, personal experience and imagination to create expressive artworks using shape, forms, tools, and media.
- Demonstrate use of skills, tools, and processes with quality craftsmanship when planning and creating Presenting & Producing: students refine and prepare work for presentation
Responding: analyze, interpret, and evaluate works of art; demonstrate knowledge of art vocabulary
Connecting: relates artistic work with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding
Learn art criticism for both personal and peer work

Classroom Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:

- Drawing - Colored Pencil, cray-pas, crayons
- Painting – Watercolor/Tempera
- Sculpture
- Printmaking
- Mixed Media
- Fibers and Craft Media

What Can Parents Do?

- Model the enjoyment of art
- Take your child(ren) to galleries, plays, concerts.
- Encourage respect and appreciation for all artists and their unique “voices”.
- Continue to encourage creative thinking in all aspects of their lives.

Notes

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