



Zion Lutheran School
1600 Woodlawn Road, Lincoln, IL 62656, 217-732-3977



Zion Lutheran School Second Grade Overview

Religion: “Voyages: Exploring God’s World” is a study of Bible stories from Adam and Eve to Moses and King David. Nine separate small unit booklets also include the coming of Jesus, His miracles, teachings, and life. Students learn of God’s love for them. Second graders memorize selected Bible verses and parts of Luther’s Small Catechism. Each Wednesday students attend a school chapel service.

Reading/Phonics: Scott Foresman’s “New Beginnings” and “My Time to Shine” introduce second graders to stories from award winning authors. Students continue to build their reading level and use supplementary books to reinforce the reading skills. Activities with each story include practice in comprehension and vocabulary. We encourage parent involvement to help their student become a more fluent and expressive reader. In Phonics, second graders learn about short and long vowels, compound words, contractions, synonyms, antonyms, blends, digraphs, and diphthongs – all skills to help each student learn to attack new words and make reading fun!

Writing: Students are encouraged to write regularly. Writing is integrated throughout the day and intertwined in many subject areas. Students share their writing with the class. Second graders review the correct formation of lower and uppercase letters in manuscript. Emphasis is placed on legible writing. Halfway through the school year, second graders begin to learn Traditional cursive writing with single letter and word practice for upper and lower case letters of the alphabet.

Spelling: Scott Foresman Spelling is used to increase vocabulary and transfer spelling skills to writing assignments. Weekly tests are given with spelling words dictated and written by the students. Challenge words are also included each week.

English: Second graders use Shurley English. Students learn about nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, direct objects, possessive nouns and pronouns, and other parts of speech. Catchy jingles, the “question and answer flow”, and other forms of active participation help students learn these English concepts. The skills are then applied to writing in many forms – sentences, paragraphs, stories, and letters.

Mathematics: Houghton Mifflin Mathematics introduces second graders to math concepts ranging from concrete to abstract. Students learn addition and subtraction (up to three digit numbers), money, geometry, fractions,

measurement, time, data and graphing, and an introduction to multiplication and division.

Science: McGraw-Hill Science is used to introduce students to science concepts. Units include plants and animals, weather and seasons, magnets, and Earth's land and water. Students learn about Science from the Christian perspective emphasizing the wonders of the world God has given us.

Social Studies: Scott Foresman's "People and Places" is a study of the student's school days, family, community, country, and world. The curriculum is enhanced through the use of transparencies, maps, activities, and posters.

Art: Students have art instruction each week. The focus of the art program is not only to teach students the elements of art: line, shape, form, color, texture, composition, and perspective, but to also foster creativity. Students also learn an appreciation of art through this creative experience regardless of their level of artistic ability.

Music: Students have music instruction twice each week. Music involves singing, listening, and playing simple instruments. They learn a wide variety of Christian songs and hymns and join in Zion Lutheran Church Sunday worship services. All students prepare and present both a Christmas and Spring Musical.

Physical Education: Second graders have Physical Education each day. Students participate in activities to develop strength, endurance, and flexibility. They develop basic skills in individual and team sports. Emphasis is placed on cooperation as a team and learning good sportsmanship.

Computer: Second graders go to the computer lab once a week. The main emphasis is on typing skills with home positioning of the hands and practice drills for touch-typing. Students also play games that reinforce the keyboard positions. Educational activities are also used in reading and mathematics as needed.

Cultural Experiences: Students go on field trips as are related to units and learning activities in class. These would include the annual Mini Medical Days presented by Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital and our trip to the Scovill Children's Zoo and Children's Museum of Illinois in Decatur. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to help chaperone and provide transportation for these special trips.