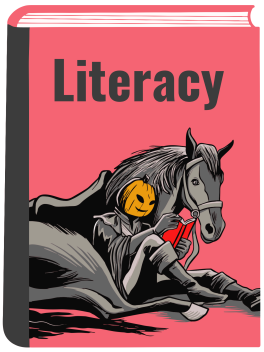
Overview of Second Grade Learning Goals

W. L. Morse School

Second Grade at W.L. Morse School

Our K-2 curriculum embeds essential skills and dispositions, laying the foundation for our **Portrait of a Learner**. Through interactive and engaging activities, we nurture communication, executive functioning, creativity, and critical thinking. Our students develop curiosity, perseverance, socio-cultural competence, and civic-mindedness, ensuring they grow into empathetic, resilient, and socially responsible individuals. This holistic approach prepares them for a lifetime of learning and active citizenship.

Literacy



Oral Language – Students develop oral language skills by participating in discussions, asking and answering questions, and recounting stories with details. They follow discussion rules, use complete sentences, and proper grammar.

Phonological Awareness – Students enhance their ability to manipulate sounds by adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes.

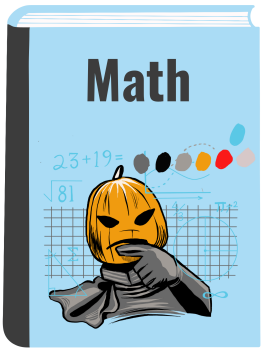
Phonics – Students decode and blend sounds to read complex words, including those with vowel teams and multisyllabic patterns.

Vocabulary – Students infer word meanings from context, recognize synonyms and antonyms, and distinguish literal from figurative language like idioms, similes, and metaphors. They learn domain-specific vocabulary for academic subjects.

Fluency – Students develop reading fluency by orally reading grade-level text accurately, adjusting speed, and using expression.

Comprehension – Students comprehend text by identifying key details and main ideas. Students actively listen to texts, summarizing key details, making inferences, and connecting texts to personal experiences. They also learn to use text features to locate information and understand vocabulary in context.

Mathematics



In second grade, students **add and subtract within 20** using various strategies, before progressing to adding and subtracting within 100. They explore concepts of **equal groups**, arrays, and repeated addition, laying the groundwork for multiplication concepts. As they delve into larger numbers, students extend their understanding of **place value to numbers up to 1000**, employing models and strategies for efficient addition and subtraction. Additionally, they apply their arithmetic skills to **solve word problems**, delve into **time and money** concepts, engage with **measurement**, including length. Furthermore, students are introduced to **data representation** through graph creation and interpretation. They also **explore geometric shapes** and their properties.

Science

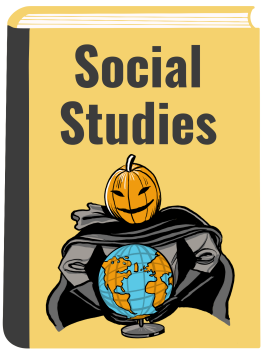
Properties of Matter — Students investigate the properties of matter, exploring solids, liquids, and gasses and learning to describe objects using their senses. They'll also experiment with changes matter can undergo, like mixing and dissolving.

Earth Changes — Students discover how Earth's surface changes, from dramatic earthquakes to the slow process of weathering. Mountains and valleys will hold no secrets as students explore their formation.

Relationships in Ecosystems — Students learn how plants, animals, and their surroundings work together, how living things adapt to their habitats, and the importance of maintaining a healthy balance in nature.

Social Studies

Our curriculum uses essential questions to explore how geography shapes communities, how communities change over time, the similarities and differences between communities, and the importance of rules and government.



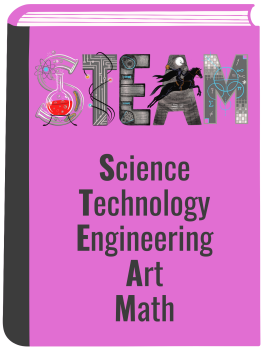
How does geography influence where people live and why? — Students learn about landforms (mountains, deserts, coastlines) and how they affect people's lives (shelter, food sources, transportation). They can use maps and globes to explore diverse geographical locations and discuss how climate and resources influence where people settle.

How and why do communities change over time? — Students research historical communities, comparing and contrasting them to their own. Class discussions explore reasons for change, like technological advancements or historical events. Students create timelines to visualize the evolution of communities.

How are communities the same and different? — Students compare and contrast communities worldwide, focusing on similarities. They can research cultural celebrations and traditions in different communities, acknowledging differences while appreciating shared aspects like celebrating holidays.

What is government, and why do people need laws? — Students explore the concept of rules in their classroom and school, discussing the importance of following them for safety and fairness. Class discussions can explore basic laws and their benefits.

STEAM & Computer Science



Digital Literacy & Citizenship — Students focus on *digital literacy* skills, such as creating digital content using various online platforms. This happens alongside *digital citizenship* skills, covering topics such as password security, and kindness online, ensuring responsible digital behavior.

Computer Science & Robotics — Students explore computer science concepts including conditionals, which are like "if-then" statements that help programs make decisions. Students apply these skills to program robots through "unplugged" (tech-free) activities.

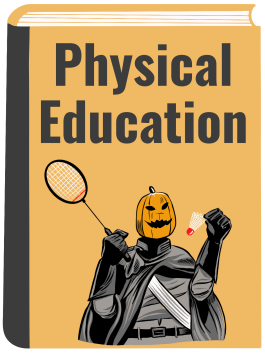
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) — Through hands-on activities, students use the engineering design process, applying problem-solving skills to real-world problems.

Visual & Performing Arts

Art – Students further develop their skills by creating diverse artworks using a variety of materials, applying more sophisticated *techniques*, analyzing and *discussing artworks* with deeper insight**,** relating art to a wider range of personal and cultural experiences, and reflecting critically on their own and others' artistic works. Concepts include *mixing color, monograms, and landscapes*.

Music – Students advance their music skills by identifying and describing musical elements such as *pitch, tempo, and dynamics*. They perform songs and rhythms with greater accuracy and complexity vocally and instrumentally. Students also create and improvise more intricate *musical patterns* and *compositions*. They deepen their understanding of music from different cultures and historical periods. They continue integrating music with other subjects, such as math and language arts, to enhance their understanding of patterns and improve their literacy skills through song. All students learn further *piano techniques*.

Physical Education & Health

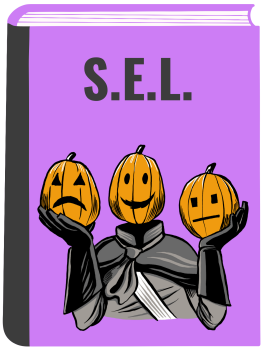


Motor Skills/Movement Patterns/Spacial Awareness – Students consistently demonstrates recognizable form in at least four locomotor skills (gallop, hop, leap, skip, slide, walk, horizontal jump, vertical jump) while maintaining balance. Identifies simple movement concepts such as space (personal space at low, medium, and high levels), effort (how the body moves), and relationships (with whom and what the body moves).

Health/Wellness/Character – Students understand the importance of covering their mouth and nose when coughing, washing hands regularly, getting sleep, and dressing appropriately. They exhibit sensitivity by demonstrating caring behavior towards others, work well in teams, acknowledge responsibility when prompted, and show leadership by trying new activities.

Self-Challenge/Personal & Community Resources – Students explore and participate in new and challenging activities, persist after failure, and identify enjoyable activities, including those outside physical education and those that can be done with family. They recognize community facilities available for participation**.**

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)



Growth Mindset & Goal Setting – Students discover that making mistakes is part of learning. They replace unhelpful thoughts with helpful thoughts, and recognize that personal strengths are a result of practice and effort.

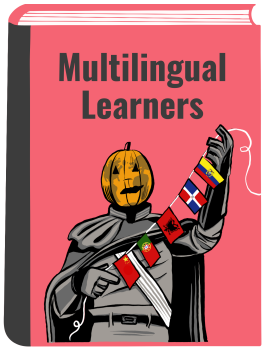
Emotion Management – Students learn to identify and label emotions by understanding that people can feel differently about the same situation. They also learn strategies to manage strong emotions, like thinking helpful thoughts.

Empathy and Kindness – Students identify empathy and kindness by describing how empathy leads to acts of kindness. They also use empathy to suggest kind acts they can do for people in their own lives.

Problem-Solving – Students identify strategies to help them feel calm before solving a problem. They learn to state the problem without blame or name-calling, think of solutions and explore outcomes by evaluating which solution is best for the given problem.

Multilingual Learners

Our language learners focus on the *4+1 language domains* (Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, & Metalinguistic awareness). The following are assessed based on the student's English language proficiency level (entering, emerging, transitioning, expanding, commanding).



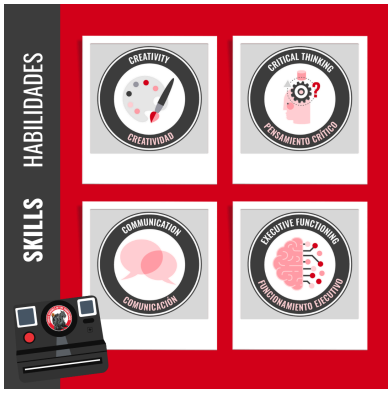
Reading – Students can determine the meaning of Tier 1 and some Tier 2 vocabulary in a text. Students can identify text structures that develop narrative elements, key details, and central ideas in texts.

Writing – Students can use appropriate words and phrases to describe detailed thoughts, feelings, and ideas in a written text.

Listening – Students can identify language structures that develop narrative elements, key details, and central ideas in grade-level spoken discourse.

Speaking – Students can use appropriate language to provide details or facts about a topic and provide an opinion supported by a reason.

Portrait of a Learner



Skills:	Dispositions:
💬 **Communication** – We empower students to express themselves clearly, thoughtfully, and persuasively in written and spoken forms, fostering understanding of diverse perspectives.	🧐 **Curiosity** – We nurture a sense of wonder and inquisitiveness, motivating students to explore, question, and seek answers, propelling personal growth and a love of discovery.
🧠 **Executive Functioning** – Students develop organization, time management, and problem-solving skills to navigate life's challenges and opportunities.	💪 **Perseverance** – Students learn to face adversity with determination and push forward to pursue goals, setting the stage for personal achievement and resilience.
🎨 **Creativity** – We encourage students to think imaginatively, generate innovative ideas, and approach issues from fresh angles, cultivating open-mindedness and adaptability.	🌍 **Socio-Cultural Competence** – Students engage respectfully and effectively with diverse individuals, fostering empathy, inclusivity, and a deeper understanding of global issues.
🤔 **Critical Thinking** – Students will evaluate information, analyze complex situations, and make informed decisions, inspiring intellectual curiosity and a commitment to lifelong learning.	🏛️ **Civic Mindedness** – We cultivate a strong sense of civic responsibility, inspiring students to impact their community and promoting active engagement for the betterment of society.