Course Overview

Elementary School | 2nd Grade | ELA - *Last Updated on July 22, 2025*

DESCRIPTION

K-12 Content Area | Mission & Philosophy Statement

• Foster a love for literacy across diverse backgrounds and abilities, ensuring equitable access to rich learning experiences equipping learners with the skills, mindset, and passion to engage actively as informed readers, writers, and communicators throughout their lives.

• Cultivate communicators and critical thinkers, empowering them to inquire, analyze, and create meaningfully from a variety of texts and perspectives, preparing them for the responsibilities of active participation as a citizen in our democracy as well as in an evolving global society.

• Engender collaborative and creative environments where learners innovate, elevate diverse voices and modalities to express themselves effectively and imaginatively.

• Promote a culturally responsive English Language Arts education that honors the identities, cultures, and experiences of all students, integrating diverse texts and voices to promote empathy, understanding, and respect.

Course Description

The 2nd Grade English Language Arts program blends the rich, interdisciplinary learning of **Great Minds Arts and Letters** with the structured, evidence-based instruction of the **95 Percent Group Core Phonics Program**. Students continue building their literacy foundation with support from **Geodes** decodable texts and personalized practice through **Lexia Core5**.

Through engaging themes such as *A Season of Change*, *The American West*, *Civil Rights and Advocates*, and *Good Eating*, students explore literature, visual arts, music, and dramatic expression. These experiences deepen comprehension, expand vocabulary, and develop students' ability to communicate ideas creatively and effectively.

The **Core Phonics Program** provides daily, explicit instruction in advanced phonics skills, including:

- Multisyllabic word decoding
- Complex vowel teams and diphthongs
- Prefixes, suffixes, and base words
- R-controlled vowels and irregular spelling patterns
- Continued development of fluency, spelling, and word analysis skills

Geodes readers provide students with opportunities to apply their phonics skills in rich, meaningful texts that also build content knowledge. **Lexia Core5** offers differentiated instruction tailored to each student's learning needs, reinforcing classroom lessons and accelerating reading growth.

Key Features:

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- Thematic, arts-integrated ELA instruction
- Daily, structured phonics lessons aligned to the science of reading
- Application of decoding skills through knowledge-building Geodes books
- Personalized, adaptive literacy support with Lexia Core5
- Emphasis on comprehension, fluency, writing, and creative expression

Outcome:
By the end of 2nd grade, students will confidently read multisyllabic words, understand increasingly complex texts, and communicate clearly through writing and discussion. This well-rounded program supports strong literacy development while encouraging curiosity, creativity, and a deeper connection to the world through language and the arts.

ATTACHMENTS

2nd_Grade_A_L_Synopses.pdf

2nd_Grade_95__Group.pdf

2nd_Grade_Geodes.pdf

STANDARDS

Pennsylvania - Grade 2 - English Language Arts ELA

CC.1.1.2.D CC.1.1.2.E CC.1.2.2.A CC.1.2.2.B CC.1.2.2.C CC.1.2.2.E CC.1.2.2.F

CC.1.2.2.G CC.1.2.2.H CC.1.2.2.I CC.1.2.2.J CC.1.2.2.K CC.1.2.2.L CC.1.3.2.A

CC.1.3.2.B CC.1.3.2.C CC.1.3.2.D CC.1.3.2.E CC.1.3.2.F CC.1.3.2.G CC.1.3.2.H

CC.1.3.2.I CC.1.3.2.J CC.1.3.2.K CC.1.4.2.A CC.1.4.2.B CC.1.4.2.C CC.1.4.2.D

CC.1.4.2.E CC.1.4.2.F CC.1.4.2.G CC.1.4.2.H CC.1.4.2.I CC.1.4.2.J CC.1.4.2.K

CC.1.4.2.L CC.1.4.2.M CC.1.4.2.N CC.1.4.2.O CC.1.4.2.P CC.1.4.2.Q CC.1.4.2.R

CC.1.4.2.T CC.1.4.2.U CC.1.4.2.V CC.1.4.2.W CC.1.4.2.X CC.1.5.2.A CC.1.5.2.B

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CC.1.5.2.C CC.1.5.2.D CC.1.5.2.E CC.1.5.2.F CC.1.5.2.G

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives for this course are aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and the Common Core State Standards for ELA as outlined in the Scope and Sequence for Grade 2.

ASSESSMENT TYPES

Forms of Assessment to Measure Course Objectives:

- Diagnostic Assessments
- Formative Assessments
- Summative Assessments
- Criterion-Referenced
- Norm-Referenced

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SUGGESTED METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- **Advanced Systematic Phonics Instruction:** Explicit teaching of multisyllabic word decoding, complex vowel teams, diphthongs, prefixes, suffixes, r-controlled vowels, and irregular spelling patterns to support fluent reading and spelling (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Phonemic Awareness and Word Analysis:** Activities focused on syllable types, morphology, onset-rime, and word families to deepen decoding and vocabulary skills (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Decodable and Knowledge-Building Texts:** Use of decodable readers aligned with phonics instruction that also build background knowledge and support comprehension (Geodes, 95 Percent Group Core Phonics).
- **Multisensory and Interactive Learning:** Incorporating visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and digital activities—including letter manipulation, writing practice, and interactive software—to reinforce phonics and language concepts (all programs).
- **Targeted Small Group and Individualized Instruction:** Data-driven differentiated support and interventions based on ongoing assessments and Lexia Core5 adaptive progress monitoring (95 Percent Group Core Phonics, Geodes, Lexia Core5).
- **Thematic and Cross-Disciplinary Learning:** Engaging with rich themes to build background knowledge, vocabulary, and critical thinking through literature, arts, and discussion (Great Minds Arts & Letters, Geodes).
- **Integrated Literacy Skills:** Combining reading, writing, speaking, and listening with explicit instruction in grammar, sentence structure, spelling, and expressive writing (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Shared Reading and Fluent Read-Alouds:** Teacher modeling of fluent, expressive reading to enhance comprehension, vocabulary, and student engagement (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Close Reading and Text Analysis:** Developing students' ability to analyze text structure, language, and deeper meaning through guided questioning and discussion (Great Minds Arts & Letters).
- **Adaptive Technology-Enhanced Learning:** Leveraging Lexia Core5's personalized, gamified platform to reinforce phonics and literacy skills, monitor progress, and motivate learners through individualized practice.

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RESOURCES

District Approved Program Resources	District Approved Supplemental Resources	District Approved Technology Resources
• Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Arts & Letters: Second Grade English language arts curriculum*. • 95 Percent Group LLC. (2022). *95 Phonics Core Program™, Second Grade*. 95 Percent Group LLC.	• Great Minds PBC. (2025). *Inside Geodes® Level 2* [Teacher guide]. Great Minds PBC. • Great Minds PBC. (2025). *My Geodes® Level 2* [Print and digital reader]. Great Minds PBC.	Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. (2025, April 16). *Lexia Core5 Reading* (Version 5.3.5) [Educational software]. Lexia Learning Systems, LLC. https://www.lexialearning.com/core5