Course Syllabus

2nd Grade

Course Description:

FPA 2nd Grade experience is focused on students becoming fluent readers. Language Arts entails phonics, English grammar, novels, and spelling. Our focus on classical literature challenges students with new vocabulary, keeps them engaged with compelling story lines, and builds their fluency with ample practice in the classroom. The SRA Phonics 3 and the Spelling by Sound and Structure complement each other as we deeply study phonograms and spelling rules which build a firm foundation for decoding and spelling.

Arithmetic:

Freedom Project has created a unique arithmetic program for second graders that focuses on computation with traditional algorithms. Many skills are introduced and practiced throughout the year. These include counting, skip counting, ordinal numbers, commutative property, greater than, less than, time, money, place value, temperature, measurement, geometric figures and solids, fractions, word problems, graphs, rounding, perimeter, multiplication, 3 and 4-digit column addition, roman numerals.

Reading:

Students will gain practice in reading with these rich literature- based books. They will be challenged to think, compare, and contrast in the study guides. Class time will consist of reading, comprehension, and vocabulary practice. Our literature study includes word study, composition, vocabulary, discussion questions, phonics development, sequencing, literary terms, dictation, and grammar.

Phonics:

Phonics 3 covers review and expansion of previous material plus 'schwa' and homonyms. Multisensory instruction utilizes all learning modes and an integrated language approach incorporating listening, writing, reading, and language arts skills ensure that phonics skills are not taught in isolation.

English:

Students will be taught the concept of a sentence as the expression of a complete thought. Basic concepts of nouns, verbs, pronouns, and adjectives are studied. The paragraph is introduced. The supplementary unit teaches alphabetical order and basic dictionary skills.

Spelling:

Students will combine spelling with phonics, writing, and other language arts skills. They will have opportunities for auditory, tactile, and visual learning.

Latin:

Prima Latina uses a clear and systematic format to introduce Latin to young students. It teaches important English and Latin grammar concepts, as well as vocabulary, sayings, prayers, hymns, and constellations. 25 lessons cover seven parts of speech, two tenses, 125 vocabulary words, numbers 1 through 10, basic constellations, and introductions to conjugations, declensions and derivatives. The lessons are broken down into grammar skills, five vocabulary words, a practical Latin phrase, and a line of prayer that is completely learned by the end of the chapter. Also included are five review lessons.

Handwriting:

Students will learn proper letter formation and have an opportunity to practice those letters while writing verses from Scripture. During second semester, the student transitions to cursive handwriting, using smaller line spaces.

History:

The Story of the World series brings to life the people, discoveries, conflicts, and stories that shaped human history, from the ancient era to our own time. Volume 1 covers the major historical events from the fall of the Rome through the rise of the Renaissance. Illustrated throughout with black-and-white drawings and maps, it also includes a pronunciation guide and chronology.

Science:

In this God-honoring study of birds, your child learns about the glorious design and characteristics of flying creatures, including physical characteristics, nesting habits, flight patterns, and more! Your children will learn how to attract various bird species to your yard and identify them by looking at their special physical characteristics, diverse nests, and interesting domestic practices.

Text/Required Materials:

McGuffy's Second Eclectic Reader (free access)
Little House in the Big Woods Guide (optional)
Little House in the Big Woods Book (optional)
Mr. Popper's Penguins Guide
Mr. Popper's Penguins Book
The Courage of Sarah Noble Guide
The Courage of Sarah Noble Book
Tales from Beatrix Potter Guide
Tale of Peter Rabbit
Tale of Benjamin Bunny
Tale of Tom Kitten
Tale of Johnny Town-Mouse
SRA Phonics 3
A Reason for Handwriting Level T
Apologia Exploring Creation with Zoology 1: Flying Creatures of the 5th Day Student Text
Zoology 1 Junior Notebooking Journal
Prima Latina Student Text
FPA 2nd Grade Arithmetic Workbook
Rod & Staff Preparing To Build 2 Text

Grades:

Quizzes and assignments submitted via Canvas are graded. There will also be reading evaluations that will be done in class by the teacher.

Attendance/Participation:

Students are expected to attend class Monday-Thursday. Classes are engaging and interactive, not passive. In-class participation is important. Please notify the teacher in advance (if possible) if any classes will be missed.

Expectations/Guidelines:

Color-coded assignment sheets are posted in advance between Friday-Sunday for the upcoming week. Black and Green are done at home and checked by a parent. Red must be scanned/ uploaded into Canvas. Blue must be completed in Canvas. Do not email completed assignments to teachers.

Assignments are due Friday, with a grace period through Monday. For example:
Monday through Thursday = online classes.
Friday = due date for all work to be submitted.
Saturday, Sunday (and the next Monday) = You may submit work, and the Canvas system issues a "Late" stamp. Do not worry. Second grade does not deduct points for late work, unless specifically noted by the teacher. However, after the "Saturday, Sunday, Monday" grace period ends, the assignment locks and a zero is issued if work is not submitted. Grace periods may not exist for higher grade levels at FPA. Read the grading policy for each year, each grade, each teacher.

The administration and teachers of FreedomProject Academy are steadfast in our efforts to provide an excellent education for our students. This requires vigilance as practices and trends promoting mediocrity and low standards abound in government schools and private schools of all kinds.

Excellence in education begins with an evaluation of the student's independently completed work. The recent trend of resubmitting assignments after receiving teacher feedback leads to better grades but is not an accurate evaluation of a student's independent skill level. This practice stems from Common Core/ No Child Left Behind/Outcome-Based Education and puts the emphasis on grades (outcome). An excellent education is focused on learning and the student's growth not just outcome.

Our grading policy is designed to promote learning and student growth. For clarity, once an assignment is submitted, no resubmission will be accepted. Much effort is taken to grade and provide feedback. It is the parent's responsibility to review graded assignments with the child for the purpose of learning from mistakes. This permits the parent and teacher to direct the growth of each uniquely individual child with accurate knowledge.