



2/3 Year B (alternates yearly)

2023-2024 Curriculum Overview

**Social
Studies**

This year's focus is on the idea of power and how individuals, organizations, and/or communities use their power to make a difference. We hope to have students understand that one does not need to be famous or privileged to enact change in meaningful, valuable ways.

Essential questions:

- What is power?
- Who has and who does not have power?
- How can we use our power to make a difference?
- How does using our power affect others?

Themes:

- Power of working together.
- Power of sticking up for others.
- Power of making a difference.
- Power of knowledge.
- Power of self-expression.

Research Project:

Students will research a person who has used his/her power to make a difference. Students will write an informational, "All About" book on this person.

Reading

In 2nd and 3rd grades, students transition from learning to read to reading to learn. Via the Teachers College reading and phonics programs, we implement a balanced literacy approach, providing students with reading opportunities and direct instruction in various contexts (e.g., read aloud, shared reading, independent reading, and book clubs).

To develop decoding and word recognition, students

- Use letters, letter clusters & word parts to decode unknown words (e.g., word families, syllables & prefixes/suffixes)
- Read text out loud with accuracy and fluency (e.g., pacing, intonation & expression)

To develop reading comprehension, students are taught to

- Make predictions
- Visualize
- Make connections
- Generate questions
- Identify and describe story elements
- Infer information from reading
- Retell and summarize texts
- Distinguish the main idea and supporting details in text
- Distinguish between literary genres

Writing

At the 2/3 grade level, we strive to develop writers who are inspired by personal experiences, wonderings about our world, and literature. We support students by ushering them toward an awareness of their purpose and audience. Students learn the complete writing process: thinking & planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. They are invited to reflect on their writing on a regular basis to promote skill development and understanding. Writing Workshop is based on the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project model.

Students will write within the following genres and formats:

- Lessons from the Masters: Narrative Writing
- How-to Guides (Nonfiction)
- Changing the World: Opinion Writing
- Poetry
- Fiction

During weekly handwriting instruction (*Handwriting without Tears*), 2nd graders practice printing, and 3rd graders study cursive.

<p>Math/ STEM</p>	<p>Our math program, <i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> (2nd edition), is a balance of whole-class investigations, small group explorations, and individual work. Children use math manipulatives, play games highlighting mathematical concepts, work collaboratively and individually, share problem-solving strategies, and communicate their mathematical thinking in verbal and written form.</p>	
	<p>2nd Grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure the Facts • Place Value & Non-standard Measurement • Addition & Subtraction to 100 • Measurement (standard) • Place Value to 1000 • Geometry • Measurement (metric), Fractions & Multi-Digit Computation <p>STEM - Building Marble Rolls</p>	<p>3rd Grade units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition and Subtraction Patterns • Introduction to Multiplication • Multi-Digit Addition & Subtraction • Measurement & Fractions • Multiplication, Division & Area • Geometry • Extending Multiplication & Fractions <p>STEM - Building Bridges</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>This year, the 2/3s explore the following science units of study using the <u>Full Options Science Systems</u> (FOSS kits) curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures of Life • Solids and Liquids • Water and Climate 	
<p>Social- Emotional Learning</p>	<p>Elements of the 2/3 social-emotional curriculum include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Circle • Morning Meeting (<i>Responsive Classroom</i>) • Class Meetings (<i>Positive Discipline</i>) • Conflict Resolution (<i>Talk It Out, Positive Discipline</i>) • All-school <i>Community Creators</i> • Partner Pals 	