



The **First and Second Grade Math Curriculum** is an engaging and innovative program which meets needs and capabilities of each student. The curriculum is aligned with the Common Core Standards as well as interactive lessons and differentiated strategies that are introduced and implemented in my classroom on a daily basis. Monthly I will send home a classroom newsletter, “**Simply Second**” which provides information to second grade parents of our weekly activities, lessons and announcements and more importantly to maintain communication between home and school. Parents and/or Guardians can contact me at [lynette.olsen@fivetowns.net](mailto:lynette.olsen@fivetowns.net) or 785-4504. I am happy to answer any questions and/or concerns that arise during the school year.



### ***First and Second Grade Math Curriculum***

I have the privilege of team teaching with Linda Blackler-Ludwick. “Ms. B” teaches **Language Arts** to the First and Second Graders and I teach **Math** to the First and Second Graders. My homeroom is the Second Grade class so I also have the opportunity to teach Science and Social Studies to my Second Graders.

The First and Second Grade math program utilizes “**Everyday Mathematics**” as well as Moby Max (computer program) and many varied forms of hands-on learning activities and games. “**Everyday Math**” is designed to help children build a solid understanding of math concepts,

encourage students to be creative problem solvers, build confidence, foster independence and ensure positive feelings about math. Children have the opportunity to work in whole group conversations, small group observations, partner share and independent skill building. The “everyday” classroom routine consists of calendar skills, attendance counting, observing and graphing weather and temperature, which provide real-life daily experiences.

**Second Grade Lessons:** Establishing Routines, Fact Strategies, Place Value and Measurement, Addition and Subtraction, Whole Number Operations and Number Stories, Measurement and Data, Geometry, Arrays and Equal Shares.

**First Grade Lessons:** Counting, Introducing Addition, Number Stories, Length and Addition Facts, Place Value, Addition Fact Strategies, Subtraction Fact Strategies, Attributes of Shapes, Geometry and Two-Digit Addition and Subtraction.

**Moby Max:** This computer program finds and fixes learning gaps with the power of personalized learning in all K – 8 subjects including math, reading, phonics, language, vocabulary, spelling, writing, science and social studies.

In math, it is critically important that students master previous skills before tackling their new skills. Moby's automatic, adaptive placement test takes roughly 30 minutes to complete and will identify the Common Core State Standards students have missed. In addition, Moby will automatically assign the needed lessons.



The **Second Grade** Science and Social Studies curriculum introduces various topics that provide opportunities for children to make observations, ask questions, gather information, problem-solve, conduct an investigation, discover similarities and differences, identify and describe physical and geographical features and work in small group and whole group settings.

The Second Graders will engage in **STEM** activities, which is an acronym for **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math**. The **STEM** curriculum is an integrated approach that offers hands-on and relevant learning experiences. The children will also be introduced to **STEM** bins that I have created for our science lessons.

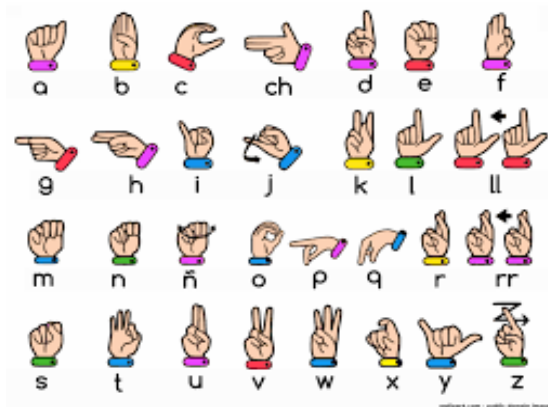


**The Responsive Classroom** is a program that creates shared community building and establishes routines and procedures in the classroom by implementing the core values of honesty, responsibility, fairness and respect. These values are developed and strengthened when the children have the opportunity to work on cooperation, responsibility, empathy, social skills and self-control skills throughout their day. Role modeling, morning (and afternoon) meetings and Guided Discovery are three important aspects to utilize in the Responsive classroom.

**Role Modeling:** The teacher models the commonly shared values and appropriate behaviors for the children throughout their First and Second Grade experience. The students observe and ask questions and eventually learn to become role models for each other which strengthen shared values and behaviors.

**Morning (and afternoon) Meetings:** The children begin their day sitting in a circle on the floor and greet one another, share thoughts and feelings, review the plan of the day and rules of the classroom.

**Guided Discovery:** The teacher uses this technique to introduce materials, activities, work areas and lessons through exploration and detailed planning. Guided Discovery motivates and helps the children to make independent choices, build and establish a common vocabulary and develop the children's ability to work cooperatively with each other and take good care of classroom materials.



**“Signing for Hearing Children’s Literacy”** is a sign language program that introduces children to the world of sign language by exploring through music, hands-on enrichment and children’s literature. “Research indicates that learning a second language stimulates a child’s cognitive development and sign language develops more of the brain that a spoken language.” (Dr. Marilyn Daniels, professor at Penn State). The children will utilize sign language and learn how to sign complete sentences and communicate with each other on a daily basis. Most importantly, the children will have the opportunity to discover the joy and benefits of learning a second language!



**Handwriting Without Tears:** This hand writing program is comprised of developmentally appropriate and multisensory instruction that provides fun and engaging instructional methods to enable children to master handwriting at an automatic and comfortable skill. Each student has the opportunity to practice writing in his/her own “Handwriting Without Tears” workbook on a weekly basis.

