

# Second Grade Language Arts



## Course Overview

### LANGUAGE SKILLS

- **Composition**—Students practice writing as a process: prewriting, writing a draft, revising, proofreading, and publishing (sharing finished work with others)
- **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics**—Students learn basic rules of usage (such as “may” vs. “can,” or “lie” vs. “lay”), synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms, parts of speech, punctuation, and more
- **Vocabulary**—*Wordly Wise* provides practice in word study skills, reading comprehension, and word analysis
- **Primary Analogies**—Students develop test-taking and critical thinking skills as they connect words and ideas
- **Handwriting**—Handwriting Without Tears helps students develop printing skills and, if appropriate,

begin cursive handwriting

- **Public Speaking**—Reciting a poem or reading a literary passage helps students address a group confidently
- **Spelling**—Students learn to understand sound-symbol relationships and patterns

### LITERATURE

Guided reading lessons offer new challenges: greater length, more complex content, and new vocabulary. The emphasis is on classic literature that embodies exemplary virtues, including Aesop’s fables, “The Steadfast Tin Soldier,” and “The Pied Piper of Hamelin.” Readings also include nonfiction works, as well as selections from Junior Great Books.

## Course Outline

### Read Aloud

- Listen to and discuss literature from a variety of genres
- Recall details of a story read aloud
- Sequence events from a story read aloud
- Ask and respond to questions about the text
- Predict what will happen next in stories

### Junior Great Books

- Listen attentively for different ideas and details
- Support an opinion with reasoning and evidence, citing specific passages from the text
- Develop habits of analytical thinking: identify problems, use inference, ask pertinent questions, draw conclusions
- Build vocabulary through exposure to rich literary language
- Understand and appreciate literature through writing and dramatization

### Poetry

- Listen to, memorize, and recite poetry from classical and contemporary authors
- Identify the use of rhyme, rhythm, and alliteration in poetry
- Write original poems

### Grammar/Usage/Mechanics

- Demonstrate knowledge of the mechanics of language in written work
- Identify and use effective sentence construction in speech and writing
- Identify the parts of a sentence and parts of speech

### Analogies

- Solve and create analogies
- Make connections and use information and skills to identify relationships

### Composition

- Compose paragraphs that follow the conventions of mechanics and usage
- Follow the steps of the writing process: prewrite, write a draft, revise and edit, and publish
- Write for a variety of purposes and audiences, for example, friendly letters, invitations, personal narratives, riddles, thank-you notes, and reports

### Guided Reading

- Discuss literature from a variety of genres
- Discuss main idea, plot, cause and effect, setting, and characters
- Relate stories to personal experience
- Make predictions about stories and characters
- Compare two books by the same author

### Vocabulary

- Identify the meanings of words in context
- Recognize relationships between groups of words
- Apply the meanings of words and write them in sentences

### Spelling and Word Study

- Recognize word patterns
- Identify and use affixes
- Write sentences and paragraphs from dictation

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## Handwriting

- Legibly write uppercase and lowercase letters on standard-ruled paper
- Legibly write and properly space words and sentences
- Copy sentences neatly and accurately

## Reading Comprehension

- Recall main idea and details
- Sequence events
- Match vocabulary words and their meanings

## Lesson Time and Scheduling

Total lessons: 180

Lesson Time: 120 minutes. You might choose to split the lessons into smaller segments. K<sup>12</sup>'s online lesson tracking system allows you to pick up wherever you left off in any given lesson.

## Standard Curriculum Items

Dry erase board  
Regular double-lined paper  
Printing guide  
Cursive handwriting guide  
Cursive book  
Cursive alphabet strips  
Printed alphabet strips  
*Surprises*, a book of poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins  
*Printing Power Workbook*  
*EPS Primary Analogies Book 2*  
*EPS Reading Comprehension Book A*  
*EPS Wordly Wise 3000 Book A*  
*K<sup>12</sup> Classics for Young Readers, Vol. 2*  
*Listen My Children: Poems for 2nd Graders* (Core Knowledge Foundation)

## Additional Curriculum Materials

Some lessons require additional resources, including common household items, and books that are readily available online or in your local library:  
*A Weed Is a Flower* by Alike (Aladdin, 1988)  
*Buddy the First Seeing Eye Dog* by Eva Moore (Scholastic, 1996)  
*Chang's Paper Pony* by Eleanor Coerr (HarperCollins, 1993)  
*Clara and the Bookwagon* by Nancy Levinson (HarperCollins, 1988)  
*Crow Boy* by Taro Yashima (Puffin Books, 1983)  
*George the Drummer Boy* by Nathaniel Benchley (HarperCollins, 1987)  
*Knights of the Round Table* ("Bullseye Step into Classics" edition) by Gwen Gross (Random House, 1985)

*Long Way to a New Land* by Joan Sandin (HarperCollins, 1981)  
*Peter Pan* ("Bullseye Step into Classics" edition) by J.M. Barrie, retold by Cathy East Dubowski (Random House, 1994)  
*Robin Hood* ("Bullseye Step into Classics" edition) by Annie Ingle (Random House, 1993)  
*Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine* by Evaline Ness (Henry Holt, 1966)  
*Sam the Minuteman* by Nathaniel Benchley (HarperCollins, 1987)  
*The Bears on Hemlock Mountain* by Alice Dalgliesh (Simon & Schuster, 1991)  
*The Josefina Story Quilt* by Eleanor Coerr (HarperCollins, 1986)  
*The Long Way Westward* by Joan Sandin (HarperCollins, 1992)  
*Tye May and the Magic Brush* by Molly Garrett Bang (Mulberry Books, 1981)  
*Wagon Wheels* by Barbara Brenner (HarperCollins, 1993)

NOTE: List subject to change.