

Canton Public Schools

Curriculum Overview

Grade 2

The 2023-24 Curriculum Guide for Grade 2 helps to organize the units of study in each subject that our grade 2 students will engage in throughout the year. Educators utilize the [MA Curriculum Frameworks](#) to design standards-aligned units of study for each subject. The units are rigorous, yet developmentally appropriate with learning experiences that allow students to achieve their personal best as they strive to meet and exceed grade level expectations.

Canton Public Schools 2023-2024: Grade 2 Curriculum Guide 6/14/2023											
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Reading	Universal Launch Lessons	Becoming a Big Kid Reader	Becoming Experts		Tackling Longer Words and Longer Books		Stepping into the World of Story		Growing Knowledge Together		
Phonemic Awareness <i>Daily for 35 weeks</i>	Heggerty Weeks 12-15	Heggerty Weeks 16-19	Heggerty Weeks 20-23	Heggerty Weeks 24-27	Heggerty Weeks 28-31	Heggerty Weeks 32-34	Heggerty Week 35	Small group lessons continue if needed.			
Phonics UFLI	Getting Ready lessons	Short Vowels Digraphs VCe	Reading Longer Words Ending Spelling Patterns R-controlled vowels		Long Vowel Teams	Other Vowel Teams	Diphthongs Silent letters	Suffixes & Prefixes	Suffix Spelling Changes	Low Frequency Spellings	Additional Affixes
Writing	Introducing Writer's Workshop	Making Small Moments Big	Chapter Books: Writing Nonfiction from the Heart		Finding Awesome Everywhere: Celebrating Through Opinion Writing		Poetry	Writing Research- Based Nonfiction			
Social Studies	Building Community	Topic 1 Reading and Making Maps	Topic 2 Geography and its effect on people		Topic 3 Migrations and Cultures		Topic 4 Civics in the context of Geography		Topic 5 Economics: Resources and Choices		
Math	Launch Routines Math is... Unit 1	Number and Operations in Base 10 Place Value to 1000-Unit 2 Patterns within Numbers-Unit 3	Operations and Algebraic Thinking Meanings of Addition & Subtraction- Unit 4 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i> Strategies to Fluently Add within 100- Unit 5 Strategies to Fluently Subtract within 100- Unit 6			Measurement and Data Measure and Compare Lengths- Unit 7 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i> Money and Time- Unit 8		Operations and Algebraic Thinking Strategies to Add 3 Digits- Unit 9 Strategies to Subtract 3 Digits- Unit 10 <i>Benchmark Assessment</i>		Measurement and Data Data Analysis Unit 11	Geometry Geometric Shapes and Equal Shares Unit 12 <i>Reveal Summative</i>
Science	Launching Routines <i>Earth & Space Science: Wind and Water, Forces of Change!</i>				<i>Physical Science: The Best Tool for the Job</i>			<i>Life Science: Plants, Animals and Their Habitats: A World of Living Things</i>			
Universal Screener & Grading	9/11-9/22 STAR Early L2 Reading Math	CBM By 9/29	Parent Conf. even mos. 11/18 & 11/17	Term ends 12/1	1/02-1/12 STAR Early L2 Reading Math	CBM By 1/19	Term ends 3/12	Part of Conf. even mos. 4/8 & 4/5	5/06-5/17 STAR Early L2 Reading Math	CBM By 5/31	Term ends 6/13

The timelines shared in the chart are approximate, the timeframes listed are not intended to be unit deadlines. Teachers may adjust the length of a unit based on student learning needs. Some units may take longer if students need more time and instruction, while others may be shortened if students are ready to move forward with their learning sooner.

Literacy in Grade 2

Literacy instruction in Grade 2 is designed to develop important foundational skills that prepare students to be proficient readers and writers. Our curriculum is designed to provide learning opportunities in the five core areas: print concepts, phonological awareness, phonics and word recognition, fluency and comprehension.

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Using the [MA English Language Arts and Literacy Framework](#) as our guide, educators draw from a variety of sources to design for instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, reading and writing.

Foundational Skills

Phonological and Phonemic Awareness

Students in grade 2 engage in systematic and explicit instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness. In Canton, we use the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum to support daily, short, auditory lessons to help students to hear, identify and manipulate sounds in words. Students learn important skills such as phoneme isolation, blending parts to whole, segmenting whole to parts, and phoneme manipulation as they learn to listen closely to hear the sounds in syllables and words.

Phonics

Phonics instruction helps students to connect their understanding of sounds of spoken language to the letters of written language. Phonic skills are important to both the decoding of words when reading and the encoding of words when writing.

The **University of Florida Literacy Institute Foundations** curriculum is used as our core curriculum, with additional supplemental resources available for students who require additional explicit instruction in phonics.

UFLI Foundations is an explicit and systematic program created by the team at the University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI—pronounced “you fly”). The program introduces students to the foundational reading skills necessary for proficient reading. It follows a carefully developed scope and sequence designed to ensure that students systematically acquire each skill needed and learn to apply each skill with automaticity and confidence. The program is designed to be used for core instruction in the primary grades or for intervention with struggling students in any grade.

Instruction in Grade 2 will focus on:

- Short Vowel Review
- Digraphs Review
- Long vowels with silent e Review
- Reading longer words with -es, -ed, -ing endings
- Open/closed syllables

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- Ending Spelling patterns
 - R-controlled vowel review
 - Long vowel teams (ai, ay, ee, ea, etc.)
 - Other vowel teams (oo, au, aw, etc.)
 - Diphthongs (oi, oy, ou, ow)
 - Silent letters (kn, wr, mb)
 - Suffixes and Prefixes
 - Suffix spelling changes
 - Low frequency spellings (alternate long a and o spelling patterns, etc.)
 - Additional affixes (-sion, -ture, -ish, -able, etc.)
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Vocabulary & Comprehension

In order to ensure a consistent student experience across classrooms and schools, elementary teachers use a reading and writing curriculum designed by Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University. The curriculum resources develop students' abilities to read deeply and to write extensively in one particular genre or area of study.

In Grade 2, students also engage in learning that addresses the MA ELA standards for language, which includes work in conventions of standard English, knowledge of language, and vocabulary acquisition and use. Teachers draw resources from a variety of sources to address this work in ELA as well as in the other subject areas, as students learn content specific vocabulary.

Reading

In grade 2, students engage in 4 main units after a brief introduction to the routines of Reader's Workshop.

Becoming a Big Kid Reader

This unit launches second grade readers into taking charge of their reading by remembering all that they learned in grade 1 and using those strategies to practice reading with fluency. They will spend some time learning about story elements and how they help readers to retell the story, while being introduced to some popular second grade series books. The unit also supports readers with strategies to help them become efficient

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and flexible word solvers who can tackle hard words using their phonics knowledge with a focus on vowel teams.

Becoming Experts: Reading Non-Fiction

Students learn more about familiar topics and grow their knowledge of new topics while working on word solving, vocabulary development, and comparing and contrasting information across texts.

Tackling Longer Words and Longer Books

In this unit, students will be introduced to short chapter books with less picture support, as students focus on the main character and problem/solution story elements in these longer books. Students will gain practice with a focus on fluency, paying close attention to punctuation, scooping up longer phrases as they read and making meaning.

Stepping into the World of Story

In this unit, our second graders learn about the power that stories have to take us on adventures, as they read narratives that help them to read on and on to see what happens next. Students will learn to pay close attention to details, making predictions, and noticing their own reactions to the text. Students will learn to study characters closely, focusing on their feelings and using clues from the text to support their thinking. As the unit wraps up, we will introduce book clubs that encourage students to read, think, prepare and talk about their reading.

Growing Knowledge Together

This unit has three goals; for students to become more skilled at nonfiction reading, for them to become more independent with research and inquiry, and for them to learn nonfiction information as they study collaboratively with others. We will align the work of this unit with our learning in science and social studies and our writing unit, as students learn about important topics and write about their nonfiction research.

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Writing

The Writer's Workshop units are closely aligned with the reading units and support students in developing their skills in writing in three important areas: narrative, informational, and persuasive writing. Across the year, students will work to increase their stamina for longer, stronger, more complex writing while also learning proper grammar and structures to produce meaningful, well structured pieces of writing.

Introduction to Writer's Workshop

Students start the year learning the routines of writing, building their stamina to focus and write for longer periods of time. They will review letter formation and the importance of grammar and conventions when conveying meaning, including sentence structure, spelling and punctuation.

Making Small Moments Big

This unit rallies students to search their memories to find moments that are worth sharing. They learn to plan and draft their ideas, writing stories from beginning to end that include characters' feelings. They will learn to revise their writing to make it better and better, learning to use dialog, feelings and thoughts to create deeper story lines. They will use mentor texts as models for their writing, and work to ensure that their writing is clear with strong spelling and conventions.

Chapter Books: Writing Nonfiction from the Heart

This unit will coordinate with our social studies and science learning, as students engage in informational writing. They will read and research topics of interest, creating nonfiction chapter books that share what they know. Students will consider their audience when writing and study mentor texts to learn how authors include information to make readers care about the topic. Students will also spend some time thinking about ways to share information other than through books, such as podcasts and videos.

Finding Awesome Everywhere: Celebrating Through Opinion Writing

Our second graders have strong opinions about things that are near and dear to them. This unit helps them to gain skills at developing their opinions, using reasons and examples to support their thinking. They will spend some time writing about books, while they also learn to be convincing, providing important information and evidence to support their book recommendations.

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Poetry: Big Thoughts and Small Packages

This unit focuses on exploring the beauty of language in different forms. Students learn to use line breaks, rhythm, and visualization to make their writing more clear and powerful.

Writing Research-Based Nonfiction

In this unit students will learn to do research by taking notes while they read through sketching, labeling and jotting. They will learn to categorize information into subtopics, as they have a chance to teach their readers about a topic important to them.

Math

The [MA Curriculum Framework for Math](#) provides guidance around the standards and grade level expectations for student learning in math. We will be implementing a new math curriculum this year, using the McGraw Hill Reveal Math program. Reveal Math®, a balanced elementary math program, develops the problem solvers of tomorrow by incorporating both inquiry-focused and teacher-guided instructional strategies within each lesson.

Reveal Math in grade 2 engages students across 12 standards-aligned units:

Unit 1- Math Is...

Unit 2- Place Value to 1,000

Unit 3- Patterns within Numbers

Unit 4- Meanings of Addition and Subtraction

Unit 5- Strategies to Fluently Add within 100

Unit 6- Strategies to Fluently Subtract within 100

Unit 7- Measure and Compare Lengths

Unit 8- Measurement: Money and Time

Unit 9- Strategies to Add 3-Digit Numbers

Unit 10- Strategies to Subtract 3-Digit Numbers

Unit 11- Data Analysis

Unit 12- Geometric Shapes and Equal Shares

Science

The [MA Curriculum Frameworks for Science and Technology/Engineering](#) guide our unit development in Science. Grade 2 science encompasses topics in earth science, physical science, and life science. Students explore phenomena that allow them to make sense of

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the world around them while asking questions, planning investigations, and constructing explanations.

Wind and Water, Forces of Change!

In grade 2, students learn that water is found everywhere on Earth and takes different forms and shapes. They map landforms and bodies of water and observe that flowing water and wind shapes these landforms.

The Best Tool for the Job

Students identify and classify materials based on physical properties such as color, strength, texture, hardness, flexibility, and absorbency. They gain experience testing different materials to collect and analyze data for the purpose of determining which materials are the best for a specific function.

Plants, Animals and Their Habitats: A World of Living Things

Students start to look beyond the structures of individual plants and animals to focus on how plants and animals depend on their environment to meet their needs for survival. They focus on how different ecosystems provide the needs for the organisms that live in them.

Social Studies

In 2018, new Massachusetts History and Social Science Curriculum Frameworks were released including an emphasis on “stronger attention to the intersection of history, social science, and literacy instruction, through the inclusion of literacy standards for history and social science.” To that end, whenever possible students engage in interdisciplinary units involving reading and writing and presentations connected to the following topics:

Building Community

Each new school year is the beginning of building a new class community. Educators and students will learn a little bit about one another and will take time to discuss what agreements, considerations, and decisions need to be made so all students feel safe and welcome.

Reading and Making Maps

Students will learn about different kinds of maps and their features. They will engage in creating their own maps of a familiar location that include a compass rose, key, title and more.

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Geography and its Effect on People

In this unit, students will think about how people adapt and change to their environment. Students will locate all continents and oceans of the world and explain how the location of landforms and bodies of water determine conditions for habitable living

Migrations and Cultures

During this unit, students will study the different reasons why people choose to settle in a community. Classes will discuss reasons why people migrate to different places in the world and will conduct interviews with family members, neighbors, friends, or school staff to discover where they came from, how and why they moved, and when and why their families came to Massachusetts.

Civics in the context of Geography

Students will learn why continents are divided into countries and will identify characteristics that make up a country (e.g. government, leaders, citizens). Students will spend a little time researching a country of interest and present a short research report.

Economics: Resources and Choices

To wrap up the year, students will better understand the concept of resources. They will learn a bit about what it means to be employed, earn income, and more. Lastly, they will discuss the concept of goods and services and the importance of saving.

Social Emotional Learning

The Wayfinder curriculum is used throughout the year to support our students' social and emotional learning (SEL). Lessons across the year are designed to support student learning in 6 important areas: adaptability, self-awareness, collaboration, empathy, agency, and purpose.

Wayfinder Mindsets: We will start the year with a unit that helps students get to know each other and practice our community agreements that support a kind and caring classroom.

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Wayfinder Skills:

Feelings and Follow-Through: In this module, students explore feelings as superpowers and practice actions so we are all safe and cared for.

Friends and Family: We all have important people in our lives. In this module, students reflect on their friends and family and take action to deepen connections.

Growing and Adapting: In this module, students will focus on patience for ourselves and others and practice persistence when learning new skills.

Wonder and Exploration: In this module, students explore the world beyond themselves through stories from across the globe and examining their own values, strengths and interests.

Reflections: Students end the year reflecting on what we've learned, celebrating and appreciating one another.

Assessment and Grading

Universal Screening

Students in Grade 2 will be assessed with our universal screener, STAR 360, in the fall, winter and spring. The STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading and STAR Math assessments help to identify students who are At/Above Benchmark, On Watch, or Below Benchmark, so that appropriate support and personalized learning opportunities can be utilized to support individual growth. This screening is also the tool used in our dyslexia screening protocol. Parent reports are sent home to share the results with each testing period.

Students who are identified as Below Benchmark are also assessed using the STAR CBM, which measures specific skills in reading and math that are foundational to student learning. These curriculum based measures are used for the purpose of monitoring student progress in specific skill areas.

Formative Assessments

Educators use a variety of other formative assessments to assess student learning and progress towards grade level standards. In ELA, there are numerous diagnostic

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assessments that are used to glean more specific information on students' abilities. In phonics, there are weekly progress monitoring assessments where students dictate the newly learned phonics skills and educators can get a sense of mastery towards the new concept. In Math, students take four benchmark assessments to assess their understanding of mathematical concepts.

Reports Cards

Elementary report cards are issued three times each year in December, March and June. For specific report card dates, please see the district calendar.