



Curriculum Guide

The Meridian School's mission is at the forefront of the planning and development of the school's educational program. In promoting a balance of mind and heart, Meridian's four core curricular subjects—math, science, social studies, and literacy and language arts— and six specialist subjects make up the foundation of the program. Each content area focuses on the acquisition of a set of given outcomes at each grade level in order to provide a scaffolded sequence of skills that result in fifth grade students who are well-prepared for middle school and beyond. Students balance their time between individual and collaborative work, reflecting on progress, and taking actions to further their academic skills.

Meridian has carefully considered and chosen the standards included in the curriculum. These standards reflect the skills and competencies our educators have deemed characteristic of students who are well-rounded critical thinkers and problem-solvers. These standards include Common Core Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, National Core Arts Standards, International Society for Technology Education standards, and others. Although Meridian's curriculum is aligned to these standards, teachers have the flexibility to approach the curriculum using techniques they feel most effectively fulfill Meridian's mission and philosophy.

Meridian's curriculum guide is an evolving document; as demands for skills and competencies change, so does Meridian's curriculum. Meridian's adaptations to these changes reflect the school's commitment to helping students emerge as contemplative, contributing, and empathetic members of their local and global communities.

For a more detailed version of our current curriculum map, please visit <https://meridianschool-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Public/View/Default>

Second Grade

Students are acquiring new skills while solidifying and becoming fluent and confident in the application of existing skills. Science units include studies of weather, sound and plants. Social Studies units include Seattle History and Global Studies. Place-based educational units include forestry and our study of the city of Seattle. Cross-disciplinary explorations encourage students to integrate their reading, writing, mathematical, and social skills to deepen and share their understanding. Cooperative learning is part of many projects. Students are expected to demonstrate conflict resolution skills and show empathy and respect for others. Service learning projects include garden work with Seattle Tilth and fifth grade “buddies,” community service in the neighborhood, and student-initiated projects.

	FALL	WINTER	SPRING
<p><i>Literacy & Language Arts</i></p> <p><i>Reading</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies for picking “just right” books Characteristics of good readers Getting to know yourself as a reader Strategies readers use to figure out unknown words Strategies to push yourself to read more Reading with a partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying important ideas in a text Develop ideas about text Use text to support ideas Reflect on ideas Grow and change ideas Learn ways to start conversations Learn prompts to keep conversations going Share ideas with partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracking the main character across books Exploring themes across books/authors Developing skills in making predictions Creating theories
<p><i>Writing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching routines and rituals Learning expectations of workshop Learning student and teacher roles in conferring Storytelling Quick publishing The Writing Process 	<p>What is revision?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revising to add dialogue to stretch writing Revising to add internal thinking to writing Revising to add/take away unrelated parts Revising for sequence Revising to add character feelings Strategies for revising Revising for a particular purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine books by authors and discuss elements he/she uses to draw the reader in Developing writing that includes a problem Adding details to expand story How to use descriptive language to enhance a story concept Relevance of following a sequence when writing Including dialogue to make reader feel more involved in the story Strategies for revising Function of illustrations in a story Editing for final presentation
<p><i>Mathematics</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solves addition/subtraction story problems to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solves one- and two-step addition and subtraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adds and subtracts to 20; knows addition

	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add and subtract to 20 using mental strategies ● Tells whether a number is odd or even, and explains why ● Uses addition to find the total number of objects arranged in a rectangular array with up to five rows and five columns ● Understands that the three digits of a 3-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones ● Reads and writes 3-digit numbers using numerals and expanded notation ● Adds 2-digit numbers ● Uses a number line to show and solve 2-digit addition problems 	<p>problems to 100</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrates fluency with addition facts to 20 ● Understands that the three digits of a 3-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones ● Skip-counts by 5s, 10s, and 100s within 1,000 ● Reads and writes 3-digit number using numerals, words, and expanded notation ● Uses $<$, $=$, and $>$ to compare 3-digit numbers ● Adds and subtracts 2-digit numbers ● Adds up to four 2-digit numbers ● Mentally adds and subtracts 10 or 100 to or from numbers 100-00 ● Uses appropriate tools to measure length in inches and feet ● Measures to find out how much longer one object is than another in inches or feet ● Solves word problems involving lengths that are given in the same units ● Locates numbers on a number line; adds and subtracts on a number line ● Solves money word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies ● Constructs and reads picture graphs and bar graphs, and solves problems using the information in a graph 	<p>facts to 20 by memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Uses addition to find the total number of objects arranged in a rectangular array with up to five rows and five columns ● Adds up to four 2-digit numbers ● Adds and subtracts 3-digit numbers using models, sketches, and/or number, and explains strategies for doing so ● Uses appropriate tools to measure length in centimeters and meters ● Estimates length using units of centimeters and meters ● Measures to find out how much longer one object is than another in centimeters and meters ● Solves word problems involving lengths that are given in the same units ● Solves money word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies and uses the cents and dollars' signs correctly ● Measures lengths and displays the results on a line plot. ● Recognizes and draws 2- and 3-D shapes, including triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes ● Divides circles and rectangles into two, three, and four equal parts, and describes the parts using words like <i>halves</i>, <i>half of</i>, <i>thirds</i>, <i>fourths</i>, <i>quarters</i>, <i>a fourth of</i>
<p>Social Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Examine the different expectations of various communities ● Work together to create agreements for our classroom community ● Read and interpret maps ● Identify what makes seattle special ● Construct a response to community needs (litter speeding cars) *intro service learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify reasons for the formation of the Pike Place Market. ● Explain how the formation of the Pike Place Market met the needs of farmers and community members in Seattle. ● Identify the people from Seattle history who had influences on the community today. ● Write a biography about a historical figure from Seattle History. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and label the difference between a country and a continent ● Describe different regions by identifying land features, weather, plants and animals ● Describe the causes and effects of deforestation ● Distinguish the differences between the people who live in rural areas and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify how poverty affects members of a community ● Identify solutions to homelessness ● Participate in a service learning project that addresses a need in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify informational text features from informational text. ● Use informational text features such as titles, photographs, diagrams, captions, fonts, headings and subheadings from informational text to support understanding of the content within the text. 	<p>cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain how people share their history and beliefs using folklore ● Write a fictional narrative about a child representing a focus country ● Write a persuasive text that educates others about a problem. ● Assess a problem and recommend solutions. ● Connect homelessness in continent of study to homeless in the U.S.
<p><i>Science</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify ways weather changes from day to day ● Identify factors that influence weather (sun, air, water) ● Identify the tools used to measure weather. ● Identify suitable clothing to wear during certain types of weather ● Identify materials and colors that absorb or reflect heat ● Measure the temperature in Fahrenheit to the nearest 2 degrees. ● Estimate the wind using a scale and a wind flag ● Create graphs to monitor changes in weather over a period of time ● Analyze data ● Make predictions about weather and compare with what happens. ● Measure weather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Predict how a length or thickness of string, straw, etc. alters the pitch ● Explain how the eardrum processes sound using the knowledge of sound and vibrations ● Verify that higher tension (tighter strings) cause a higher pitch ● Understand the process of plant reproduction ● Create bar graphs and record data of their brassica plant ● Observe the formation of leaves and buds ● Measure and record plant height ● Make predictions about plant growth ● Demonstrate their understanding of pollination by using dried bee to cross pollinate ● Explain how pollinators like bees and plant are interdependent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the parts of a seed and a plant ● Understand the process of plant reproduction ● Identify parts of a bee ● Create bar graphs and record data of their brassica plant ● Observe the formation of leaves and buds ● Measure and record plant height ● Make predictions about plant growth ● Demonstrate their understanding of pollination by using dried bee to cross pollinate ● Explain how pollinators like bees and plant are interdependent ● Use content specific vocabulary in their speaking and writing