



Cluster News
2nd Grade
2019-2020

Stem with Ms. Schock



For the month of November, our 2nd grade engineers are ready for the leaves to fall! Engineers will be working together to create a device to help pick up all those leaves on the ground. Students will design a brand new device to see how many leaves they can pick up with their invention.

Technology with Mr. Jacobson or Ms. Fornataro



During the month of November, second grade students will create a Super Hero in *Wixie*. This is a wonderful tool that the students can use in order to create their own digital work. This program is highly engaging, and the students have fun while using it. They are very excited! Remember to check out our Portaportals for exciting web links!

Music with Ms. Saunier



For the month of November, students will continue to develop their ability to identify musical rhythms and then perform the rhythms on various instruments. They will complete simple crafts that help to reinforce their knowledge of rhythmic patterns. We will play online games that help reinforce our knowledge of rhythms, while having fun at the same time! We will also learn some songs and dances for Thanksgiving. It will be a fun month in music class!

Suggested Websites:

Check out this AWESOME website that uses a rhythm game to help kids learn musical rhythms! You can click on the cartoon characters to make a sound and play a rhythm of your own!

<https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/rhythm>

Art with Ms. Ally-Khan



Students in 206, 209 and 313 will view and critique the artwork of Simon Rodia and Louise Nevelson. Both artists are known for using found materials in their artwork and recycling objects that others could no longer use. Students will create sculptures using found materials such as craft sticks, buttons, bottle caps, beads, string, etc. Students will paint their sculptures with metallic paints.

Suggested Books:

The Wonderful Towers of Watts (A Reading Rainbow Book), by Patricia Zelver

Suggested Websites:

Learn more about Simon Rodia and the Watts Towers here:

http://www.wattstowers.us/simon_rodia.htm

Learn more about Louise Nevelson and her artwork here:

<http://www.louisenevelsonfoundation.org/>

Art with Ms. Parisi

In November, 2nd grade students will create a self-portrait. Students will read "I Look In The Mirror" by Helen H. Moore and will develop their own self-portrait showing expression. These self-portraits will be colored using crayons as well as painted using tempera paints to create a multi-media piece of art.

Art Tip

Hands-On Art at the Brooklyn Museum!

First Saturday of the month, 6–8pm (except January and September)

Pick up a free ticket in the Lobby at 5pm to reserve your spot.

https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/education/youth-and-families/hands_on_art

200 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11238-6052
718-638-5000

Dance with Ms. Charles

In the month of November, the second grade students will learn about the elements of dance.

The elements of dance include body, action, space, time and energy. The vocabulary used can be applied to any style of dance. During dance class, the students will identify how they're using the elements of dance while they are warming up, doing locomotor movements and playing dance games. The elements of dance will be revisited throughout the year. After learning about these elements, the students will be better able to discuss, and compare and contrast all styles of dance.

Supporting Dance Education at Home -

Encourage your child to practice locomotor movements, traveling steps and non-locomotor movements, movements that stay in one spot, while playing outside.

Musical Theater with Ms. Lodescar

November is here! For this month, students will focus on perfecting their stage presence.

Stage presence is defined as "*the ability to command the attention of the audience.*"

Building this skill is important for the performer to not only grasp the audiences' attention, but sometimes to persuade them into believing something is true. The actors will be given thought provoking topics such as "Should schools give students homework?" and "Should pets be allowed in school?"

Students will study the techniques used by professional speakers and use their stage presence techniques to win the audiences' vote. They will also continue to acquire skills to help them build confidence independently, while learning to work together to build ensemble. It is indeed an exciting time for our students!

Physical Education with Ms. Klein, Ms. Acquaviva or Mr. Veltre

During the month of November, 2nd grade students will be concentrating on skill development, refining, combining, and applying manipulative skills. The students will work to develop their skills and cooperation, while deemphasizing competition. Skills we will be concentrating on are throwing, tossing, rolling, bouncing and catching beanbags, foam balls, and playground balls. By practicing these skills at a young age, it will hopefully transfer to sports or make learning these skills in sports easier in the future.

We will also be starting the NYC Fitnessgram. As part of the NYC Fitnessgram, 2nd grade students will be measured and weighed to attain their Body Mass Index (BMI). Parents and guardians will be able to access their child's NYC FITNESSGRAM results, and more information about NYC FITNESSGRAM, on the NYC Schools Account. Fitnessgram reports will be available sometime in the spring, which will give you your child's BMI. Having a BMI that is high or low can lead to health problems in the future.

When you access your child's report, you may want to discuss your child's results with your health care provider. To help protect your child's health, avoid sugary foods and drinks, offer fruits and vegetables and other healthy food choices, and encourage at least 1 hour of regular physical activity daily.