

# Wiley K-2 Elective Description Guide

## 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 2009-2010

### **AUTHOR! AUTHOR!**

Within every child there are stories of value. In this course students will become young authors as they delight in writing, illustrating, and making their own books. Stories will be shared with other students.

### **BOOK INTO MATH**

This course will integrate literature and mathematics. Students will be introduced to numerous children's books, both old favorites as well as unfamiliar stories. They will participate in activities designed to explore mathematical concepts as well as to develop communication skills. Students will be encouraged to work together to read, speak, write and use a variety of strategies to solve mathematical problems that occur in literature.

### **BUDDING ARTISTS**

This is an introductory multi-media elective where students will practice using a variety of materials and techniques to create a wide variety of works, many reflecting international themes.

### **BUILDING READERS**

Ready...Set...Go...We're off on an exciting adventure! In this nine-week course designed for pre-emergent readers, students will explore basic curriculum concepts through social interaction and hands on learning. Activities will include puppets, manipulatives, cooking, literature immersion, and projects with an emphasis on learning the alphabet and basic print concepts. Come along with us as we depart on this exciting adventure, and build your skills along the way! Teacher recommendation is required for this course.

### **CHINESE**

This course is designed to motivate students' interests in Chinese through songs, nursery rhymes, games, videotapes, stories, food tasting, and art projects. The beginner's class will familiarize students with the pronunciation, tones, and strokes of the Chinese characters. In speaking, students will have the ability to communicate minimally with the learned material. They will be able to count from 1 to 100 and to name basic colors, common nouns, days of the week, months of the year, body parts, and family members. They will also be able to use a few high frequency phrases, e.g. asking someone's name, age, saying telephone numbers, expressing needs, and expressing feelings about emotions and likes and dislikes. In reading students will be able to identify/recognize a small set of graphic elements, such as the "wood" radical and the "mouth" radical etc. They will be able to recognize isolated characters and compounds frequently encountered in day-to-day life. The Chinese writing system with strokes and radicals will be briefly introduced. Students can copy isolated characters with simple stroke configuration.

### **CHORUS K-2**

Students will learn to produce a good singing tone with their voices. Students will be exposed to a variety of pieces from different styles and periods. These prepared pieces may be performed for school programs and functions.

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### CREATIVE MUSICAL DRAMA

Students will be cast in a musical play as they increase their acting, dancing, and performance skills. They will learn about the country and culture of the musical's setting as well as theatrical terms. A day performance will be part of this course.

### DESTINY TRAVEL AGENCY

This course will provide learners the opportunity to discover ten different cultures located around the world by "traveling" to Brazil, Mexico, England, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Israel, Russia, and Japan. The learners will be receiving a passport that will enable them to travel to the different countries. They will also be receiving a suitcase in which to keep all of their "souvenirs." During each trip to a different country, the learners will be experiencing the following activities: recognizing different seasonal changes and times between their country and the country they are visiting, making clothes (paper dolls) to be worn during their trip, drawing simple maps of the homes and communities that are located in the country, cooking and tasting food, experiencing holidays that are celebrated in the country, exploring that country's different customs, playing games, listening and dancing to music, replicating art, familiarizing themselves with any famous people who live there, and responding to their visit through a postcard that will be sent "home" after each trip.

### FLOOR GYMNASTICS

Students will learn a variety of rolls, balances, inverted skills, and dance sequences on the mats. They will build their abilities in strength, balance, agility, coordination, flexibility, and self-confidence. Other gymnastics apparatus for girls' and boys' gymnastics will be studied as well as countries with strong gymnastic programs and athletes. All movements will be taught with safety, spotting, and individual abilities. A day performance will be part of this course.

### FRENCH, INTRODUCTION

Students will be introduced to the language with extensive vocabulary and cultural facts. Listening and speaking skills are stressed at this beginning level, including free and directed oral communication. Songs, skits, games, and role-playing are also part of the curriculum. Video and audiotapes are used to introduce and emphasize French culture, French language, and French speaking countries.

### FRENCH, CONTINUING

This course will be a continuation of Beginning French K-2 with significant increase in vocabulary in all content areas including Science, Art, Geography, and Math. Writing and Reading will be integrated at the appropriate level for the age and interest. Free communication will still be emphasized, and cultural exposure will enhance the students' knowledge and appreciation of the French culture.

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### GERMAN, INTRODUCTION

Students learn to converse in German on topics and at levels appropriate to their age and interests. Games, songs, and dances help them to learn to use structure and vocabulary through sound association and analogy. They will apply their language skills in daily activities. German is a sequential course and will be taught on a continuing basis as students' progress from one level to the next. Beginning cultural exposure will enhance the students' knowledge and appreciation of the German culture.

### GERMAN, CONTINUING

Students continue to spend most of their time in conversation, developing the basic skills of listening and speaking. Videos, films and tapes add variety to the presentation of cultural information. Phonics will be introduced in preparation for reading and writing. Easy German readers supplement the text. Cultural exposure will enhance the student's knowledge and appreciation of the German culture.

This elective continues the course of study in Beginning German. Prerequisite: Beginning German or approval of the German teacher.

### GRIN AND GRAPH IT - AG

Activities in this course are designed to develop skills in coordinate geometry and graphing. Students will survey, organize, and analyze data to make line, bar, and picture graphs.

### GROUP SOLUTIONS

This course will introduce, reinforce, and broaden students' understanding in numerical relationships, computation, geometry, discrete mathematics, functions, and logic. The cooperative logic activities help students become contributing members of a group of collective thinkers.

### IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

This inquiry based science course will introduce primary students to birds and their characteristics, habits, life cycles and role in the environment. Students will be involved in hands on activities designed to help them identify bird characteristics compared with those of other creatures, identify and classify different types of birds, and build an understanding of a bird's life cycle and the roles birds play in their environment. Students will develop their own questions about birds and throughout the course of the elective discover the answers by participating in learning experiences such as experiments, journal keeping, reading, and first hand observation as well as creating a welcoming habitat for birds on their school grounds.

### JAPANESE, INTRODUCTION

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the sounds and forms of the Japanese language. Emphasis will be placed on listening and speaking. Limited reading and writing are done. Hiragana and the Hepburn type will be used. Songs and games will facilitate vocabulary and provide practice in correct pronunciation. Annual culture events will also be incorporated to enhance the students' interest in Japanese.

Goal: Students comprehending at this level will have a mastery of basic everyday conversation.

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### JAPANESE, CONTINUING

Major emphasis will continue on aural/oral skills development. Phonics and syntax will be introduced in preparation for reading and writing. TPR, films and tapes constitute basic texts.

Goal: Katakana will be taught. The students will also learn the use of past and future tense.

### LET'S CELEBRATE

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to attend an Igbo Festival in Nigeria? Or eat sweets during the Candy Festival in Turkey? How would you like to participate in a May Pole Dance? Or march in a Bastille Day Parade? Well, join us on a trip around the world as we learn about many wonderful celebrations and festivals of different people, cultures, and countries. We will experience music, recipes, language and multi-sensory activities; as well as practice our geography skills while we study holidays around the world. Come celebrate with us as we learn to appreciate the many differences and, more importantly, the similarities between so many diverse and interesting cultures

### LET'S GO LIFECYCLING!

This course will examine the lifecycles of plants and animals (amphibious, aquatic, insect, and mammal). Students will observe and study the different stages, how they are alike and different, and what is required to complete those lifecycles. The opportunity to grow plants and nurture life will be included.

### MAGICAL KINGDOM OF FAIRY TALES- AG

The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with a variety of fairy tales. Discussion, role-play, reading, viewing, listening, research, and writing activities are used to explore this magical kingdom. Emphasis is placed on the origin and elements of fairy tales.

### MAKING RAINBOWS

Students will learn to mix secondary colors using primary colors. They will mix tints and shades for use in paintings of various themes that reflect art and highlight famous paintings from around the world. Tempera, watercolors, and mixed media will be used

### MATH MANIPULATION -2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

This course will provide second grade students with an opportunity to use manipulative materials to strengthen their math skills. It will reinforce second grade math concepts of number sense, place value, addition and subtraction, and problem solving. Students must be recommended for this course.

### NEW GAMES

Students will participate in a wide variety of games that focus on the joy of play, cooperation, and trust, rather than simply striving to win. These games are based upon the philosophy, "Play hard, play fair, nobody hurt." Activity level will range from physically active to quiet group games. Good sportsmanship will be emphasized as well as practice in basic movement skills.

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### NIGHT CREATURES

The evening is quiet as the daytime animals are snuggling down for a good night's sleep. Soon the night is teeming with the sounds of nocturnal animals looking for their prey. In the *Night Creatures* elective, students will learn about the many nocturnal animals and the variety of habitats in which they live. Students will explore the many adaptations that aid in the survival of these special animals and create and build ways to observe and attract these creatures to the world around them.

### PRIZE WINNERS

Let's celebrate the winners! Students will have an opportunity to listen and read award winning children's books that have been recognized for excellence. Caldecott winners as well as North Carolina Children's Book Award selections will be introduced. Children will develop listening and comprehension skills and explore various artistic mediums that the illustrators use to create books.

### READING LADDERS

This course is especially designed for students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade who need extra reinforcement with reading skills and concepts. Small group size will allow children more individualized attention. The students will be involved in modeled, shared, guided, and independent reading activities on a daily basis. Students must be recommended for this course.

### RHYTHM BAND

Students will learn to play various rhythm instruments correctly. They will experience a variety of activities using the fundamentals of rhythm. Students will learn to read simple percussion scores.

### ROOFTOP READERS

This course is especially designed for students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade who need extra reinforcement with reading skills and concepts. Students in this elective will receive small group reading instruction designed to move them to the next level in reading. Every day students will participate in Shared Reading, Literacy Activities, Guided Reading, and Read Aloud. Students must be recommended for this course.

### SIGN LANGUAGE K-2

Students will be taught the concept of using sign language as an alternative form of communication. Finger spelling and signing of familiar words and terms will be emphasized. Students will use their hands and eyes to "speak" and "listen" to others.

### SOLVE IT! K-2

We're off on a great math adventure! In this elective, children will develop their problem solving skills as they are required to think both logically and creatively. We will focus on solution strategies (pattern, deduction, relationships, Inference, and sequences), rather than on computational practice. Some of our problems will require careful thought and reasoning. Others will have solutions that will instantly occur to children in a sudden burst of insight. All of our work will increase their appreciation for and understanding of mathematical ways of thinking.

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### SOUNDS OF THE WORLD

Students will explore cultures of the world through music and musical instruments. An appreciation for a variety of musical styles will be fostered through exposure to music from all over the world and the creation of some unique and interesting musical instruments.

### SPANISH, INTRODUCTION

Students will be introduced to the language with extensive vocabulary and cultural facts through songs, games, and art activities.

### SPANISH, CONTINUING I

This course will continue the focus on oral language skills, and students will learn to communicate in Spanish on topics and at levels appropriate to their age and interest. An oral/visual approach and Total Physical Response (TPR) will be used in this course through a variety of activities. Reading and writing in Spanish will be introduced, and students will participate at a level for their age. Students will be able to construct sentences, dialogues, and short passages in Spanish. Cultural exposure will enhance the students' knowledge and appreciation of the Spanish culture.

### SPANISH, CONTINUING II

This course is a continuation of the curriculum presented in Continuing Spanish 1; however, students will find an increased focus on writing. Geography, Art, Science, and Math are integrated into the curriculum

### STORYBOOK FRIENDS

This course will introduce many types of characters in favorite storybooks. It will focus on the importance of characters and their character traits. Students will learn about fairy/folk-tale, animal, and real-life characters. Students will communicate their understanding of these characters in a variety of literature extension activities such as puppets, character sketches, illustrations, published books, and dramatizations.

### WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS

The student will learn about and participate in games and sports from all over the world.