

GRADE LEVEL CURRICULUM INFORMATION

South Woods Elementary School

2021-2022

SWE Mission

South Woods Elementary School will create a positive learning environment that will instill **good character** and the desire for **academic excellence**, fostering the development of **caring, productive, and digital citizens** in the global world.

South Woods Information is a Title I School

What does it mean to be a Title I school?

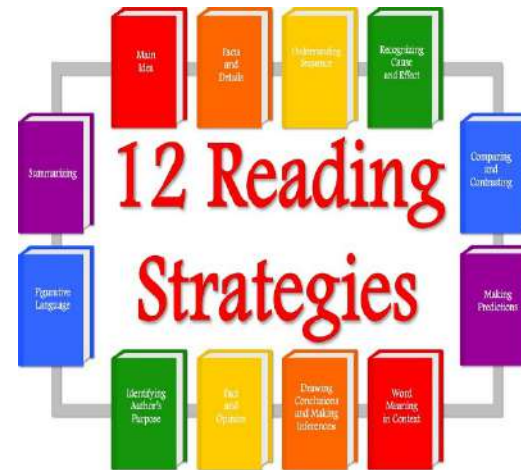


How is Title I funding used at South Woods?

Staff



Materials



Parent Involvement





About me

- My name is Mrs. Meiselman. I taught in Putnam County for the last 11 years, 8 of them in self-contained Access Points classrooms. In 2019, I earned a Masters in Special Education with a focus on Autism Spectrum Disorder from Florida International University. I have two sons, a daughter, and a step-daughter, all grown, I also have 7 grandchildren, three are under the age of 5 and with whom I live. One of my sons has Autism Spectrum Disorder. As a result, I have many years of experience dealing with meltdowns and difficulty in communication of wants and needs. My philosophy is to establish a relationship of trust with my students so that they will be comfortable enough to talk to me. I try to teach each child just above their comfort level; enough to have them grow and learn new concepts, but not enough to frustrate them to the point that they shut down. I look forward to establishing a relationship with you, as well, because I believe that it is my responsibility to work as a team with you to meet the educational needs of your child.

Mrs. Meiselman's Class Schedules

Daily

8:25 – 8:55	Morning meeting
8:55 – 9:45	Language Arts
9:45 – 10:25	Recess / Snack
10:25 – 11:05	Language Arts (cont.)
11:10 – 11:40	Lunch
11:40 – 1:10	Math
1:10 – 1:25	Choice Time
1:25 – 1:55	Science/Social Studies
1:55 – 2:30	Specials
2:30 – 2:45	End of day clean up & dismissal

Specials

- Day A – Music
- Day B – Media
- Day C – Computer Lab
- Day D – Art
- Day E – Physical Education

Reading

In this class, we follow the new BEST standards for 2nd grade and Access Points in 3rd and 4th grades. Students are taught at their individual instructional level. We are using a program called Wilson Foundations to work on basic skills. We will also use Attainment Language Arts for literature activities, as well as supplementing with books and poems to learn techniques for reading prose, poetry, and informational text. Each child is given support and modified assignments in order to display their knowledge in their own unique way. Visual supports (pictures or symbols) will be used to help make the connection between the written word and the ideas.

Writing

Students will be working on communicating ideas and stories. We will be using a variety of methods to write sentences and stories, including pencil and paper, putting words in order, drawing pictures, and putting pictures in order. Handwriting will also be part of the instruction to increase the legibility of the student's writing.

Math

Students will be taught using BEST standards in 2nd grade and Access Points in 3rd and 4th grade. Students will be taught at their individual instructional level in order to show their understanding of the grade level concepts. These concepts include arithmetic skills, measurement, geometry, and algebraic concepts. We will work hard on improving basic number skills including number order, adding, subtracting and, for older students, multiplying and dividing using a variety of strategies.

Science

Science will be taught using Attainment's curriculum program. Concepts include scientific method, physical science, earth and space science, and life science. The emphasis will be on the student as a scientist, asking questions, and exploring and experimenting (hands on activities) to find the answers. Language Arts and communication, as well as math concepts will be interwoven with the lessons.

Social Studies

In social studies, we will be learning about map skills, geography of the world, the United States, and Florida, citizenship, national government, state and local government, and important landmarks (example: White House) and events in the United States (example: 9/11). Language Arts will be embedded in the social studies curriculum to extend skills with informational text.

Grading

Students will be graded on their completion of work as well as the accuracy. Students will be graded using the traditional A-F system; however, if a student is not showing understanding of a concept, changes in assignments and presentation of information will be made to help students be successful in learning and demonstrate their growth in understanding.

CHARACTER COUNTS! is an educational framework for teaching universal values and a national coalition of organizations that support each other. The result is a culture change in your school, business or organization. CHARACTER COUNTS! improves the lives of the adults who teach it, the communities that embrace it and the students who make better choices as a result of it

CHARACTER COUNTS!

All of the time.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Six Pillars of CharacterSM



Behavior & Communication

- We are using a program called Conscious Discipline to help students understand their feelings and learn to control their own behavior. An emphasis on school community and working together will be included. Students will be taught techniques to calm themselves down. As many behavior issues in students with special needs stem from an inability to communicate wants and needs, much emphasis will be placed on expressing frustration in more acceptable ways and making requests through alternate means (e.g., pictures, electronic communication devices, signs and gestures, etc.), while reinforcing verbal skills.

Homework

- Homework will be assignments that were missed or are not finished during school.
- It is also encouraged to read with your students at home. If needed, your student can check out a book from the classroom library or from the media center if the parent form was returned.

How Can Families Stay Involved?

- Ask specific questions about school
- Please honor school time and try to schedule important events accordingly
 - Doctor's appointments, family events, sports
- Support homework blocks
- Make school your child's "job"
- Celebrate short-and long-term goals

Conferences

- Conferences will be scheduled October 19th-29th
- These will be offered through phone calls
- Your child's teacher will contact you to set up your day and time

Closing

- Thank you for viewing, contact me if you have any questions. My email is merrie.meiselman@stjohns.k12.fl.us.