

# FOREST SCHOOL

## Second Grade



### Fall

#### Foraging for the Community

Fall begs for a story to be written about its adaptations, instincts and effects that animals have on their habitats and how their diversity benefits others. We are expanding academic skills in math, tracking, earth craft, shelter and fire building.

#### Topics covered:

- ★ Adaptations, Habitats, Niches
- ★ Narrative Writing
- ★ Social Sciences

### Winter

#### Tracking Our Resources

The world feels still in winter but beasts of all kinds find work to do! We are becoming proficient at understanding decomposers and how resources are cycled within systems. Graphs are our tool to analyze interactions with natural resources.

#### Topics covered:

- ★ Informational Writing
- ★ Geometry and Multiplication
- ★ Life and Water Cycles

### Spring

#### Growing Stronger Together

Our spaces burst in spring engaging our academic applications in new ways. We are producing investigative nature programs showcasing our evidence of growth and change to share our gains throughout these dynamic seasons.

#### Topics covered:

- ★ Script Writing
- ★ Automatic Math
- ★ Observation and Measurement

*\*All requiring academic skills in math, science, and literacy.*

## Second Grade

### Contact Information

Lead Teacher:

**Bailey Williams**

Email: [bailey@portlandforestschool.com](mailto:bailey@portlandforestschool.com)

The best way to contact me is through email. I will check this email at least once a day and at least once on the weekends. I will have after school office hours available from 3:30-4:00 on Tuesdays. All school-wide comments or concerns should be directed to Ian Abraham ([ian@trackersearch.com](mailto:ian@trackersearch.com)) or Elaine Kinchen ([elaine@trackersearch.com](mailto:elaine@trackersearch.com)).

### Supplies and Gear

Pencils and pencil sharpener  
2 Black dry erase markers  
Eraser  
Crayons  
Colored pencils  
Glue stick  
Ruler or measuring tape  
Watercolor set  
Water bottle (24 oz non-leakable preferred, fits snugly into backpack outside pocket)  
Backpack (Chest strap, I can recommend the Osprey Jr series.)  
Rain Pants and Jacket (2 pairs)  
\* I recommend a boot dryer

**Daily Gear Checklist:** Dress for the weather, remember a water bottle, sunscreen, lunch & 2 snacks, mask, hand sanitizer, and the necessary academic materials for that day. We will send home a packing list for longer days.

### Sample Daily Agenda

8:15-8:30 Drop Off  
8:30-9:00 Sunrise Routine  
9:00-9:30 Bus - Practice Activities  
9:30-10:00 Snack/ Movement  
10:00-12:00 Morning Lessons and Activities  
12:00-1:00 Lunch/ Self-Guided Time  
1:00-2:00 Afternoon Lessons and Activities  
2:00-2:30 Snack 2/ Movement  
2:30-3:00 Bus - Practice Activities  
3:00-3:15 Sunset Council  
3:15-3:30 Fetch

### Growth Progress Reports

Portland Forest School Elementary uses a grading continuum that tracks and evaluates a student's growth from basic to proficient in skills spanning reading, writing, math, science, social science, and socioemotional learning over the year. Students receive consistent feedback and guidance on their work that will identify areas of improvement and growth. Reports will aim to locate the skills that each student has begun to explore, the skills they are currently working with, and the skills they have become proficient in. Using this format, we can track the students' skills they are beginning to explore at the start of the school year and watch their development and expansion by the end of the year. At the turn of each season we host parent-teacher conferences to discuss student progress.

Parent-teacher conference days:

November 23-24

February 22-23

May 31 - June 1

### Extensions, Absences, Make-ups

If students need to miss school because of medical or family reasons, please contact our Forest School Office as soon as you are able to. As written in the handbook, we ask that appointments be scheduled outside of school hours if at all possible as to allow students to not miss important material in class. There will be no homework assigned for students to do explicitly outside of the classroom to make up if they are not present. Please contact me by email if there are issues or concerns.

### Overnight Dates

If Covid-19 allows, Forest School lower grades will be having an overnight trip in the Spring. Families will be invited to one of our overnight sites in the Marmot Valley for a celebration of the hard work that has been done throughout the school year. Dates and information regarding this celebration will be announced as the year progresses.

### Student Agreements

Within the first week of class, students will be meeting together as a community to craft a set of agreements and principles they aim to adhere to throughout the year. These agreements will be recorded and referenced often in regards to any behavioral issues, disagreements, or conflict that arises. Students will have the opportunity to check-in frequently on these agreements, and work together to re-write them as they see fit. We will utilize Experience Points as a way to give students positive feedback for this. Doing solo work as well as working together as a group will collect points towards Experience Days.