West Brooke Curriculum

Grade 2

A manual written for the children of Jehovah’s Witnesses

By Jennifer Westbrook
West Brooke Curriculum
Grade 2 Manual

MCP Mathematics Level B Schedule

by

Jennifer Westbrook
Welcome to West Brooke Curriculum

I felt like there was a need for a curriculum written for children of Jehovah’s Witnesses using some of our excellent materials that Jehovah has provided. I have homeschooled my children for 12 years and have used a variety of curriculums. I always tell myself that we should use what we already have available to a greater degree, but let’s face it, that takes a lot of planning. So in trying to attempt this I thought it would work best if daily/weekly instructions were written out ahead of time; because in my experience when I have a manual/guide I feel better, and feel less stress, the year is laid out I can get the books I need and not have to scrounge up a lesson. I hope this will be a help to other parents out there who are having a tough time putting it all together.

Math
· MCP (Modern Curriculum Press) Mathematics Level B, 2005 (mastery method- focus on one thing, not a lot of review) (this one will take 5 days a week)

· Supplement: *What your 2nd grader Needs to Know* by Hirsch contains what needs to be covered for 2nd grade math, but basically directions only and no practice problems, you could use this along with a simple workbook or free worksheets online. [http://www.ixl.com/](http://www.ixl.com/) also has math practice (some free, some not). You can get worksheets here too [http://themathworksheetsite.com/](http://themathworksheetsite.com/)

*Supplement: Menu Math for Beginners (grades 1-3) From Real Life Math Series by Remedia Publications*
Spelling

2017 edition: schedules Spelling Workout

If you just want a free 2nd Grade spelling list to work on for the year (borrowing your student does not have difficulties with spelling) then here is a place to get a list by grade level. As you scroll down you will see the grade levels on the left. The 2nd Grade list has 175 words + a Sight Words + Sight Words-Nouns list. You will need to choose 8-9 a week. With this list you can do an oral test of 10 words and have the student only work on the words he/she missed.

http://www.spelling-words-well.com/

Phonics spelling- you can also just choose some of the words covered during the week’s phonics lesson for words to work with for spelling.

Natural Speller by Kathryn Stout is another option. Teaches spelling in a natural sequential way as well for grades 1-8. A little more work for the parent as you will want to add prefixes and suffixes, plural, etc. to the words.

Advanced spellers could start with Sequential Spelling:

If you have a student with any spelling problems or dyslexia, you should probably use Sequential Spelling program. You can buy one book at a time as you need it and it is recommended to start from the beginning. The books are not based on grade level. The words sequentially build on the previous word and on root words with added prefixes and suffixes for the week. The method of this program is for the Teacher to call out the words and the student writes the word, then the Teacher calls out the correct spelling and the student checks his, if he is wrong he is to immediately fix it. The whole week builds on the root words from the first day; this is the only program I have found that has been able to help fix problems with spelling. It is easy to implement. For 2nd grade you can try starting at level 1; you may not be able to finish the level this year, normally Level 1 starts with 3rd Grade. We found it only necessary to use just the book with the lists, your student can write the responses in a notebook, or on the dry erase board. We did not feel the need for a student response book, DVD, etc.

Spellwell books A and Aa, and Teacher’s Guide.

Language Arts

A major part of our Language Arts is reading! A list is provided to pick from, read as many of the titles as the student can. Narration is a Charlotte Mason method of reading comprehension. Basically just get your kids to tell you what is going on in the story, their version of it. This goes for ones they are reading on their own as well as ones you are reading out loud.

Reading aloud to your kids is a great way to bond with them. I suggest that you choose a couple of books to read aloud to them for the year. We have a great time when we do this, it develops reading comprehension better than any workbook ever dreamed of, it increases reading ability, vocabulary, and future writing abilities. This is especially important if you have students with any learning disabilities or are reluctant readers. Even Dads will enjoy this when you read out loud this is great for trips, and who knows maybe Dad will enjoy helping with this part of homeschooling. It can be a family event!

Writing will be a variety. We will do some copy work. I will leave it up to the discretion of the Home Teacher how much the student is to copy as each student’s abilities vary. You can use a handwriting workbook or you can just model sentences/paragraphs for the student to copy. I have scheduled writing on most days, these are not expected to be long drawn out assignments. As the Teacher, it is up to your discretion if you would rather do just a couple for the week and spend more time on those, having more polished writings. You can certainly change writing assignments as you see fit.

A complete grammar text for young students, First Language Lessons for the Well-Trained Mind, Level 2 uses dictation, narration, picture study, and other classical techniques to develop language ability.
Schedule
Here are some suggestions for scheduling:

The grid schedule works from the top down, if using this for more than one child make a copy of just the grid schedule for your portfolio; put the date of the day at the top and work in order down the page, only on some occasions you will see the need to do the Science lesson before the writing lesson because they are connected.

The schedule for West Brooke Curriculum is basically 4 days per week with one school day set aside for the ministry. This schedule has worked well for us for a long time and keeps the student as well as the teacher from burning out. Our service day is set on a Wednesday, which gives a nice mid-week break, however it can be any day of the week that works for you. The students will still be learning on these days, they will be more socially rounded, they will be learning public speaking, and will be better accomplished at using their Bibles. It is especially good if they work with a variety of friends to round out their education. In the afternoons after service they can work on art, music, reading, working ahead or catching up in math, taking a math test, or another subject they need to work on. They could also take an elective class on this day. Or you could just use it as a make-up day, if you got behind. But generally, I do not schedule any school on this day, they still practice their music on this day, do reading, and other hands-on projects they are personally working on.

Yearly schedule: unless you are in a state with strict attendance rules you should be able to be more flexible with your schedule. Here in Florida we have to turn in an evaluation once per year. This gives us an entire 12 months to complete assignments or even to move ahead into the next grade. We school year around, this may not be doable for some families, but it works for us. This gives us more opportunities to take breaks in the spring and fall, have a lighter schedule when we auxiliary pioneer, take the week off for the Circuit Overseer’s visit, and the District convention, etc. Field trips, camping trips, RBC, or vacations can then come at anytime without fear of falling behind. The public school schedule tends to put one under extra stress to accomplish a certain amount within a certain time frame. If you are in it for the long haul, being more flexible will help you to stick to it.

Another option for those who can’t quite get through a day’s work in a day: Follow the schedule in order (going down the grid) checking off each assignment as you complete it. On the following day start where you left off and continue on into the next day as far as you can get. Continue in this method until you get through the school year, remember you have 12 months to get through it all.

Using the Manual
This is a download- so you can go green if you want and use it just on your computer the first page of the week is a grid schedule and the next page(s) are notes for that week. There are links within the manual so you will need to keep a copy on the computer for this even if you print it. You should make a back up for the manual as well. One year we went through 3 computers- you don’t want to lose it.

If you want to print this manual, you can print one week at a time to give to your child, or you can print it up for the year.

This manual is a guide only- you are in control, hopefully it gives you lots of ideas and resources, feel free to adjust this for your family.
Booklist for 2nd Grade

Textbooks
What your 2nd Grader Needs to Know by ED Hirsch Jr. Revised and Updated Edition: c2014
MCP Mathematics Level B
First Language Lessons Level 2
Spelling Workout homeschool bundle B
MCP Plaid Phonics Level B workbook (copyright 2003)
D’Nealian Handwriting Grade 2
Draw Write Now Book 3 North Americans, North America, The Pilgrims by M. Hablizel and/or
Draw Write Now Book 8- Animals of the World Part II by M. Hablizel
Scholastic Success with Maps Grade 2 download or book:
Or: Map Skills For Today Grade 2 workbook by Scholastic
Usborne World of Animals
The Story Book of Science by Jean Henri Fabre (you can purchase the book; or can read it online) Read online here
Children Activities from www.jw.org

Library books from the children’s department use what is available at your library; I will give some title suggestions but it is best to just use what your library has.

Supplements:

Science with Air Usborne
Science in the Kitchen Usborne
First Encyclopedia of the Human Body Usborne
First Encyclopedia of Space Usborne
Mysteries & Marvels of Nature Usborne- (this book can be used instead of the Story Book of Science by Jean Fabre if you prefer a more modern approach as opposed to the Charlotte Mason approach, or simply to enhance your study of science.)
Learning Express Reading and Math Jumbo Grade 2 workbook- for students that like lots of colorful worksheets
Reading List for 2nd Grade
(some of these are same for 3rd grade; some new ones I have found we haven’t read, please inform me if any need to be removed from this list.)

RA = a good read aloud by parent

Mouse Scouts by Sarah Dillard
Mouse Scouts Make a Difference by Sarah Dillard
Any I Can Read Book at your child’s level
Daniel’s Duck Bulla
Amelia Bedelia (series)
Titanic: Lost and Found Donnelly
Frog and Toad Lobel (series)
Berenstain Bears (series)
Owl at Home Lobel
Greg’s Microscope Selsam
Out on the Prairie Bateman
Mouse Tales Lobel (series)
Hill of Fire Lewis
Nate the Great (series) Weinman
RA Mouse and the Motorcycle Beverly Cleary (series)
Boxcar Children Gertrude Warner (series)
McBroom’s Wonderful One Acre Farm Fleischman
RA Doctor Doolittle Hugh Lofting
Courage of Sarah Noble Dalgliesh
Prairie School by Avi
Golly Sisters Go West Byars (series)
Buffalo Bill and the Pony Express Coerr
Clara and the Bookwagon Levinson
Dust for Dinner Turner
Mr. Peabody’s Apples by Madonna and Loren Long
Tree in the Trail Holling C Holling (any Holling C Holling book)
RA Heidi Spyri
John Henry, by Julius Lester
John Henry: An American Legend, by Ezra Jack Keats
Luba and the Wren, by Patricia Polacco
Mike Fink, retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg
Paul Bunyan, retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg
Pecos Bill, retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg
And more..........  
Usborne Beginners Readers:
Usborne Beginners: Bugs
Usborne Beginners: Weather
Usborne Beginners: Storms and Hurricanes
Usborne Beginners: Rainforests
Usborne Beginners: Eggs and Chicks
Usborne Beginners: Caterpillars and Butterflies
Usborne Beginners: Bees and Wasps
Usborne Beginners: Ants
Abbreviations:
RA: read aloud (by parent)
2nd Grader: What your 2nd Grader Need to Know book
SBS: The Story Book of Science by Jean Henri Fabre
h.w.- hand writing workbook
g- Awake! Magazine
Charlotte Mason Method https://simplycharlottemason.com/five-homeschooling-styles/

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Internet sites: links to internet sites are provided as part of this manual; none of which are affiliated with West Brooke Curriculum. West Brooke Curriculum is not responsible for the content or changes to these websites. Parents check sites first before allowing children to do so. If there is a broken link use a search engine to find something similar.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bible</td>
<td>Learn from Great Teacher Chapter 1</td>
<td>Picture Activity: Rebekah’s Fine Qualities</td>
<td>Listen to a magazine article</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCP Phonics</td>
<td>Unit Opener: Poem &amp; Pg 7-8</td>
<td>Pg 9-10</td>
<td>Pg 11-12</td>
<td>Finish &amp; review</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE (about 20 each day, fill in what you do here)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Chapter 1 lessons 1-5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling Workout</td>
<td>Lesson 1: Pre-test Words in Action Spelling Practice pt. 1</td>
<td>Spelling Practice pt. 2</td>
<td>Spelling &amp; Writing Test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Language Lessons Level 2</td>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Lesson 2</td>
<td>Lesson 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Read Aloud</td>
<td>2nd Grader Poem: Bed in Summer</td>
<td>Poetry from books from Library or start a RA from list</td>
<td>SBS The Six</td>
<td>SBS The Fairy Tale and the True Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Reading</td>
<td>MCP Phonics RA Poem</td>
<td>2nd Grader The Blind Men and the Elephant</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Copywork</td>
<td>Handwriting/ copywork (see Bible)</td>
<td>Handwriting</td>
<td>Draw Write Now Windmill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Personal Cleanliness &amp; Dental Hygiene</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Week 1
Saying of the Week: Back to the Drawing Board

Bible: Go to www.jw.org to download this activity under the Children section. Rebekah’s Fine Qualities. You can also find Learn from the Great Teacher under publications at this site. See also: Teach your Children Brochure Lesson 2 Rebekah wanted to make Jehovah Happy.

Spelling: You may wish to have your students practice their words on http://www.spellingcity.com/

Parent Read Aloud:

*Reading: when there is no reading title listed, please choose books from the list at the beginning of this manual or other library books.

Writing Ideas:
Parents there are a lot of writing assignments this year between the First Language Lessons, Spelling Workout, D’Nealian Handwriting, writing assignments, and for advanced students Literature Study Guides. You may not get to all of it every week, at least you will have lots of writing ideas to choose from, mix it up. Also, I would suggest breaking it up a little, having them do some early in the morning, some during school, and some later in the afternoon or after supper.

Note: Parents you know how much your child can handle from the whole paragraph to just part of it; also whether they copy in print or cursive, you may have to model it for them for cursive, write leaving an empty line under the one you wrote so that they can copy each line correctly. Choose from the following:

pp. 6-13 of D’Nealian Handwriting
Writing Details in Sentences: You can write a story about you or about your family. Use sentences that have details and tell your feelings. You can tell about something you did together, tell what happened. A sentence tells a complete thought. It begins with a capital letter. It ends with punctuation such as a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point.

Copywork: from “Wash and Dry Your Hands!” Article

• Use warm running water and mild soap.
• Rub hands together until a soapy lather appears; rub for at least 15 seconds.
• Rinse hands under warm running water.
• Dry with a clean towel.

Draw Write Now Book 3: Pilgrims in Holland (Windmill)

Change copywork to:

Holland is Flat.
The wind always blows.
Windmills can grind grain for bread.
They can also be used to saw wood.

Copywork about taking care of your teeth from one of the articles. Write a list of dos and don’ts.
We have used notebooking pages on and off throughout the years. It is a great way to reinforce comprehension of science and history. A lot of the pages give the student a place to draw/label and a section to write about what they learned. It makes for a nice looking portfolio. Many can be found for free online. What is notebooking? Read this tutorial: http://notebookingpages.com/notebooking/

**Science- Personal Cleanliness and Dental Hygiene:**
Read library books from the children’s department (use what you can find at your library)
Simon Says "Cleanliness!" (A Children's Picture Book) M.H. Wilshire
*The Magic School Bus Gets cleaned up*
*Staying Healthy: Dental Care* by Alice B. McGinty
Arthur's Tooth/D.W. Gets Lost
Geena's Tremendous Tooth Adventure
*The Berenstain Bears Come Clean for School* by Jan Berenstain, Mike Berenstain
*Hogwash* by Arthur Geisert
Parents use parts of information gleaned from these articles:
Cleanliness—Why Is It Important? w08 12/1 pg 11-12
Key 4—Protect Your Health g 3/11 pg 7
Why Visit a Dentist? g 5/07 pg 29-30
A Stick That Cleans Teeth g03 9/8 pg 11
How You Can Protect Your Smile g05 11/8 pg 11-13

**Map Study:** Review Continents and major oceans all week
For extra exercise this week print this map and label: http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/world_cont.pdf

**Map Skills Workbook:**
*Success with Maps* Grade 2 workbook or ebook: Looking at a map; A Globe and Earth; A World Map; A Compass Rose & map of the World, or
*Map Skills for Today* Grade 2 workbook: What is a Globe?; What is a Map?; A View from Above (pages 4-9)

**Art to choose from:**
Cover the color wheel on page 61 of Draw Write Now Book 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bible</td>
<td>Learn from Great Teacher Chapter 2</td>
<td>Parent read aloud 2-3 pgs from the Yearbook</td>
<td>Listen to a magazine article</td>
<td>Learn from Great Teacher Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCP Phonics</td>
<td>pg 13-14</td>
<td>Pg 15</td>
<td>Pg 16</td>
<td>Pg 19-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Chapter 1 lessons 6-7 &amp; tests</td>
<td>Ch. 2 lesson 1</td>
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<td>Spelling Workout</td>
<td>Lesson 2: Pre-test Words in Action Spelling Practice pt. 1</td>
<td>Spelling Practice pt. 2</td>
<td>Spelling &amp; Writing</td>
<td>Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Language Lessons Level 2</td>
<td>Lesson 4</td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Lesson 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Read Aloud</td>
<td>RA from list 2nd Grader: poem Hurt No Living Thing</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>SBS The Blossom → SBS Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Reading</td>
<td>2nd Grader: The Fisherman and His Wife (fill in what your student reads)</td>
<td>MCP Phonics: Home Sweet Home</td>
<td>Usborne Beginners: Eggs and Chicks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>copywork</td>
<td>Handwriting/ notebooking</td>
<td>(MCP Phonics: Describe an Event)</td>
<td>see writing ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Early Asian Civilizations: 2nd Grader: Early Asian Civ.: Indus Valley</td>
<td>→ 2nd Grader: Civilization along the Ganges</td>
<td>→ 2nd Grader: Hinduism</td>
<td>→</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Cycles in Nature 2nd Grader: Cycles of Life: Frogs &amp; Flowers</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>→</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Week 2**

**Saying of the Week:** Better Late Than Never

**Parent Read Aloud:**
SBS: The Story Book of Science by Jean Henri Fabre (bookmark this page) CM Method

**Writing Ideas:**
Note: Parents you have a choice of what your students write, there are a lot of options, mix it up, make up some of your own; it is up to you. Parents you know how much your child can handle from the whole paragraph to just part of it; also whether they copy in print or cursive, you may have to model it for them for cursive, write leaving an empty line under the one you wrote so that they can copy each line correctly.

pp. 14-17 of D’Nealian Handwriting
Adding Details to Subjects: Write a story about you with good details. Give your readers an exact picture.
Write about something special you saw-an event. Remember: A sentence tells a complete thought and begins with a capital letter and ends with punctuation.

History Scribe or notebooking pages
Copywork: Genesis 1: 6

And God went on to say: “Let an expanse come to be in between the waters and let a dividing occur between the waters and the waters.

**Science- Cycles in Nature (3 weeks):** (use this list for all 3 weeks; draw and label at least one life cycle per week)
Cycles for Life g 2/09 pg 9
Was It Designed? The Bird’s Egg g 9/11 pg 28
The Miracle That Is the Ostrich Egg g 5/22/02 pg 22-24
Pollen—The Dust of Life g 4/07 pg16-18
A Mother Bear’s Long Nap g02 8/8 pg18-20
Was it Designed? The Color Changing Ability of the Cuttlefish g16 No. 1 p. 16

Supplement: *First Encyclopedia of the Human Body* Usborne; section growing and changing

Read library books from the children’s department (use what you can find at your library)
Kids Discover magazine: Geography, Glaciers, Plants, Mountains, Conservation, Ecology, Water, Volcanoes
*The Magic School Bus Blows Its Top*
A Dandelion’s Life, written and illustrated by John Himmelman
A Pill Bug’s Life, by John Himmelman
Bean, by Barrie Watts
Butterflies and Caterpillars (Animals and Their Babies), by Anita Ganeri
Butterfly (How Does it Grow?), by Jinny Johnson
Caterpillar to Butterfly, by Camilla de la Bédoyère
Chickens (Farmyard Friends), by Camilla de la Bédoyère
Daisy (Looking at Life Cycles), by Victoria Huseby
Four Seasons Make a Year, by Anne Rockwell
Frogs (How Does it Grow?), by Jinny Johnson
Frogs and Tadpoles (Animals and Their Babies), by Anita Ganeri
From Seed to Maple Tree: Following the Life Cycle, by Laura Purdie Salas
From Seed to Plant, by Gail Gibbons
From Tadpole to Frog, by Wendy Pfeffer
Social Studies: Early Asian Civilizations (3 weeks, use book list for all three weeks)
Parents you may not like reading about other religions but, it is good for our kids to know about them and discuss the differences in belief with you.

Four-Thousand-Year-Old Noodles g 10/06 pg30
Tombs—Windows to Ancient Beliefs g05 12/8 pg21

Parent: if you find any inappropriate book on the lists please let me know.
Ancient China, edited by E. D. Hirsch, Jr.
China (A True Book), by Ann Heinrichs
Colors of China, by Shannon Zemlicka
Fa Mulan, by Robert D. San Souci
Lights for Gita, by Rachna Gilmore
Look What Came from China, by Miles Harvey
Ming Lo Moves the Mountain, by Arnold Lobel
One Grain of Rice, by Demi
Sagwa, The Chinese Siamese Cat, by Amy Tan
Stories from India, by Anna Milbourne; Usborne
The Diwali Story, by Anita Ganeri
The Empress and the Silkworm, by Lily Toy Hong
The Great Wall of China, by David Jeffery
The Monkey and the Crocodile, by Paul Galdone
The Seven Chinese Brothers, by Margaret Mahy
The Year of the Dog, by Grace Lin

Art to choose from:
Review primary and secondary colors pg 47 of Draw Write Now 3
Draw Your World pg 46 of Draw Write Now 3