

Curriculum Overview – Sixth Grade

BIBLE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The aim of Bible class is to present the Bible as God's self revelation, showing His character and His dealings with men on the basis of His covenant promises. The Bible is taught not as a history book, a theological treatise, or a rulebook, but as the divinely inspired and infallible Word of God. Sixth grade Bible continues the study of God's faithfulness to His people in the **Old Testament**. Sixth graders study creation through Solomon.

LANGUAGE ARTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

ENGLISH

English is about the development of receptive and expressive language skills. It involves listening, reading, speaking and writing. Connecting grammar skills to other language art is important for improved listening, speaking, and writing skills. The sixth grade continues the development of grammar through systematic and sequential practice and use of correct grammar, encourages clear and effective writing through the purposed instruction and practice of the writing process, and improves listening and speaking skills. Units of study in grammar and writing alternate to provide a strong link between these two areas of language arts. During sixth grade, the students have a major research project on a social studies topic that is judged for parish competition.

SPELLING

The spelling curriculum in sixth grade guides the students toward better spelling, a richer vocabulary, and the enjoyment of good poetry. Students are introduced to weekly spelling lists that reinforce vocabulary, spelling rules, and use of dictionary. During the course of the week, the students will divide words into syllables and work related exercises that reinforce spelling and vocabulary skills. Additionally, the students are exposed to a variety of age-appropriate poetry selections throughout the year.

PENMANSHIP

Although penmanship is no longer graded in sixth grade, correct penmanship is practiced and emphasized across the curriculum.

READING

Students in sixth grade have been taught reading as a subject throughout the elementary years. The emphasis has been the systematic development of specific reading skills along with vocabulary, literature and study skills. The broad goal has been to develop confident, eager readers who have a life-long love for and interest in reading. The textbook introduces the reader to a wide variety of literature, which have been selected for their literary value as well as the life lessons, and applications that can be drawn from them. The content of each selection lends itself to a Biblical Worldview interpretation. With the collaboration of the librarian, students are provided opportunities to select reading materials and participate in the Book-It and Scholastic Reading Counts reading programs.

HISTORY / GEOGRAPHY:

Elementary students enjoy the study of history as a picture of what man has done with the time God has given him. The ABeka Book History and Geography series provides a solid foundation in New World History and Geography that is soundly based on the Word of God and Christian principles. Written by Christian teachers who understand history and how to teach effectively,

the curriculum provides the framework for a comprehensive look at the Western Hemisphere, presenting the geography, governments, industries, and peoples of those countries studied.

SCIENCE / HEALTH:

Sixth grade science provides a solid foundation in earth and space science, life science, and physical science. Scientific inquiry is fostered through questioning, investigating, gathering evidence, formulating answers, and communicating results. Activities are included throughout the content to support the learning of basic science principles and the development of critical thinking skills. Sixth grade students are trained to observe the created world as God's creation. Science is taught for 25 weeks and the students end the year with a 9-week study of health.

MATH:

The math curriculum employs a traditional approach to teaching math. Traditional math

- promotes structure and order,
- expects students to learn and remember facts laying the foundations for understanding mathematical concepts,
- strengthens the mind, and
- lays the foundation for higher mathematics and higher level of abstraction.

Students begin to see the coordination between fractions, decimals, and percent equivalents and their relationship to solving real life problems. More abstract thinking skills are employed for problems solving, particularly in geometric and algebraic equations. Higher levels of math understanding begin with these basic principles introduced and practiced in sixth grade.

Art, Music and Physical Education

These are enrichment classes that are part of the elementary curriculum. These classes are graded with a +, S, -. The instructors are specialists in their areas.

The physical education classes lay the foundation for life-long health and recreation. The music classes are designed to foster a love for music and the worship of God. Elementary art exposes students to the basic elements of art and art mediums. The goal is for students to learn to appreciate great art and develop the artistic talents given by their creator.