

Curriculum Overview – Fifth 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 rule book, but as the divinely inspired and infallible Word of God. Fifth grade Bible ties together all that has been studied in third and fourth grade and gives continuity to their study of the **New Testament**. Fifth graders study the Gospels, the New Testament Letters, and the Book of Revelation.

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 fifth 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.

SPELLING

The spelling curriculum in fifth 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 not graded in the fifth grade, correct penmanship is practiced and emphasized across the curriculum.

READING

The reading curriculum for fifth grade emphasizes comprehension and systematically develops specific reading skills along with vocabulary, literature and study skills. This combination produces confident, eager readers who continue to read for enjoyment and knowledge throughout life. The variety in the reading selections provides the students with both pleasure and understanding and is delightful to teach. Several novels, which broaden the reading opportunities for fifth graders, are introduced during the school year. 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:

The fifth grade text, Old World History and Geography, presents the history of the world, from Creation to modern times, from a Christian perspective. With the aid of many colorful maps, photographs, and illustrations, the text guides the student on a tour of the Eastern Hemisphere, presenting the geography, governments, industries, and peoples of those countries.

SCIENCE / HEALTH:

Science at the fifth grade level begins students' mastery of more in-depth science content. The seven categories of the National Science Education Standards for grades 5-8 are incorporated into the content design. Fifth grade science takes a purposeful approach to science instruction "to provide a generation of children and future scientists with a God-centered perspective of creation, responsibility, and stewardship." The students continue to observe and investigate the world around them particularly in the areas of life science, earth and space science, and physical science. Every chapter studied "weaves together the wonders of the created world and a biblical worldview". The students continue to study the human body and are encouraged to practice good health and safety habits.

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.

The fifth grade math continues the systematic step-by-step development of skills with more complex numbers and concepts through the four processes. The students have much practice solving problems with decimals and fractions, conversions, geometric formulas and algebra equations. Fifth grade students are moving from the particular to the general and from the concrete to the abstract in preparation for a higher level of understanding.

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.