

First Assembly Christian School Fifth Grade Curriculum

Language

Our language program emphasizes continued grammar skills development and the writing process. Grammar, parts of speech, word usage, mechanics, punctuation, speaking, listening and study skills are important elements in this program. The comprehensive writing program provides practice with expressive, transactional and poetic writing. The five-minute a day, Daily Oral Language and Daily Analogies exercises supplement the language curriculum by sharpening grammar skills, punctuation skills and critical thinking skills. The fifth grade program includes students writing a library research paper.

Text: English 5 – Houghton Mifflin

God's Gift of Language B – A Beka Book Publications

Daily Oral Language – Daily Analogies – Grade 5 – McDougal, Littell, and Co.

Wordly Wise: Book 2 – Educators Publishing Service, Inc.

Literature

The literature based, fifth grade reading program incorporates a variety of literary genres including, but not limited to, biography, fantasy, historical fiction, adventure and survival. Students have opportunities to read aloud, to read in pairs and to read independently. Fifth graders read and study novels and a basal, integrating the language program with emphasis on comprehension, literary elements and author's craft. Students respond to each novel with a variety of projects including dramas, maps, diaries, skits, puppets and so on. Reading comprehension is strengthened through our Accelerated Reader program. A minimum of two self-selected books are read each quarter. Students are read to from a variety of novels. Reading comprehension skills are strengthened by the weekly use of "God's World News" Magazine and tests.

Text: Literature Works – Silver Burdett

Spelling

Our spelling program is based on a list of the 1200 most frequently used words in the English language. The instructional approach is patterned after reading instruction strategies: teaching words in context rather than isolation, applying skills in a variety of settings, teaching the skills within the student's own writing, making it relevant and important to the student. Our goal is to effect life long mastery that carries over into all settings and writing environments. We begin with the high frequency "core" words. Activities are designed to develop visual skills and long-term retention skills. Students are taught to apply in real writing situations the spelling strategies, rules and skills they learn. They will be held accountable for spelling these "priority" words correctly, every time they write them – in every subject. Wordly Wise vocabulary lists are included as challenge words. Students are encouraged to develop vocabulary and incorporate those words in writing.

Text: Rebecca Sitton's Spelling Sourcebooks.

Math

The fifth grade math program is designed to motivate students and teach them to apply mathematical skills to everyday experiences. This course reviews the study of whole numbers and expounds on the study of decimals and exploring the topic of fractions. The four basic operations are used repeatedly. A study of geometry begins along with solving a simple equation algebraically. Problem solving and mental math are emphasized throughout the year.

Text: Math – Scott Foresman

Science

Our science curriculum leads students from the known to the unknown by teaching important science concepts within the context of things they know and see. Students learn about light, rocks and minerals, animals, atmosphere, space and energy. The world is presented as the creation of God and glorifies Him as its Sustainer and Upholder. Students are introduced to great scientists and naturalists who believed in the biblical account of creation. Study skills such as modified forms of note taking, summarizing, and test preparation are incorporated. Field trips are taken to further enhance fifth grade skills such as observing, estimating, classifying and applying. Students also go to the beach in the spring for a "Sound to Sea" educational field trip.

Text: Investigating God's World: Grade 5 – A Beka, AIMS Series

Social Studies

The fifth grade social studies class emphasizes the study of ancient civilizations including Sumer, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Rome and Greek. Included is a look at the civilizations' culture, traditions and history as well as their role in the development of the Christian faith. A special interest is placed on the cultural advancements made by each society and the importance of those accomplishments to future societies. A comparison model is also developed between each of the ancient religions and modern day Christianity. The course of study traces man's existence from our creation up to the present day. Geography and map reading skills are an integral part of this curriculum.

**Text: Old World History & Geography – A Beka
Daily Geography – A Beka**

Bible

Bible/Devotions are centered around the ACSI Bible curriculum. Three strands of instruction occur in fifth grade: a survey or overview of the Old Testament; an in-depth study of the lives of various Bible characters presented in chronological order; and choices (whether good or bad) made by these characters which serve as examples for students as they make their own choices. The materials are magnificently woven together as they challenge students to examine their own decision making. Students will enjoy the recurring characters of fifth-graders, Katie & Austin, and the comical characters of Dr. Diggitt and his pet camel, Dusty. Hymn studies, missionary stories and exciting adventures make this a comprehensive instructional program. Fifth graders memorize scripture verses and present them orally in chapel. They also take an active part in chapel each week by leading prayers, pledges, and praise and worship.

Text: ACSI Bible Curriculum

Music

Fifth grade students learn musical concepts by reading and performing choral music, listening to vocal and instrumental selections and by creating their own instrumental accompaniment on pitched and un-pitched percussion instruments. These musical concepts will include good vocal articulation, intonation and enunciation, solo vs. group singing, two-part singing, reading rhythmic and melodic notation, recognizing various meters, dynamics, tempos, form and style. They also explore simple "choral choreography" and blocking in musical drama. They also study music history in order to gain an overview of the main periods of classical music history and characteristics of each period.

Art

In the Art IV curriculum, fifth grade students learn about artists and their works. They do artwork from different time periods in the style of the artist. Through an introduction to art history and famous artists, students will develop an appreciation for the aesthetics of art.

Media

Fifth grade students have the opportunity to visit the Media center twice a week. This class allows students to check out books from the library, learn library skills, become familiar with all kinds of literature, research topics for classroom projects, take Accelerated Reading quizzes, and work on technology skills. Students learn basic keyboarding and operational skills. Students also use computer software and activities to reinforce educational skills introduced in the classroom.

Physical Education

Students work with the physical education teacher on a regular basis throughout the week. Sportsmanship as well as developmentally appropriate skills are practiced.

Spanish

Students begin this course in the 2nd grade and complete it by the 8th grade. Its purpose is to expose the student to basic reading, writing, oral, and listening skills in Spanish. Upon completion, students will be able to take Spanish II in their freshman year of high school. Emphasis is placed on students acquiring a

working knowledge of the language to assist in their transition into high school.

Text: Realidades 1 – Prentice Hall