

FIFTH GRADE CLASS OVERVIEW

We have invested in what we consider to be the best, most effective curriculum available that is consistent with our philosophy of education that is also either biblically-based or does not conflict with our biblical values. We continue to utilize curriculum that is multi-sensory and engaging wherever possible.

Bible:

ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) theme for fifth grade is an Old Testament survey, presenting major Bible concepts from the Old Testament. It begins with a lesson entitled God's Word is True, which also covers how sin entered the world and God's plan of salvation. The remainder of the book focuses on a variety of Old Testament characters, God's interaction with them and applications for students' lives. There are cross-curricular connections with other academic subjects and memory verses are integrated into lessons. Students are provided a workbook that includes daily real-life applications and engaging activities.



Literature:

The Modos Press Literature series through ACSI (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) presents world-class literature, both classic and contemporary works, that are broad in their scope, intellectually challenging, and morally focused. The program is rigorous and engaging, and it thoughtfully explores family values and ethics. The fifth-grade book includes over 600 pages of prose, poetry, plays, and non-fiction narratives. Reading skills instruction is essential at the fifth-grade level and each lesson teaches language arts skills appropriate for the prose it precedes. Within this literature book are 26 short stories, 39 poetry sections, 9 nonfiction essays, 2 drama selections, a complete novel, index of authors and titles, a vocabulary glossary, and brief author biographies. Student materials include a hardbound text and consumable student notebook.



Writing & Grammar:

The Institute for Excellence in Writing curriculum entitled, Teaching Writing: Structure and Style, is a highly structured and powerful methodology of teaching writing, and has students writing daily.



Structure refers to organizational models for writing, which are explored and reinforced each year at ever-increasing levels of sophistication firmly internalized by students. The sequence of structural units teaches students a consistent method for composing clear and cohesive paragraphs as well as a reliable system for organizing narrative and expository writing. Style is a collection of tools that students use to achieve variety and competence in expression. It is through the employing of the

stylistic techniques that students become competent in using interesting vocabulary, employ a variety of sentence structures, and gain an understanding



of grammar. It is through this methodology that the writing process is broken down into clear, easy to understand steps, and students of any ability are able to gain confidence and competence in writing in an organized manner, using strong imagery and examples with cohesive paragraphs. Grammar is taught within the context of good writing and embedded in the writing curriculum.

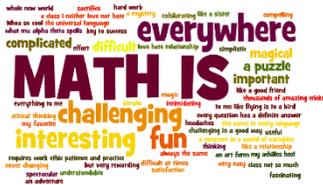
Spelling:

ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) Spelling Plus curriculum provides so much more than just spelling. It incorporates grammar, writing, genres of writing and literature, Greek and Latin roots and more. Lessons are developed to meet national language arts standards, current educational philosophy, and best practices. Lessons provide activities for multiple learning styles, make cross-curricular connections, logically organizes words by their spelling sounds, then adds additional spelling possibilities as units unfold. They also naturally integrate a biblical worldview within lessons and word lists that include pattern words, high frequency words, and challenge words.



Math:

ACSI (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) curriculum incorporates rigorous standards and benchmarks for math literacy and learning, including those of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. It uses a variety of manipulatives, investigation, and modeling to produce students who understand the concepts and can think mathematically. There is an emphasis on a STEM interdisciplinary approach, which integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in hands-on and relevant learning opportunities. It also integrates an authentic biblical Christian worldview perspective of mathematics. It continues building and expanding on previous grade level concepts and reviews previous concepts utilizing lessons with engaging activities, conceptual understanding, problem solving, application, modeling, reasoning, and explores algebra and geometry to a greater degree. The focus in fifth-grade is on place value, addition/subtraction of whole numbers, decimals, and fractions, multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals and fractions with larger numbers and multiple digits, expands the study of geometry, measurement, ratios, proportions, percent, area, perimeter, statistics, graphing, and probability, and introduces rational numbers and integers.



Science:

Mystery Science and ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) curriculum are both utilized throughout the year. Mystery Science will be utilized as the primary curriculum, and is an online, video-based, hands-on curriculum covering Life, Earth,



Space, and Physical Science. All lessons are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Each lesson is aligned to a topic, performance expectation, science and engineering practice, disciplinary core idea, and crosscutting concept. Every lesson begins with a mystery to solve and incorporates interesting and informative



video clips and hands-on activities that lead students in the doing of science and engineering. A complete kit containing most of the hands-on materials needed for each lesson has also been purchased. ACSI's science program will serve as a supplementary curriculum and provides students with a biblical worldview of science and will supplement or replace some of the Mystery Science content. It provides engaging, inquiry-based instruction that develops critical thinking skills. Lessons offer many hands-on activities engaging students in discovery, exploration, and investigation of God's purposefully designed world.

Social Studies:

Bob Jones University Press' Heritage Studies uses a chronological narrative approach to acquaint elementary-level students with historical people, places, and events. Activities, discussion questions, timelines, maps, and online searches are also employed to aid students' comprehension and retention of the materials. Fifth-grade continues the narrative of American history from the development of the automobile in the late 1800s through the inauguration of President Obama in 2009. Topics are presented from a biblical perspective and include the invention and influence of the automobile and airplane, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Vietnam War, struggles over civil rights, the war on terror, Afghanistan and Iraq wars, and immigration decisions. Some historical fiction novels are also used.

