

SIXTH 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 sixth grade is a New Testament survey, presenting major Bible concepts from each New Testament book, the Kingdom as a treasure from Matthew, and submitting in love from Romans. 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:

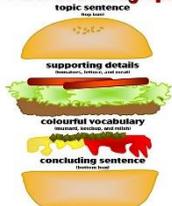
The Modos Press Literature series through ACSI (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) presents world-class literature, both classic and contemporary works, that are broad in their scope, intellectually challenging, and morally focused. The program is rigorous and engaging, and it thoughtfully explores family values and ethics. The sixth-grade book demonstrates the beauty of language and the imagery and complexity of fine stories contained in over 700 pages. It presents world-class literature appropriate for a sixth grader that fosters thinking and talking about values, ideals, and behavior in a thoughtful and rigorous curriculum. It contains 36 short stories, 3 drama selections, 15 nonfiction selections, 46 poetry selections, 4 dramatic poems, 2 songs, index of authors and titles, a vocabulary glossary, and brief author biographies. Student materials at each grade level 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.

Parts of a Paragraph



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:

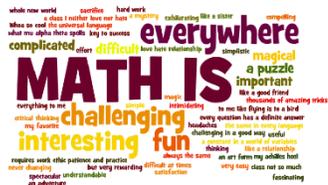
ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) Spelling Plus curriculum provides so much more than just spelling. It incorporates grammar, writing, genres of writing and literature, Greek and Latin roots and more. Lessons are developed to meet national language arts standards, current educational philosophy, 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:

In 6th grade, we transition to Big Ideas Math: Modeling Real Life, which begins a three-year sequence through 8th grade. Big Ideas Math is utilized in an effort to prepare students for the common core math terminology, concepts, and processes they will most likely face if they move into a public high school math program. It reinforces the Process Standards from NCTM and the Five Strands of Mathematical Proficiency endorsed by the National Research Council. Emphasis is on providing a narrower and deeper curriculum, ensuring students spend their time on the critical topics of 6th grade. It utilizes a balance of procedural fluency, conceptual understanding, and real-life applications. In their daily lessons, students develop conceptual understanding in every *Exploration*, continue that development in the *Lessons* while gaining procedural fluency during the *Concepts and Skills Examples*, then tie it all together with *Modeling Real Life Examples*. Every set of *Exercises* reflects this balance, giving students the rigorous practice, they need to be ready for the next grade level. Through this practice and problem-solving, students become more comfortable with the problem-solving process and are set up to become successful mathematical thinkers. It incorporates a STEAM approach to teaching and learning that combines Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math through the use of videos and other activities to make further connections to the mathematical content.

Major topics in 6th grade are: Ratio and Proportional Relationships-developing an understanding of ratio concepts and the use of ratio reasoning to solve problems; The Number System-applying and extending previous understanding of both multiplication and division in dividing fractions by fractions as well as numbers to the system of rational numbers; and Expressions and Equations-applying and extending previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions, reasoning about and solving one-variable equations and inequalities, and representing and analyzing quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables. Additional topics include Geometry, Statistics, and Probability.



Science:

ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) science program reflects the requirements set forth by the National Science Education Standards, as well as portions of the Next Generation Science Standards where they best fit. It allows students to experience science from a biblical worldview through engaging, inquiry-based instruction that develops critical thinking skills. Lessons offer many hands-on activities that allow students to discover, explore, and investigate God's purposefully designed world. Science equipment kits are also purchased along with full-color and exciting student books to provide a well-rounded and rich experience. Student materials also include a consumable science notebook that contains engaging hands-on activities and experiments. Sixth grade's focus is on life science diversity, physical science structure, earth and space science patterns, and the interactions of systems within the human body and body stewardship.



Social Studies:

Bob Jones University Press' Heritage Studies textbooks use 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. The sixth-grade curriculum engages students to think like Christian historians with the awareness that the field of historians is an open pathway. The course covers ancient civilizations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas in addition to building skills in reading and interpreting maps and charts. Students will focus on the theme of the Creation, Fall, Redemption, and they will learn to recognize it in ancient civilizations. Some historical fiction novels may also be used.



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