



Lower School Course Catalog 2022-2023

Welcome to the Dayspring Christian Academy Lower School Course Catalog. Here you will find our course offerings in the various disciplines, which represent the rich and elevated curriculum commensurate with a Principle Approach® education. Dayspring Christian Academy is committed to continue to excel still more in every arena of our school. Our desire is to prepare our students to be lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ who are equipped to lead in their area of calling.

Courses are listed by grade, from Academic Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. Our Lower School teachers employ two types of grading, as follows:

- Traditional subject grading method (A = 93-100, B = 84-92, C = 75-83, D = 66-74, F = 0-65)
- Inspirational subject grading method (O - Outstanding, G - Grade Level, SP - Slow Progress, and NI - Needs Improvement)

Our desire is to promote love of learning and to help children develop and refine skills of mathematics, communication, literacy, science, physical education, and the arts.

Sincerely,

Dan Stone, M.Ed.
Headmaster, Dayspring Christian Academy

Table of Contents

ACADEMIC KINDERGARTEN	3
GRADE ONE	5
GRADE TWO	7
GRADE THREE	9
GRADE FOUR	12
GRADE FIVE	14

ACADEMIC KINDERGARTEN

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students experience a variety of art media. God, as the first artist, is a major theme throughout units in creation, basic shapes, God's orderliness, seasons, animal habitats, and holidays. Many activities require cutting and tracing, working on the development and coordination of the small hand muscles. Following step-by-step directions is also an emphasis during instruction of Art.

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to the Bible as the Word of God, emphasizing godly principles. All the students in kindergarten - grade 5 use the DeepRoots Bible Curriculum. The Kindergarten curriculum uses 29 core units to teach the major Bible stories from both the Old and New Testaments. Through the Bible stories and memorization of scripture, the students learn Biblical principles which enhance the inculcation of the Christian character.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students discover their place in the universe by developing an understanding of the globe through land and water areas. They gain an understanding that God created the earth and all it contains to be the stage of "His Story", and learn how His creation reveals His character.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students become familiar with the ten major links on America's Christian history timeline. These ten links are: Creation, Moses, Jesus, Paul, The Bible in English, Columbus, The Pilgrims, The Patriots, The Pioneers, Restoration of America. Each link is presented to point the student to God's hand in history and His use of individuals to fulfill His purpose. Students see that they, too, fit into God's plan. At the Kindergarten level, the timeline focus is God's creation.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to quality literature through stories, poems, parables and classics. They learn to distinguish between fact and fantasy, real and pretend. They also become familiar with the parts of a story and the elements involved in simple poetry and rhyming. This is also their first step into thinking upon things (words and pictures) that are true, noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable... Phil. 4: 8 so they will be prepared to distinguish wholesome literature from unwholesome. These are several of our literature focuses for our kindergarten students: Psalm 100, Hans Christian Andersen Fairy Tales, Mother Goose nursery rhymes, Winnie the Pooh - Milne, Aesop's Fables, Peter Rabbit - Potter, Little House in the Big Woods - Wilder, Shakespeare poetry

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to many of the foundational aspects of Mathematics. Every day, they work with a "math meeting" activity, identifying days of the week and month, counting and recognizing patterns. They

develop a strong foundation in the language and basic concepts of all areas of mathematics. God's Principle of Individuality will be learned through numbers, shapes, and patterns. The Kindergarten students interact with mathematical concepts presented sequentially in the Purposeful Design math curriculum. We use standard algorithms for addition and subtraction and we utilize a hands-on approach to understanding mathematical principles.

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course builds a foundation of musical concepts that enables students to worship God with skill and excellence. Children also develop an appreciation for the aesthetic value of music; acknowledge how music is used in the world around us; and learn more of the character of God and His principles through the study of His gift of music.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The Action Based Learning curriculum is used for our Primary Classes of physical education. This brain-researched curriculum supports the link of movement and physical activity with increased academic performance. Students follow a progression of stations, each designed to prepare the brain for input and processing. (balance, coordination, spatial awareness, directionality, and visual literacy). The students move with partners and small groups from station to station and experience challenge, feedback, and physical activity, all of which are necessary for optimal brain function. The kindergarten students go to a physical education class each morning for 20 minutes.

READING

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

In reading, students cultivate a love for reading while learning the fundamentals of the English language system. Reading is taught with a strong phonics component, as well as the phonetic awareness that is developmentally appropriate for five-year old students. Students also learn important vocabulary and the beginning skills of comprehension.

The WRR (Writing Road to Reading) curriculum is used in Kindergarten to teach phonics as well as correct formation of each phoneme. Kindergarten students master one and two letter phonemes and begin reading during their kindergarten year.

SCIENCE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to the basics of the five senses and become familiar with the workings of the eyes, nose, ears, mouth, and skin. Weather, air, water, temperature, and cloud formations are also taught on an introductory level. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) projects and ideals are taught to our kindergarten students, helping them with the ideas of thinking, planning, and doing.

G

RADE ONE

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students experience a variety of art media. God, as the first artist, is a major theme throughout units in creation, basic shapes, God's orderliness, and the fruit of the Spirit. Obedience and following directions are important foundation skills for students in grade one art. Many activities require cutting and tracing, working on the development and coordination of the small hand muscles.

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students learn through a Bible curriculum that cycles through the Bible every two years in chronological order, with the first year concentrating on the Old Testament and the second year on the New Testament. Beginning in first grade, students see a multimedia Bible timeline that follows them through fifth grade. As new stories are introduced, students add to their timeline so the lessons are always connected with past learning. As students add new events, they review past events. At the end of sixth grade, students will have a complete timeline of the Bible and a good understanding of its metanarrative, after studying it for six consecutive years.

ENGLISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course demonstrates, provides practice, and promotes correct usage of the English language through speaking, listening, and writing. Students learn basic sentence structure by using nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives. They are encouraged to respond to a variety of assignments by using their highest level of language.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course introduces the design of the Earth and its individual continents and oceans. Students learn about the climate, geographical diversity, and various cultures and people groups throughout the world. Maps and the globe assist students in their recognition and location of the continents and oceans.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course provides an introductory overview to the History of mankind from the time of man's creation until the present day. God's providential plan for mankind is discussed as we examine various events throughout the course of human history. Students review historical events from the Christian History Timeline with a focus on Creation and the life and contribution of Moses. The Christian History Timeline links are: Creation, Moses, Jesus, Paul, The Bible in English, Columbus, The Pilgrims, The Patriots, The Pioneers, Restoration of America. Each link is presented to point the student to God's hand in history and His use of individuals to fulfill His purpose. First grade students go on a Field Study to Landis Valley Museum to explore and see early American living. This field study covers topics first grades study in both history and literature.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

In this course, students learn how to recognize and enjoy high-quality literature. Students become familiar with an elevated standard of expression, which should aid in their development of expression in speaking and writing the English language, increase their understanding of elevated language, and expand their ability to discern the qualities of good literature. Through listening, reasoning, and recording, the students learn to identify the elements of literature, including plot, setting, character, theme, and style. First graders study Noah's life and journey, Pinocchio, The Little House in the Big Woods, Abigail Adams, and various classic poems. We have a half day celebration at the completion of each major literature work. This celebration includes special dress up clothing as well as activities and food related to the literature.

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Mathematics provides a young child with the opportunity to explore the science of numbers and the art of computation. Repetition is used to provide opportunity for remediation, increased speed and mastery, and to establish a solid foundation for deeper application of mathematical concepts. The course includes manipulatives, smart board technology, and hybrid learning methods. The traditional mathematical algorithms are taught and used in the classroom, as well as other methods for solving problems. First grade students interact with mathematical concepts presented sequentially in the Purposeful Design mathematics curriculum.

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course provides a general introduction to music. Students learn musical elements using various techniques and activities to build a foundation of musical knowledge and assist in discovering God's world through music. A correlation is made between the history links studied and music to show students God's purpose and design throughout all time.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The Action Based Learning curriculum is used for grade 1 physical education. This brain-researched curriculum supports the link of movement and physical activity with increased academic performance. Students follow a progression of stations, each designed to prepare the brain for input and processing. (balance, coordination, spatial awareness, directionality, and visual literacy). The students move with partners and small groups from station to station and experience challenge, feedback, and physical activity, all of which are necessary for optimal brain function.

READING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The reading course provides a young child with the opportunity to develop and improve the skills necessary to decode and understand the written word. Included in the reading curriculum is instruction and practice in perceptual skills, phonics, vocabulary development, oral and silent guided reading, comprehension, writing, vocabulary development, and fluency practice. The students are engaging with several reading curricula as they learn the skills needed to be great readers: Really Great Reading, Bible as Reader, A-Z reading/RazKids, and Renaissance Reading to list the major four. Each student's progress is monitored on a regular basis, and the reading instruction is tailored for each child's reading needs. First graders both learn and practice reading skills as well as use those skills to read books at their own level.

SCIENCE

Two Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

At this level, students are introduced to a variety of scientific topics through simplified explanation, discussion, and experimentation. The students learn through a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) curriculum and learn about the water cycle, plants, sea life, teeth, and conservation. The First grades explore and learn about trees and sap by taking a trip - field study to the Lancaster County Park during the maple sugar run time.

SPANISH

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to basic Spanish vocabulary and greetings. Students develop an awareness of and appreciation for another culture.

Phonics Instruction and Spelling/Orthography

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course introduces the sounds and symbols used as the basic building blocks for the words in the English language, commonly referred to as a phonics approach to reading. Sounds and symbols are combined to correctly spell words (encode) and read words (decode). Students learn word definitions and usage as they write sentences. Students in Grade 1 are using the Word Journeys curriculum to spell new words as well as learn to classify and sort words by spelling patterns.

GRADE TWO

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students learn the art elements of color, value line texture, shape, and space as they relate to God's creative process. They also learn about creation and further their skills in observation. Projects emphasize all these areas.

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The students learn through a bible curriculum that cycles through the Bible every two years in chronological order, with the first year concentrating on the Old Testament and the second year on the New Testament. Beginning in first grade, students will see a multi-media Bible timeline that will follow them through fifth grade. As new stories are introduced, students add to their time-line so the lessons are always connected with past learning. Students who join mid-curriculum are provided with the timeline to date so they can jump right in. As they add new events, they will also be exposed to past events. At the end of fifth grade, students will have a complete timeline of the Bible and a good handle on its metanarrative, after studying it for six consecutive years.

ENGLISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course demonstrates, provides practices, and promotes correct usage of the English language through speaking, listening and writing. Students are encouraged to respond to a variety of assignments by using their highest level of language. The students study the English language function and structure as they learn to

diagram sentences. A natural outcome of our English study is writing. Our second graders write in journals for both prompted and open ended writing responses. A formal oration, a persuasive speech, is written on a topic of interest in the spring of the year.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The students study the relationship of the Geography of Nature and the Geography of Man. We define geographical vocabulary, identify landforms and features, and work on map skills. In second grade students focus on the solar system, continents and oceans, and specifically the continent of South America. Each student chooses a South American country to study and give a presentation to the class on the special day designed to celebrate South America.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course covers a brief review of the ten links in the Chain of Christianity . The Christian History Timeline and basic vocabulary of providential history. The Christian History Timeline links are: Creation, Moses, Jesus, Paul, The Bible in English, Columbus, The Pilgrims, The Patriots, The Pioneers, Restoration of America. Second graders study the events and people that contributed to the Bible being translated and printed in English.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course focuses on the basic elements of literature and encourages a love of literature through the study of the classic literature works of the Bible (The Parable of the Prodigal Son); Heidi; Sebastian Bach, the Boy from Thuringia; poetry, and one story from the works of Shakespeare. The literature studies conclude with a special celebration with costumes and food related to the time period or book.

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The second grade math course teaches adding and subtracting with regrouping, and students begin multiplying at the end of the year. Other concepts include math vocabulary; fractions; graphs; shapes; perimeters; measuring line segments in feet, inches, and centimeters; angles; and estimation. Students learn traditional mathematical algorithms and other methods for solving problems. The main curriculum resource used is Purposeful Design.

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course provides a general introduction to music. Students learn musical elements using various techniques and activities to build a foundation of musical knowledge and assist in discovering God's world through music.

ORTHOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The second grade orthography course forms the habits of daily practice in spelling, builds vocabulary use, increases listening skills in dictated sentence tests, and teaches penmanship with a review of manuscript. The main curriculum for orthography is Word Journeys. At the second grade level the students are sorting words by spelling patterns and moving through spelling concepts at an individual pace based on test scores.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to Physical Education activities that integrate individual skills with group activities. A focus will be on acquisition of skills related to sports and life skill games.

READING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course focuses on improving students' skills in decoding, reading fluency, comprehension, dictionary skills, and love of reading. We read from Genesis, Psalms, and the Parables in the Bible, biographies of Daniel Boone and Pocahontas, and other classic literature pieces. We use the Daily Five structure in our Reading Block to foster and encourage literacy independence. Students are required to cover all five of the areas of the Daily Five program at least 2 times per week. The second main curriculum resource used to teach reading skills is Really Great Reading in addition the students read independently using the Accelerated Reading program and books from the second grade shelf.

SCIENCE

Two Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

In this course, we study God as a creator. We study His creation of fossils, rocks, volcanoes and earthquakes, animals, and the human body. The second graders go to the North Museum as a field study. Second graders also study animal tracks at the Lancaster County Park for a fall field study. The learning environment is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) classroom and students are strongly encouraged to integrate all learning.

SPANISH

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to basic Spanish vocabulary and conversation. Students develop an awareness of Spanish culture.

GRADE THREE

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Third grade art helps students to develop a level of competence in drawing what is seen. Basic drawing techniques are taught, as is the correct usage of various art media. Students study line, shape, color, texture, form, and space.

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The students learn through a bible curriculum that cycles through the Bible every two years in chronological order, with the first year concentrating on the Old Testament and the second year on the New Testament. Beginning in first grade, students will see a multi-media Bible timeline that will follow them through fifth grade. As new stories are introduced, students add to their time-line so the lessons are always connected with past learning. Students who join mid-curriculum are provided with the timeline to date so they can jump right in. As they add new events, they will also be exposed to past events. At the end of fifth grade, students will have a complete timeline of the Bible and a good handle on its metanarrative, after studying it for six consecutive years.

ENGLISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Through the systematic use of the Shurley Grammar book level three, students use the eight parts of speech within the framework of sentence-writing and classifying. They practice writing effective sentences, thereby increasing mastery of written expression, giving special attention to the writing process in the two types of paragraphs, essays, reports, and letter writing, with the goal of speaking and writing excellently in a manner carefully designed to glorify God. A formal oration is written on a topic of interest in the spring of the year.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course introduces Providential geography, basic geographic vocabulary, and the making and use of maps. The focus is on the United States, as the students learn the 50 states and capitals, and basic facts about the regions of our country, including products produced, climate, topography, vegetation, and animals. The students write individual reports about a specific state.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course covers a brief review of the 10 links in the Chain of Christianity, which are: Creation, Moses, Jesus, Paul, The Bible in English, Columbus, Pilgrims, Patriots, Pioneers, and Restoration. A basic vocabulary of Providential history is taught to the students. The major focus of this course is the Christian character of the Pilgrims from AD 1608 to AD 1628. Third grade students take a field study to Plymouth Massachusetts in the spring of the year to further study using primary sources read and discussed in the original location of the history.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students focus on the basic elements of literature and develop a love of literature through the study of the classic literature works of the Bible (Jonah), Hans Brinker, Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin, poetry, and one story from the works of Shakespeare. A special celebration after the works of literature are completed take place in the classroom and off site as well. Hans Brinker day is celebrated at the ice skating rink in Lancaster.

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The third grade math course teaches adding, subtracting with regrouping as well as numbers with two place decimals. The class also learns multiplication facts 1-11 as well as applying those facts to simple division. Other concepts include math vocabulary; fractions; graphing and analyzing data; probability; polygons and polyhedrons; perimeters; area; measuring line segments in feet, inches, and centimeters; telling time to the minute; writing checks; and estimations. Students are taught using a hybrid method where the student rotates between three stations: independent, direct, and collaborative. The independent station is mostly computer activities where the students use technology for drills, practice, and assessments. The direct station is direct instruction by the teacher to a small group. The collaborative station allows the student to work in groups to solve real world problems. The traditional mathematical algorithms are taught and used in the classroom, as well as other methods for solving problems. The primary curriculum resource is Purposeful Design

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course focuses on building a foundation of musical concepts that will enable the student to do the following: worship God with skill and excellence; to develop an appreciation for the aesthetic value of music; to acknowledge how music is used in the world around us; and to learn more of the character of God and His principles through the study of His gift of music.

ORTHOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The third grade orthography course forms the habits of daily practice in spelling, builds vocabulary use, increases listening skills in dictated sentence tests, and teaches penmanship with a review of manuscript. The main curriculum for orthography is Word Journeys. At the third grade level the students are sorting words by spelling patterns and moving through spelling concepts at an individual pace based on test scores.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to Physical Education activities, which integrate individual skills with group activities and team concepts. A focus will be on acquisition of skills related to sports and life skill games.

READING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

This course helps students improve skills in decoding, reading fluency, comprehension, dictionary skills, and love of reading. Students read independently using the Accelerated Reading program, SRA reading lab program, and books from the third grade library. Students are required to read at least one book for a written book report.

SCIENCE

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

In this course, we study God as a creator. Students study static electricity and magnetism; the scientific method of reasoning; six simple machines; work; force; and friction. The course also deals with embryology, cells, tissues, and major organs and systems of the human body. The learning environment is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) classroom, and students are strongly encouraged to integrate all learning.

SPANISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Students learn basic Spanish vocabulary and conversation. Students can read and write simple paragraphs using vocabulary and also develop an awareness of Spanish culture.

G

RADE FOUR

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Beginning with the art of the Early Christian church and continuing to 18th century England, the students get an overview of the way Christianity influenced art. Hands-on projects enhance each unit, both experientially and by allowing the students to express their own creativity. Students also experience and learn how to use a variety of art media. Units covered are Early Christian Art, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Reformation, Baroque, and the Royal Academy of Art (in England).

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The students learn through a bible curriculum that cycles through the Bible every two years in chronological order, with the first year concentrating on the Old Testament and the second year on the New Testament. Beginning in first grade, students will see a multi-media Bible timeline that will follow them through fifth grade. As new stories are introduced, students add to their time-line so the lessons are always connected with past learning. Students who join mid-curriculum are provided with the timeline to date so they can jump right in. As they add new events, they will also be exposed to past events. At the end of fifth grade, students will have a complete timeline of the Bible and a good handle on its metanarrative, after studying it for six consecutive years.

ENGLISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Through the systematic use of the Shurley Grammar Book Four, students practice using the eight parts of speech within the framework of sentence writing and classifying sentences. Students practice writing effective sentences, thereby increasing mastery of written expression, giving special attention to the writing process in the four types of paragraphs (Expository, Descriptive, Narrative, and Persuasive), essays, reports, and letter-writing. The goal of this class is to help students speak and write in a manner designed to glorify God. A formal oration is written on a topic of interest in the spring of the year.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth-grade geography course covers the study of reading maps and making maps, North America, in general, with specific studies on Mexico and Canada. There is also a detailed study of one European country by each student while the class also studies the entire continent.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth grade history course includes a review of the timeline with a specific emphasis on the Patriot Link. The students study the Founding Fathers and the settings in which they worked, specifically in Lancaster and also in Philadelphia, where our founding government was established and first operated. The fourth graders complete their study of the Patriots by taking a field study to Philadelphia via a train.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course focuses on the basic elements of literature and encourages a love of literature through the study of the classic literature works of the Bible (Proverbs), a biography Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, a classic The Secret Garden, a light classic Treasure Island, poetry, and one play from the works of William Shakespeare. After the study of The Secret Garden, the students have a high tea at a beautiful garden.

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth grade math course takes the current skills of adding and subtracting and expands multiplying and dividing skills. Fractions and decimals are introduced. A heavy emphasis is on division and long division. The students learn using the standard mathematical algorithm, but will have the opportunity to learn other algorithms for division and multiplication. The primary curriculum resource is Purposeful Design.

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course builds a foundation of musical concepts that enable the student to worship God with skill and excellence; to develop an appreciation for the aesthetic value of music; to acknowledge how music is used in the world around us; and to learn more of the character of God and His principles through the study of His gift of music.

ORTHOGRAPHY/SPELLING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth grade orthography course forms the habits of daily practice in spelling, builds vocabulary use, increases listening skills in dictated sentence tests, and teaches penmanship with a review of manuscript. The main curriculum for orthography is Word Journeys. At the fourth grade level the students are sorting words by spelling patterns and moving through spelling concepts at an individual pace based on test scores.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to Physical Education activities, which integrate individual skills with group activities and team concepts. A focus will be on acquisition of skills related to sports and life skill games.

READING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth grade Reading course includes refining the skills of reading necessary to increase fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Tools used include SRA story assignments, selected Bible stories, whole chapter books, Accelerated Reader books, reading for enjoyment, and writing book reports.

SCIENCE

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fourth grade science course helps students explain the nature and character of God by observing and reasoning about the world of insects, plants, and parts of the human body. Students learn in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) classroom and have exposure to design, programing, building, and computing.

SPANISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Students learn basic Spanish vocabulary and conversation. Students can read and write simple paragraphs using vocabulary, while developing an awareness of Spanish culture.

GRADE FIVE

ART

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students study American art from the time of the Puritans through chosen 20th century artists, particularly focusing on the colonial and early American artists. As artistic movements, artists, and themes are studied, students complete art projects that reinforce these concepts. In cooperation with the classroom teacher, a “landscape” of the ocean floor is formed and painted. The final unit of the year contrasts and compares Christian-themed art to the art of pagan cultures.

BIBLE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The students learn through a bible curriculum that cycles through the Bible every two years in chronological order, with the first year concentrating on the Old Testament and the second year on the New Testament. Beginning in first grade, students will see a multi-media Bible timeline that will follow them through fifth grade. As new stories are introduced, students add to their time-line so the lessons are always connected with past learning. Students who join mid-curriculum are provided with the timeline to date so they can jump right in. As they add new events, they will also be exposed to past events. At the end of fifth grade, students will have a complete timeline of the Bible and a good handle on its metanarrative, after studying it for six consecutive years.

ENGLISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Using Shurley Grammar, book 5, the students use the eight parts of speech within the framework of sentence writing and classifying. They practice writing through writing paragraphs, research papers, journal entries, and friendly letters. A formal oration is written on a topic of interest in the spring of the year.

GEOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade geography course focuses on the study of Africa and Australia and their physical, governmental, economic, and religious features.

HISTORY

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade history course focuses on a review of the America’s Christian History Timeline with a specific emphasis on the Pioneer Link. Students study the Westward Expansion of the United States with a defined study of the Pioneers and their lifestyle. Fifth grade students travel to Fort McHenry in the Fall for a field study and in depth look at the development of our nation.

LITERATURE

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The fifth grade literature course begins with the Bible as literature. The course then focuses on selected works of literature such as Little Women and Trailblazers of the Sea, teaching theme, plot, setting, characterization, and style.

MATHEMATICS

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade math course takes the current skills of adding and subtracting and inculcates multiplying and dividing, including working with fractions and decimals. The topics are introduced incrementally, and practice is extended over a period of time. The students learn using the standard mathematical algorithm, but will have the opportunity to learn other algorithms for division and multiplication. The primary curriculum resource is Purposeful Design.

MUSIC

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

This course builds a foundation of musical concepts which will enable the student to worship God with skill and excellence; to develop an appreciation for the aesthetic value of music; to acknowledge how music is used in the world around us; and to learn more of the character of God and His principles through the study of His gift of music.

ORTHOGRAPHY

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade orthography course forms the habits of daily practice in spelling, builds vocabulary use, increases listening skills in dictated sentence tests, and teaches penmanship with a review of manuscript. The main curriculum for orthography is Word Journeys. At the fifth grade level the students are sorting words by spelling patterns and moving through spelling concepts at an individual pace based on test scores.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

Students are introduced to Physical Education activities, which integrate individual skills with group activities and team concepts. A focus is on acquisition of skills related to sports and life skill games.

READING

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade reading course focuses on reading comprehension and writing book critiques. Fifth grade uses Philippians 4:8 as a guide throughout the year in selecting reading material. At this stage in reading development, students use reading to learn and not just learning to read. This reading course helps students read several types of materials, such as internet sources, textbooks, fiction, and nonfiction stories. The Daily Five method is used in classes as a method focusing self-paced learning.

SCIENCE

Two Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

The fifth grade science course explains the nature and character of God by observing and reasoning about the world of physics, physiology through the dissection of a cow's eye, meteorology, herpetology, and oceanography. The fifth grade students take a field study to New Jersey to study oceanography in the spring.

SPANISH

Four Quarters

Traditional subject grading method

Students learn basic Spanish vocabulary and conversation. They read and write simple paragraphs using vocabulary while they develop an awareness of Spanish culture.

TECHNOLOGY/STEM

Four Quarters

Inspirational subject grading method

The fifth grade technology course helps students master basic technology skills in productivity programs such as Google Docs, Sheets, and Slides. Students also learn how to appropriately use the Internet and type papers.