

2020-2021 Curriculum Guide

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

Kindergarten

Literacy

Literacy is structured through Daily Five (read to self, read to someone, listen to reading, word work, and writing). Students also receive targeted small group instruction in guided reading at the student's instructional level.

Resources: *Daily Five; Guided Reading Library; Reading Units of Study (Lucy Calkins); Writing Units of Study (Lucy Calkins)*

Handwriting

The curriculum involves simple, multi-sensory lessons designed to support all learning styles. The program's unique materials and appealing workbooks are designed to eliminate problems with letter formation, reversals, legibility, and sentence spacing.

Resources: *Writing with Phonics K5, Abeka*

Phonics/Spelling

Words Their Way instruction teaches students to examine words closely to learn how to spell better and understand the meaning of words. This curriculum uses the Word Study approach. Word Study is a student-centered, active learning approach to understand how to spell and use words. It is based on research that reading and writing go hand in hand. Each student masters skills and concepts at his or her own pace.

Resources: *Words Their Way, Pearson*

Math

The Singapore math method is a highly effective teaching approach originally developed by Singapore's Ministry of Education for Singapore public schools. The method has been widely adopted in various forms around the world over the past twenty years following our introduction of the curriculum to the U.S. in 1998. Singapore consistently ranks at the top in international math testing. The intentional progression of concepts in the Singapore math approach instills a deep understanding of mathematics. The Singapore math method is focused on mastery, which is achieved through intentional sequencing of concepts. Some of the key features of the approach include the CPA (Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract) progression, number bonds, bar modeling, and mental math. Instead of pushing through rote memorization, students learn to think mathematically and rely on the depth of knowledge gained in previous lessons.

Resources: *Dimensions Math KA and KB, Singapore Math Inc.*

Bible

Weekly Chapel, Old and New Testament Bible Stories, Psalm 139 memorization

Resources: Bible: Kindergarten, 3^d Edition, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications

Science

Students learn about many different science units including Properties of Matter, 5 Senses, Weather, Force and Motion, Energy, Earth Materials (rocks, water, etc.), and Living Organisms. Students also visit the Perot Museum once during the year, and have a hands-on personalized class taught by a Perot Museum representative.

Resources: Teacher created units

Social Studies

Students complete many different social studies units including Holidays, Famous Americans, Community Helpers, Families, Fire Safety, Pilgrims and Native Americans, Texas and American Symbols.

Resources: Teacher created units; Social Studies Weekly

Kindergarten Homework

Homework consists of practicing sight words and daily reading practice at home, as well as math facts in the second semester.

1st Grade

Literacy

Literacy is structured through Daily Five (read to self, read to someone, listen to reading, word work, and writing). Students also receive targeted small group instruction in guided reading at the student's instructional level. The students learn reading strategies within each of the following categories; comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. These strategies become tools for the students to advance their reading and writing skills.

Resources: Daily Five; Guided Reading Library; Reading Units of Study (Lucy Calkins); Writing Units of Study (Lucy Calkins)

Handwriting

The curriculum involves simple, multi-sensory lessons designed to support all learning styles. The program's unique materials and appealing workbooks help students master letter formation, size and spacing. It begins with single letters and progresses to phonics blends of more than one letter, special sounds, and sentences for students to trace and copy.

Resources: Handwriting Without Tears; Writing with Phonics 1, Abeka

Phonics/Spelling

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Resources: Words Their Way, Pearson

Math

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Singapore consistently ranks at the top in international math testing. The intentional progression of concepts in the Singapore math approach instills a deep understanding of mathematics. The Singapore math method is focused on mastery, which is achieved through intentional sequencing of concepts. Some of the key features of the approach include the CPA (Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract) progression, number bonds, bar modeling, and mental math. Instead of pushing through rote memorization, students learn to think mathematically and rely on the depth of knowledge gained in previous lessons.

Resources: *Dimensions Math 1A and 1B, Singapore Math Inc. (Textbooks, Workbooks, Intensive Practice, and Tests are all utilized)*

Bible

Weekly Chapel, Old and New Testament Bible Stories, Psalm 91 and 1 Corinthians 13 memorization

Resources: *Bible: 1st Grade, 3rd Edition, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications*

Science

Students learn about many different science units from a Christian Worldview perspective. Units include Life Science, Forms of Energy, Weather, Earth and Space Science, and The Human Body. Students also visit the Perot Museum once during the year, and have a hands-on personalized class taught by a Perot Museum representative. Students also participate in STEM class once/week where they are challenged to think outside of the box and participate in fun experiments.

Resources: *Science Level 1, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications*

Social Studies

Students complete many different social studies units including Holidays, Famous Americans, Citizenship, Pilgrims and Native Americans, Texas and American Symbols, Introduction to Maps and Globes, Goods and Services, Government, and Inventors & Inventions.

Resources: *Teacher created units; Social Studies Weekly; My America My World, Abeka*

1st Grade Homework

Homework consists of practicing sight words and/or weekly word lists, as well as daily reading practice at home. Extra math practice may be sent home as needed.

2nd Grade

Literacy

Literacy is structured in the workshop format to meet and/or exceed every standard lined out by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills standards. Literacy is also

emphasized in a cross curricular format, with reading and writing incorporated into as many subjects as possible throughout the school day.

Reading Workshop:

- Individualized reading instruction within small groups and individualized reading instruction.
- Exposure to a variety of genres.
- Leveled text pairing to meet individual needs with prescriptive instruction during guided reading groups.

Writer's Workshop:

- Students process writing while covering the six traits to quality writing.
- Writers experience the stages of writing by brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing and publishing their pieces.
- Mentor texts are used to model what quality writing looks like.

Language/Grammar:

- Conventions of writing are taught through authentic writing experiences.
- Writers learn how to be editors of their own writing and polish their pieces.

Resources: *Guided Reading Library; Reading Units of Study (Lucy Calkins); Writing Units of Study (Lucy Calkins)*

Handwriting

Cursive handwriting is introduced in 2nd Grade. Letter formation and size are emphasized.

Resources: *Handwriting Without Tears; Writing with Phonics 2, Abeka*

Phonics/Spelling

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Resources: *Words Their Way, Pearson*

Math

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Resources: *Dimensions Math 2A and 2B, Singapore Math Inc. (Textbooks, Workbooks, Intensive Practice, and Tests are all utilized); TEKS Target Practice*

Bible

Weekly Chapel, Old and New Testament Bible Stories, Books of the Bible memorization

Resources: *NIV Adventure Bible; Bible: 2nd Grade, 3rd Edition, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications*

Science

Students learn about many different science units from a Christian Worldview perspective. Units include Life Science, Physical Science, Earth Science, and The Human Body. Students also visit the Perot Museum once during the year, and have a hands-on personalized class taught by a Perot Museum representative. Students also participate in STEM class once/week where they are challenged to think outside of the box and participate in fun experiments.

Resources: *Science Level 2, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications*

Social Studies

Students complete many different social studies units including American history, Texas history, community governments, Pilgrims, Native Americans, early colonists, pioneers, cowboys, and immigrants. Students will also have a better understanding of American holidays, patriotic songs, and flag etiquette.

Resources: *Teacher created units; Social Studies Weekly; My America My World 4th Ed Abeka*

2nd Grade Homework

Homework consists of weekly word lists, math practice, and/or daily reading at home.

3rd Grade

Literacy

Literacy is structured in the workshop format to meet and/or exceed every standard lined out by the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills standards. Literacy is also emphasized in a cross curricular format, with reading and writing incorporated into as many subjects as possible throughout the school day. Third graders focus heavily on reading comprehension, and begin novel studies.

Resources: *Guided Reading Library; Reading Units of Study (Lucy Calkins); Writing Units of Study (Lucy Calkins), various novels*

Handwriting

Cursive handwriting is continued in 3rd Grade. Letter formation and size are emphasized, as well as proper sentence structure in both manuscript and cursive.

Resources: *Handwriting Without Tears; Writing with Purpose 3, Abeka*

Phonics/Spelling

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understand how to spell and use words. It is based on research that reading and writing go hand in hand. Each student masters skills and concepts at his or her own pace.

Resources: *Words Their Way, Pearson*

Math

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Resources: *Dimensions Math 3A and 3B, Singapore Math Inc. (Textbooks, Workbooks, Intensive Practice, and Tests are all utilized); TEKS Target Practice*

Bible

Weekly Chapel, Old and New Testament Bible Stories, scripture memorization and Bible Quiz facts

Resources: *NIV Adventure Bible; Bible Truths 3: Following Christ, 4th Ed. BJU Press*

Science

Students learn about many different science units from a Christian Worldview perspective. Units include Life Science, Physical Science, Earth Science, and The Human Body. Students also visit the Perot Museum once during the year, and have a hands-on personalized class taught by a Perot Museum representative. Students also participate in STEM class once/week where they are challenged to think outside of the box and participate in fun experiments.

Resources: *Science Level 3, ACSI Purposeful Design Publications*

Social Studies

3rd Grade students focus on learning about great leaders in American history. Students are challenged to relate the character qualities of historical figures (honesty, courage, bravery, etc.) to their daily life. They also strengthen their map skills and American geography.

Resources: *Social Studies Weekly; Our American Heritage 4th Ed. Abeka; Our American Heritage Map Study Skills Abeka; Time for Students Magazine*

3rd Grade Homework

Homework consists of weekly word lists, math practice, and/or daily reading at home.