

Fourth Grade Curriculum Overview

CORE SUBJECTS

Bible

Daily Bible lessons and weekly memory verses emphasize life-application and values. Students are encouraged early on and guided to develop a personal and private devotional and prayer time using the Word to know the Father and His Son in a personal way. While Bible is taught as a separate subject, a biblical worldview is integrated into all subject areas. Curriculum includes an apologetic study of the Bible, its validity as truth, and its history, the Apostle Paul's missionary journeys and epistles. Students journal and have a purposeful time of prayer through the use of the ACTS method. The theme for this year is "The God of Purpose".

Language Arts

It is the desire of Tree of Life Christian Schools to provide opportunities for students to develop writing skills, reading fluency and comprehension, oral communications, listening techniques and critical thinking. Content in 4th grade builds on skills previously taught.

Reading comprehension, reading for information in content areas, ability to organize what is read, application of what is read, and motivating interest in reading are all emphasized. Students are taught spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization skills which are used in creative writing, book reports, essays and content area reports. Other content includes:

- **Vocabulary/Word Patterns and Meanings**
- **Dictionary/Thesaurus/Reference Skills**
- **Process writing**
- **Literary text**
- **Technical and Persuasive Text**
- **Parts of speech**
- **Selected novels**
- **Book-It Program**

Mathematics

Students acquire knowledge and skills and develop an understanding of mathematics from their own experience. Our math curriculum builds upon the concrete foundations of mathematics and leads towards an understanding of the abstract and symbolic. It also provides multiple exposures to topics and offers frequent opportunities for review and practice of skills:

- **Math facts**
- **Review place value to hundred millions**
- **Introduce place to billions**
- **Read and write decimals to hundredths and thousandths**
- **Add & subtract decimals**
- **Introduce exponential notation**
- **Find equivalent fractions/decimal equivalents**
- **Solve multidigit problems**
- **Introduce percentages**
- **Solve open sentences**
- **Introduce positive and negative numbers**
- **Review properties of and construct polygons, angles, triangles**
- **Measure distance using metric system**
- **Organize and display data in bar and line graphs**

Science/Health

Students in 4th grade are taught units incorporating Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science. Students learn to gather and recall information, understand and interpret information, and apply information to new situations. The material is taught through a biblical worldview.

Social Studies

In fourth grade social studies content and concepts are investigated through the strands of learning of history, government, citizenship, economics, geography, people and places with a biblical worldview. A major focus is on Ohio History and famous Ohioans.

SPECIALS

In the elementary grades K-5, the students meet weekly with an art teacher, music teacher, physical education teacher, Spanish teacher, technology teacher and librarian. It is our goal to provide a more advanced exposure to these special areas, and also help prepare the students for a variety of teachers and expectations that they will experience in middle and senior high school.

Art

Students experience art through a variety of mediums. They also learn to appreciate art through the study of famous artists and in the recognition of the elements of art in both man-made works and the natural world.

Library

During library visits, students cultivate their love of reading as picture books, nonfiction books and novels are read aloud. They also learn to choose “good-fit” and age appropriate books.

Music

The music program for grades K-5 emphasizes music appreciation and the teaching of basic music skills through singing, movement, and playing of instruments. Students learn to glorify God through praise and worship and in participation in a musical.

Chapel

Students in K-5 attend chapel twice per month. Chapel includes worship through singing, Bible reading, and application of biblical truths at an appropriate level. Students are challenged to live out their faith. Missions are emphasized in our chapels so that students will understand their part in the Great Commission.

Service Projects

Students will participate in both class and school-wide projects designed to help students follow God's precepts in reaching out in love to others, both in the community and around the world.

Physical Education

The physical education program fosters an enjoyment of physical activity through the teaching of both individual and team sports, as well as developing motor skills, strength, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory fitness.

Spanish

Spanish classes for Kindergarten through fifth grade are designed to give exposure to and love for another language and culture, helping our students to delight in God's diverse world.

Technology

Weekly technology classes in the elementary grades help to prepare our K-5 students for the ever-changing landscape of technology. Part of this program includes online interactive K-5 technology curriculum with instruction in keyboarding, word processing, presentations, and online safety.

Field Trips

Classes go on specific, purposeful field trips that enrich units of study from a variety of subjects. These may vary from year to year depending on availability, class focus, and scheduling.

- Waste Management Plant/ Water treatment plant
- Hopewell Mounds
- Ballet or Theater
- State House of Ohio
- Ohio Historical Village
- Slate Run
- Library
- National Day of Prayer Statehouse Observation

Special Events

- Thanksgiving Celebration/service project
- Mini Corporation Day/ Business Day
- Ohio Day/ Famous Ohioan
- Farmer Boy Breakfast
- Authors' Teas- A fun way to share writings