

# Fifth 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 daily 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. Students learn about the faith of God's people in the past and more recent times, the relationship of that faith to the coming of Christ, and finally how to understand and live out their own faith. Students discover great doctrinal truths through Bible stories and the memorization of larger portions of Scripture. The theme for the year is: "The God of Faith".

### 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 using a Daily 5 approach. Content in 5th grade includes:

#### Reading

Students continue to develop skills of decoding, phonics, comprehension, reference, study habits, vocabulary, language and appreciation of literature. In addition to a basal reader, other reading instruction comes through:

- Reading literature/novels
- Content area reading
- Book-It Program/Book Reports/Projects
- Christian Biographies

#### Spelling

Students develop further vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and phonics and are more accountable for applied spelling in all work.

#### Writing

Students continue to strengthen their understanding of parts of speech, sentence and paragraph structure, composition, grammar, mechanics, literature, referencing and thinking, plagiarism and citing references, communication through visual, written, and oral presentation and development of listening skills. They are given opportunities to express creativity through written exercises such as compositions, comparing and contrasting, personal narrative, descriptive, persuasive, stories, journaling, and a research report.

### 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:

- Review Math Facts
- Review place value to billions
- Introduce prime factorization and exponential notation
- Introduce square numbers/square roots
- Review place values for decimals to hundredths and thousandths
- Develop finding equivalent fractions and fraction/decimal equivalents
- Introduce renaming fractions to simplest form
- Review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division algorithms
- Develop finding percentages
- Introduce addition and subtraction of fractions
- Review solving open sentences
- Compare, graph, add and subtract positive and negative numbers
- Introduce degrees of measure of polygons, angles, triangles
- Introduce classifying angles, triangles, circles, and polygons
- Introduce measuring distance using metric and customary system
- Organize, display, and analyze data in bar and line graphs, line plots, and percent circles.

### Science/Health

Students in 5th grade are taught units incorporating Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science. Scientific inquiry, process skills, critical thinking, and problem-solving are some of the methods used in the science curriculum. A biblical worldview is an imperative component as students observe, investigate and draw conclusions.

### Social Studies

In fifth grade social studies content and concepts are investigated through the strands of learning of history, government, citizenship, economics, geography, people and places. Students use maps, globes, time lines, technology and research skills in the study of American history and geography and in writing a state report.

# 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 Gods 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

- Highbanks
- Franklin Park Conservatory
- Kelton House
- Visit the 6th grade Countries of the World Day
- COSI
- 6th Grade Orientation

## *Special Events*

- Thanksgiving Celebration/service project (Friendship Village)
- State Report Day
- Middle School Orientation/Picnic
- 5th Grade Reception
- 5th Grade Retreat
- 5th Grade Chapel