

Fourth Grade Course Descriptions

Bethany Christian School



Course Description

4th Grade Language Arts

Language Arts Philosophy Statement: Language is recognized as a God-given gift. Teaching reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary empowers students to communicate effectively with others and with God. Students will have the ability and opportunity to express themselves creatively, preparing them for future endeavors.

Objective: Students will improve spelling, increase vocabulary, evaluate and revise their own writing, identify parts of speech, and improve usage and mechanics. Students will apply their knowledge of spelling, grammar, and vocabulary to writing, while using appropriate formats. Students will write five-paragraph essays.

Textbooks: *Purposeful Design: Language Arts, Wordly Wise Grade 4, Handwriting Without Tears*

Materials: Wordly Wise, practice books, writing prompts, journal, Handwriting Without Tears

Time Allotment: 60-75 minutes per day, 5 days per week

Course Content:

Vocabulary: *Worldly Wise Grade 4*

Spelling: *Purposeful Design: Language Arts*

Writing:

Narrative
Descriptive Paragraph
Expository/ Research Paper
Persuasive Essay
Opinion Essay
Poetry
Journal Writing

Grammar:

Parts of a Sentence
Types of a Sentence
Punctuation
Nouns
Verbs
Pronouns
Adjectives
Adverbs
Prepositions
Homonyms, Homophones, & Homographs
Synonyms & Antonyms
Prefixes and Suffixes
Determiners
Figurative Language
Conjunctions

Areas to be Evaluated: Daily workbooks, spelling tests, vocabulary tests, writing assignments, oral presentations

Additional Activities: ACSI Speech Meet and ACSI Spelling Bee, Daily 5 and Cafe activities, Handwriting

Course Description

4th Grade Reading

Language Arts Philosophy Statement: Language is recognized as a God-given gift. Teaching reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary empowers students to communicate effectively with others and with God. Students will have the ability and opportunity to express themselves creatively, preparing them for future endeavors.

Objective: Students will improve comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and vocabulary through analysis of grade-level text. Both fiction and nonfiction reading strategies will be emphasized.

Textbooks: Purposeful Design Language Arts: Reading and Literature (Purposeful Design Publications)

Time Allotment: 45 minutes per day, 5 days per week

Course Content:

- Main Event and Detail
- Context Clues
- Sequencing Information
- Author's Purpose
- Setting, Character, and Plot
- Theme: Poetry
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Point of View
- Summarizing
- Make Predictions
- Comparing and Contrasting: Themes
- Making Inferences
- Analyzing Illustrations
- Identifying Mood and Atmosphere
- Fact and Opinions
- Synthesizing
- Cause and Effect
- Theme: Fiction

Areas to be Evaluated: Oral Reading
Reading Comprehension Assessments
Accelerated Reader quizzes
Focus Skill Assignments
Reading Responses

Additional Activities: Read Aloud
Daily 5 independent activities

Course Description

4th Grade Mathematics

Philosophy Statement: Mathematics displays the truth, precision and order of God's creation. Through the study of the intricacies of mathematics, we can better understand the vastness, reality, and order of the physical universe.

Objectives:

- Read, write, and manipulate whole numbers through the millions
- Multiply, divide, subtract, and add whole numbers
- Add, subtract, and simplify fractions.
- Calculate perimeter and area and work with various 2D and 3D shapes
- Add, subtract, and read decimals
- Evaluate basic algebraic expressions
- Develop problem-solving skills, demonstrating the ability to utilize various strategies
- Explain problem-solving strategies both orally and in writing

Textbook: *Reveal Math Grade 4* (McGraw-Hill)

Materials: *Reveal Math* workbooks (2), manipulatives, rocket math, IXL.com

Time Allotment: 75 minutes per day, 5 days per week

Course Content: Unit 1: Math is...
Unit 2: Generalize Place-Value Structure
Unit 3: Addition and Subtraction Strategies and Algorithms
Unit 4: Multiplication as Comparison
Unit 5: Numbers and Number Patterns
Unit 6: Multiplication Strategies and Multi-Digit Numbers
Unit 7: Division Strategies with Multi-Digit Dividends and 1-Digit Divisors
Unit 8: Fraction Equivalence
Unit 9: Addition and Subtraction Meanings and Strategies with Fractions
Unit 10: Addition and Subtraction Strategies with Mixed Numbers
Unit 11: Multiply Fractions by Whole Numbers
Unit 12: Decimal Fractions
Unit 13: Units of Measurement and Data
Unit 14: Geometric Figures

Areas to be Evaluated: Daily review activities, Problem Solving Investigations, homework on IXL, Tests and Quizzes

Additional Activities: Problem of the Day, ACSI Math Olympics, Rocket Math

Course Description

4th Grade Social Studies

Philosophy Statement: Social Studies reveals God's sovereign plan through humanity's interaction with nature, social institutions, and community. It is through the understanding of these interactions that students evaluate the patterns of the past in order to work to fulfill God's Kingdom here on Earth.

Objectives: Students will discover how California has grown into one of the most vital places in the world. They will learn about the significant people, places, and events that have shaped California and the entire country. Additionally, students will develop geography skills, collaboration skills, and nonfiction reading skills that they need to become informed and effective participants in twenty-first-century society.

Textbooks: *Reflections: California: A Changing State* (Harcourt School Publishers)

Materials: Maps, graphic organizers

Time Allotment: 30-45 minutes per day, 4 days per week

Course Content: Chapter 1: California's Geography
Chapter 2: California's Indians
Chapter 3: Early California
Chapter 4: Mexican Rule in California
Chapter 5: California, Here We Come!
Chapter 6: Statehood for California
Chapter 7: Transportation and Communication
Chapter 8: A Growing Economy
Chapter 9: Progress as a State
Chapter 10: Into Modern Times
Chapter 11: The Golden State
Chapter 12: Californians and Government

Areas to be Evaluated: Class participation, worksheets, group and individual projects, chapter assessments

Additional Activities: Field Trips to: a mission and Indian Hills Camp for Gold Rush Days

Course Description

4th Grade Science

Philosophy Statement: Biblical science is the study of God's creation. God has revealed Himself in two ways: through the Bible and through creation. In Creation, God's eternal power and divine nature are clearly perceived, and God has mandated that we investigate, explore, appreciate, and care for His Creation. In this way we come to understand our Creator better.

Objective: Through hands-on experiences and in-depth discussion, students will identify how science relates to everyday life. Students will use their natural curiosity about the world, inspired by God, to develop their problem solving and critical thinking skills. The students will recognize and appreciate the wonders of God's creation.

Textbook: *Systems: Science Level Four* (Purposeful Design)

Materials: Purposeful Design ACSI Science Textbook, Science Notebook, Special Lab Materials

Time Allotment: 30-45 minutes per day, 3 days per week

Course Content:

- Chapter 1: Design of Life
- Chapter 2: Order of Life
- Chapter 3: Diversity of Life
- Chapter 4: System of Life
- Chapter 5: Energy and Heat
- Chapter 6: Light and Sound
- Chapter 7: Motion and Force
- Chapter 8: Matter and Its Uses
- Chapter 9: The Lithosphere
- Chapter 10: The Hydrosphere
- Chapter 11: The Atmosphere
- Chapter 12: The Universe
- Chapters 13-14: Body Systems I-II

Areas to be Evaluated: Classwork
Labs
Assessments and Projects

Additional Activities: Field trip to The Discovery Cube
Videos
Pi Day/ Class science project

Course Description

4th Grade Bible

Philosophy Statement: The Bible is the foundation of the Christ-centered life. Through careful study and memorization of the Scripture, we will develop and defend a Christian world-view, identify and live God's purposes for our lives, and grow in Christian character and God's grace. The fruit of this study will be "that the man of God will be adequate, equipped for any good work." II Timothy 3:14-17

Objective: Students in the fourth grade will study Biblical doctrine. Students will review who God is, who we are, and what God wants us to do. The mission of this text is to develop vibrant followers of Christ who will impact the world around them.

Textbook: Bible: Grade 4 (Purposeful Design), New International Version Bible

Time Allotment: 30 minutes per day, 5 days per week

Course Content:

Quarter 1:

Lesson 1: The Bible is Truth
Lesson 2: The Bible is Inspired
Lesson 3: The Bible Endures
Lesson 4: Bible Study Tools
Lesson 5: God is Omnipresent
Lesson 6: God is Omniscient
Lesson 7: God is Omnipotent
Lesson 8: The Trinity

Quarter 2:

Lesson 9: Created in God's Image
Lesson 10: Glorifying God
Lesson 11: Thanksgiving
Lesson 12: The Sin Nature
Lesson 13: Sin's Consequences
Lesson 14: God Incarnate
Lesson 15: Jesus Christ the Substitute
Lesson 16: Salvation by Grace
Lesson 17: Christmas

Quarter 3:

Lesson 18: Salvation through Faith

Lesson 19: Salvation in Christ Alone
Lesson 20: The Holy Spirit Indwells
Lesson 21: The Holy Spirit Empowers
Lesson 22: The Body of Christ
Lesson 23: Salt and Light
Lesson 24: Prayer
Lesson 25: Time with God
Lesson 26: Staying Strong in Truth

Quarter 4:

Lesson 27: Evangelism
Lesson 28: Stewardship
Lesson 29: Easter
Lesson 30: Angels
Lesson 31: Eternity
Lesson 32: Christ's Return
Lesson 33: The Final Judgment
Lesson 34: Review

Areas to be Evaluated: Scripture Memorization and Biblical Choices Worksheets

Additional Activities: Student-Led Chapels, Chapel Reflection Pages

A Biblical Worldview is embedded across the curricula.

<p style="text-align: center;">COURSE DESCRIPTION GRADES K-5 ART</p>

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT: God is the great Creator, and creation is God's artwork, through which He communicates His truth and love to mankind. Mankind, being formed in the image of God, created to give Him glory, is imbued with creativity. Through participation in the arts, students discover their God-given creative abilities. They will experience God's truth through the arts and learn to express themselves in their individual artistic talents.

OBJECTIVE: The students will be learning basic art concepts, color, pattern, design, line, shape, and texture. All activities and art projects will encourage the exploration of art materials and techniques.

TEXTBOOKS: Teacher-created materials

MATERIALS: Art supplies—pencils, paper (tissue, white drawing paper, poster board, construction), erasers, scissors, rulers, glue (sticks, gel, white), water colors, tempera, acrylic, brushes, crayons, markers, oil pastels, and soft pastels.

TIME ALLOTMENT: 40 minutes per day, 1 day per week

COURSE CONTENT: Line and Shape Concepts
Pattern and Design Concepts
Texture Concepts
Color Concepts
Art History

AREAS TO BE EVALUATED: Class participation
Student projects in class
Student effort and behavior

<p style="text-align: center;">COURSE DESCRIPTION GRADES K-2 MUSIC</p>

Philosophy Statement: God is the great Creator, and creation is God's artwork, through which He communicates His truth and love to mankind. Mankind, being formed in the image of God, created to give Him glory, is imbued with creativity. Through participation in the arts, students discover their God given creative abilities. They will experience God's truth through the arts and learn to express themselves in their individual artistic talents.

Objectives: The purpose of this general music class is to increase a student's interest and knowledge of music and how it relates to their lives. Students should leave having an age appropriate understanding of the world of music.

Textbook: Orff and Kodaly Adapted for the Elementary School,
By Wheeler and Raebeck

Materials: Instruments (School Owned and Rented), Music worksheets, Sheet music for performance songs

Time Allotment: 30 minutes, one day per week

Course Content: Ear Training
Vocalizing
Standard Music Notation Reading
Music Appreciation
Music History (Eras, Composers, etc.)
Instrument Families
Orchestration

Areas to be Evaluated: Vocal production, Reading music notation,
Recognizing forms of music by instrumentation and time period, Participation

Additional Activities: Christmas and spring musical productions,
Experiencing music through movement/dance

**COURSE DESCRIPTION
GRADES 3-5
PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Enrichment Program Philosophy Statement: God is the great Creator, and creation is God's artwork, through which He communicates His truth and love to mankind. Mankind, being formed in the image of God, created to give Him glory, is imbued with creativity. Through participation in the arts, students discover their God-given creative abilities. They will experience God's truth through the arts and learn to express themselves in their individual artistic talents.

Objective: Students will continue to be introduced to many different movement forms. The focus will be on moving with proficiency and introduction to more complex activities involving strategy and teamwork.

Textbooks:

Dynamic Physical Education for Elementary School Children (Pangrazi/Dauer)
Ready to Use P.E. Activities (Landy)

Materials:

Utility balls
Jump ropes
Sports equipment

Time Allotment: 30 minutes per day, 2 days per week

Course Content: Units to be covered include-

Basics and Rules of Playground Games and Popular Sports
Cooperative Games
Balance
Fleeing & Dodging
Tossing/Throwing & Catching
Jump Rope
Fitness
Dribbling
Kicking
Rhythm & Movement

Areas to be Evaluated: Class participation
Observation of skills and strategy
Sportsmanship

<p>COURSE DESCRIPTION GRADES K-5th ELEMENTARY SPANISH</p>
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Philosophy Statement: Language is a God-given gift which allows us to communicate with one another and with God. Learning a second language helps students better understand their own and helps students understand and appreciate other languages and the cultures from which they come. This awareness helps students respect other cultures, equips students for Christian evangelistic opportunities, and prepares students for bilingual career opportunities.

Objectives and Course Content: To expose students to the Spanish language and culture in an enjoyable atmosphere that engages all five senses in the learning process. The foundation of the language's structure, along with the essential vocabulary and communication basics will be introduced. All three modes of learning will be emphasized and practiced: written, oral and auditory.

Students are expected to actively engage and participate in classroom activities. While academic ability levels may vary slightly, effort and involvement are highly necessary from each and every student. In addition, all students are expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of behavior and positive attitude in class as outlined in the BCS Parent Handbook.

Textbook: *Teach Them Spanish!* By Instructional Fair, Grades K-5

Materials: Workbook pages, Teacher-Created materials, visuals, practice worksheets, DVDs, CDs, picture books, manipulatives, writing and coloring utensils

Time Allotment: Each grade meets separately for 40-50 minutes per week.

Course Content: Vocabulary acquisition
Basic sentence construction

Areas to be Evaluated: Class Participation
Individual and group class work
Quizzes

Additional Activities: Cultural enrichment activities
Lesson games and songs
End of semester fiesta celebration

