

# Fifth Grade Curriculum

## **BIBLE**

Our Bible series is *Voyages* by *Concordia Publishing*. We also use *The Young Peacemaker*, which teaches the students how to solve conflicts in a Biblical manner. Students take turns leading devotions each morning. We have chapel every Wednesday in the sanctuary at 8:40. Please join us if you can. Weekly memory verses are assigned.

## **MATH**

We will use the *Scott Foresman California Math* series. This will include basic math and problem solving. Math drills will be given for basic math facts. By the end of the year, students should show 90% accuracy for addition, subtraction, and multiplication. These skills are so vital when dealing with word problems or with any math task that you encounter daily.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The text we will be using is the *Houghton Mifflin, United States History the Early Years series*.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

We will be using the *Houghton Mifflin* series. It is an integrated, phonics based approach to reading, organized in thematic cluster, which includes spelling and language arts. A silent reading comprehension check is done weekly. Book reports are assigned monthly. Specific topics such as autobiographies, animal stories, etc., will be assigned. Spelling words are taken from the reading series and each unit works toward a specific emphasis. We will also practice high frequency words. In addition to the practice book that accompanies the reading textbook, we will use outside, hands-on activities to reinforce grammar and writing skills. Several small essays will be assigned and a major research report will be covered during the second trimester. The fifth grade participates with the fourth grade in a writer's workshop. This meets twice a week and covers topics such as descriptive, persuasive, narrative, and other styles of writing.

## **SPANISH/ART/MUSIC**

Spanish is taught twice per week using a DVD program developed by Northern Arizona University. Art is taught one day per week by the classroom teacher. Music is taught in the classroom by Mrs. Midthun one day per week.

## **ACCELERATED READER**

Accelerated Reader is a motivational practice reading program. Qualified books are selected and read by the students. The students then take a comprehension test on the computer which provides immediate feedback.

## **HOMEWORK**

Assignments that are not finished in class will need to be completed at home. There will be projects and reports that are long term.

## **DISCIPLINE**

A visible discipline chart is kept in the room. A marker is placed in the student's pocket when class rules and expectations are not met.

## **COMMUNICATION**

The assignment notebook is a very important organizational and communication tool. It is designed to provide your child with a simple method for recording daily assignments, long term projects, and information sent home for parents to read. This is to be signed nightly by parents and shown to me the next day. This way we are in daily communication.

## Fifth Grade Curriculum – Continued

Your child is also expected to maintain a notebook of completed and in process assignments. Developing organizational skills is a key issue that students will strive to achieve. A weekly class letter is sent home each Friday, which includes a lot of information about what is happening in our class.

## Fifth Grade Parent Letter

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

I am so pleased to take this opportunity to meet you. I consider it a privilege and an honor to teach your child.

My name is Naomi Kennicutt. I am married and have two young children that are indeed God's gift to me. My son, Caleb, is a graduate from St. Peter's Lutheran School and is now in the eleventh grade at Pleasant Grove High School. My daughter, Kelsie, attends St. Peter's seventh grade. We live on a small farm in Wilton and enjoy our small "petting" zoo. My husband and I have seen the benefits that this environment provides for our children. We attend First Covenant Church in Sacramento and are active in several church activities.

I have been in teaching for twenty eight years, the majority of them in Christian Schools, and still find every year new and exciting. This is my sixteenth year at St. Peter's.

I believe a good learning experience is built on a cooperative effort between parent, child, and teacher. My expectations for conduct and standards for academic growth are high. With your participation in and out of the classroom we can look forward to a productive, creative, and fun year together!

My main objectives for this year are that each student grow in faith . . . love of God and others, learn to the best of his ability, and develop self-discipline in play and study habits. I expect each student to be prepared, complete assignments, keep track of assignments, be a positive part of our class family, learn without disturbing others, and develop a Christian attitude both in the room and on the playground.

I cherish the value of prayer. I will remember you and your child in my prayers.

In Christ,

*Naomi Kennicutt*