

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Bible

Language

Latin

Math

Science

History/Geography

Health

Art

Music

Physical Education

Bible: We continue our instruction in Bible by introducing to our students the basic redemptive-historical events as described in the Bible from Elijah through Malachi. This part of the Veritas Bible series is the last of the series of the Old Testament and covers the Major and Minor Prophets and many of the kings of Israel and Judah. Studying this period is quite necessary for teaching our children the relationship between covenantal faithfulness and covenantal blessing. The book of Job is studied last in the series since we cannot date the life of Job precisely enough to place him chronologically. Students will be taught major events/ works of the lives of selected Biblical saints and recite memory verses from the passages under study in order to aid in application of Biblical principles.

Language: Our students will continue their mastery program of grammar, spelling and phonics. This will be the last year of the four-year mastery program. They will be introduced to a comprehensive writing curriculum that will guide them through the rudiments of outlining, creating research papers, and creative writing. At this level students will learn to write declaratory, exclamatory, imperative and interrogative sentences. They will learn conjunctions, interjections, homonyms, a/an choices. Students will practice their new skills with Journal writing, learning the 3 point paragraph, one and third person points of view and also a 3 point persuasive paragraph. Students will continue to learn by memory of jingles, reinforcing grammar rules and knowledge. Language skills are the foundation upon which a student's educational career will be constructed and we strive to give to our students a proper and substantial learning sequence that will more than adequately prepare them for tomorrow. They will be challenged to excel in this academic. The Word is important to us as Christians; therefore it is important that our students learn a high regard for the use of proper language.

Latin: Students quickly learn the history of their language. They learn that their vocabulary words have relatives and a history, and this provokes a desire to learn more about their own language and its origins. Discussing derivatives becomes an exciting activity within the classroom, which only serves to enhance their use of the English language. Not only does the study of Latin improve vocabulary, but it also allows the student to look at the English language and observe grammar systematically. In this early stage students learn the *grammar* of the academic, vocabulary words and simple conjugations. Students very quickly grasp Latin study and the *tools* for learning that are intrinsic within the system.

Math: It is our desire to instruct our students to see how God uses laws of arithmetic to govern His creation. As His church is to be governed by good order, so too, is His creation. Our students will learn the principle of individuality and how the laws of arithmetic apply to their lives in solving practical problems, that they may develop godly Christian character. The concepts taught at the Third grade level will be reviewed, as well as additional facts constructed upon what they have learned previously. In Fourth Grade math students will increase their fundamental math skills while adding concepts of angles, lines and fractions. The students will extend their analytical word problem skills of comprehension and proper sequence of problem solving steps. They will also add to their knowledge decimals, common factors, and reducing numbers. As every other class it is typical for the class to work up to and possibly beyond Lesson 90 in the curriculum. The Saxon 65 Textbook will be used at the Fourth grade level to challenge of students academically. Their knowledge of certain functions such as multiplication and division as well as fractions and graphs will increase as the concepts are broadened.

Science: Our Fourth grade students will continue to learn about God's creation. They we see some of the patterns God has set in place as well as learn how God has perfectly ordered what He created. As our students study creation they will learn about themselves as created in God's image, responsible to rule over creation as God's stewards. But most of all they will learn about our great God as Creator and King. They will learn facts regarding their five senses and where animals live. They will also learn about machines, work and electricity. They will discover heat, temperature, water, the earth's resources and finally the Solar System. Discovery of our world around us is exciting as it shows us our gracious God.

History/Geography: The Fourth grade history/geography curriculum continues with the Veritas Press History Series Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation. This series covers the 4th through 15th century. Included are church leaders such as Augustine, Luther and Calvin. One cannot study this period without covering the great territorial and theological battles that resulted in much bloodshed. How God led and developed His people over this period is a wonderful testimony to His character as we continue to witness through history God's revealing His plan of redemption for His people.

Health: So that we would demonstrate good stewardship of our children, we endeavor to instruct them in matters of self-care. They will learn about their physical bodies as a creation of the Almighty God. The students will learn aspects of physical fitness; their muscles, how they breath as well as personal hygiene. As good stewards of our bodies we are to take care to keep our physical bodies clean and well groomed, which aids us in fighting disease. In addition we are to care for others and develop proper godly relationships with others and God. Therefore we will instruct our students in matters of proper Christian behavior and manners. In this we teach our children respect/love for their neighbors in the command we received from our Lord to *"love one another"*.

Art: It is our desire to attend to every aspect of the student's education. In order to teach our students, that they would receive a well-rounded education, we will instruct them in the two areas of the arts. It is our desire to teach our students at the earliest stages God's design in His creation. We will instruct them in "how" to look and "how" to see God's handiwork, as His creation declares His glory.

Music: Our music curriculum will instruct our students in the fundamentals of reading notes and singing. God created music as well as the visual arts both for His own glory and our students will learn that it is only within the boundaries of what actually is glorifying to God that true art is created. Students will learn the basic shapes of drawing and sounds of music, according to the “rules” of Art. The arts are to be used to glorify God and not man.

Physical Education: God has created man with physical needs. In addition to more obvious areas of stewardship we should endeavor to be good stewards with our physical bodies. Physical education has a purpose in encouraging good stewardship of our physical bodies in areas of strength, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory endurance. Physical education also provides an opportunity for positive character development.

Resources;

Bible; *Stories from The Old Testament; The Children's Illustrated Bible; Genesis through Joshua Series; Greenleaf Guide to the Old Testament; Calvin Commentary; Veritas Press Flash Cards Chronicles Through Malachi and Job Series; Abingdon's Reproducible Old and New Testament Maps; Child's Story Bible; Journey Through the Bible; Student Bible Atlas.*

Reading/Phonics: *Teaching Reading at Home; Writing Road to Reading; Spelling Wiseguide;*

Grammar: *“Shurley Grammar”, Level 3: Excellence in Writing*

Latin: *Logos' Latin Primer 1; Latin Charts*

Math: *Saxon 65 Textbook curriculum; Math-U-See classroom manipulatives*

Science: *Christian Schools International Science 4 curriculum; Five-Year Ocean Study*

History/Geography: *Veritas Press History Cards; 100 Events in Church History; Cathedral; The Church in History; Cultural Atlas for Young People: Middle Ages, Famous Men of the Middle Ages, Famous Men of the Renaissance and Reformation, Kingfisher History Encyclopedia; Renaissance: The Invention of Perspective, Streams of Civilization, Time Traveler Book of Knights and Castles.*

Physical Education/Health: *Abeka's, Developing Good Health 4; Go To The Ant Chart; Offended Brother Chart; CSI Physical Education Manual.*

Art: *Drawing With Children; How to Teach Art to Children; The Little Lamb's Book*

Music: *Trinity Hymnal; 100 Stories of Hymns*