

Seventh Grade Curriculum

Bible

Life Science

Transitional Math

Logic I

Language/Literature

History

Latin

Art

Music

Health/Physical Education

Bible: Survey of the Old Testament. It is the desire of AICA that our students become familiar with all aspects of God's Word. We will teach Biblical principles from the Old Testament so that our students will be acquainted with the overall content and chronology, and will be equipped with the necessary tools for the study and acquisition of Biblical knowledge. Subsequently, as in all Bible courses, students will learn a personal and worldview application.

Math: Students will be instructed in traditional arithmetic methods in accordance with a Biblical worldview. The students are taught Biblical truth and facts as part of God's creation that is held in order by His power. These facts are taught by oral and written drills, sequentially, "building precept upon precept". The seventh grade student will begin the year with a review of sixth grade concepts, which have been sequentially taught in order to prepare the student for higher math. In order that the student be prepared for the increased demand and observe the application to real world problems, we have adopted the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project for our math curriculum at this level. This gives the student an increased awareness of how the study of math applies to life as well as how math continues to unfold before our eyes our infinite God. The new components of this course as well as all the other grammar math courses prepare the student to apply these concepts together in the *understanding* stage of their education. Subsequently, they will learn new concepts such as missing numbers in multiplication and subtraction, number lines, perimeters, finding areas, square roots, percentages and rations.

Logic: The student now moves into the second level of the *trivium*. They will begin their study of proper thinking skills. This is known as the *understanding* stage of the trivium when the students are just know beginning to ask the proper questions, maturing in their understanding, therefore we desire to instruct them in proper and analytical thinking skills. This study will cover logical statements, syllogisms, and informal fallacies.

Science: It is the goal of the science teacher to instruct our students in the knowledge that God is the Creator of all things, including us. As we learn about His creation, we learn more about ourselves. The students will learn that God's creation was created in perfect harmony of relationships among humans, animals, plants and nonliving things, but because of the fall, sin disrupted this unity and balance. The students will learn that as God's stewards the more we understand these truths, the better we will be equipped to take care of and interact with the

creation. The Seventh grade Life Science will study classifications, heredity and origin of life, concepts in microbiology and the animal kingdom, the nature of environment and the study and function of the human body. There are many aspects to each one of these headings that will involve our students in a comprehensive study of science.

Language: Our students will be introduced to five paragraph essays. By this time our students will have had enough grammar instruction and practice in writing essays that they will be focusing upon research, organizing information, and making the connections necessary for logical conclusions. Our comprehensive language curriculum, combine with the *Excellence in Writing* curriculum will guide them through the rudiments of creative writing as well as broaden their writing abilities. Language skills are the foundation upon which a student's educational learning will be constructed. We strive to give to our students a proper learning sequence that maintains a systematic and comprehensive foundation of academic principles. 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 proper use of language.

Literature: It is important to AICA that our students mature in their respect for the written word, as well in their appreciation for the different genres of literature. The students will learn the basic elements of literature, the rise and fall of a story plot, character issues, and increased vocabulary along with analytical thinking skills. The students will learn how men and women have been gifted by God to write and communicate their thoughts to others through the written word. In this, God is glorified through the talents and gifts of those whom He created. The seventh and eighth graders, in a combined literature class, will study such classics as *The Great Gatsby*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *Julius Caesar*, and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Our students will be introduced to talented writers, and experience the great adventures found within the pages of these classics. Not only are we striving to inculcate proper picture of *love, beauty and truth*, but we are also challenging the student to see the character, the author's ideas and philosophies of life according to the Word of God. It is imperative our students understand the world they live in order to be able to answer the question "*How now then shall we live?*"

History: In the seventh and eighth grades students will begin their History lessons with the study of the origins of world history and the ancient Middle East. We desire to provide our students with a well-rounded history program designed to bring a better understanding of world history and a working knowledge of world geography, from a Biblical worldview. Lessons include studies of the lands of ancient times to the lands of today. The students will begin a two-year review of the origin of history, at creation, and cover the periods studied previously in the elementary years at a greater depth. They will study Rome, Greece, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, and progress in the modern age, and finally the twentieth century. Class will include a map exercise of important geographical locations. The history taught to the seventh and eighth grades will alternate between the curriculums of both grade levels.

Latin: In order to give our student an introduction to the foreign languages we will teach Latin through the *trivium*. Latin is taught through the *trivium* because it is the foundation for most languages. AICA will teach the language curriculum using a traditional model, in that the *grammar* of Latin is first explained in English, then instructed in Latin and then reinforced by oral practice. This includes vocabulary, conjugations and parts of speech. The study of foreign languages helps the student to understand the nature of grammar, in his and the new language, helping him to get a

grasp on grammar. Also the study of Latin is similar to studying English. Most of our words are derived from Latin as they are in other languages. This instruction widens the base of knowledge our students need to address the world in the written as well as the spoken word. We also believe that a complete study of Latin better prepares a student to undertake the study of other foreign languages.

Health: As God has called us to demonstrate our duty of good stewardship with our physical bodies, we believe that our students must learn the proper way to maintain good health and preserve their bodies to the best of their ability. The seventh grade Health curriculum will focus on basic health facts and body basics. Students will study the systems of the body such as skeleton, muscular, circulatory, etc. We will then progress to mental and emotional health issues, social health, nutrition and exercise. It is of vital importance that the children learn what is useful and harmful for their bodies. We believe students can seek to glorify the Lord by caring for their physical bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit. Also at this time we desire to instruct our youth in godly leadership qualities. This aspect of the health program will discuss godly character traits such a *humility, honesty* and *compassion*. They will be taught that true biblical leadership is *servant* leadership. This leadership is always based on God's infallible and inspired Word to His people that addresses every aspect of life.

Art: As Art was created by God in order that we glorify Him through this medium, we desire to teach our children that every aspect of life remains under God's divine authority and in so doing is meant for His glory and not man's. Students will learn principles of shadow and shading, grid drawing, calligraphy, paint mixing and sketching.

Music: As an aspect of the arts, music has been given to us to glorify our Lord. It is our desire that our students learn to make "a joyful noise unto the Lord", through the gift of music. Music theory is essential in understanding what is aesthetically pleasing to the ear, as well as what is glorifying to God. The students will learn sound and tone properties as well as proper voice inflection; proper singing habits, the parts of the staff and the diatonic scale will follow, as well as notes, rest and rhythm. The students will have sight reading exercises that will help them learn scales and rhythm. Chromatic scale, key signatures, note values, measure structures, and expressive singing will become part of this years study.

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

Resources:

Bible: *Survey of The Old Testament; Journey Through the Bible; Survey Through the Bible; Abingdon's Reproducible Old and New Testament Maps; Study Bible; Bible Dictionary.*

Math: *Transitional Math, Scott Foresman; Math for the Non-mathematician, Morris Kline.*

Logic: *Introductory Logic; The Fallacy Detective.*

Literature: *The Great Gatsby, The Scarlet Letter, Julius Caesar, and The Scarlet Pimpernel.*

Science: Bob Jones, *Life Science, Level 7; Five-Year Ocean Study*

Latin: *"Phenomenon of Language"; Bob Jones Spanish 1 for Christian Schools.*

History/Geography: *Veritas' History Cards Series 1 Through Series 6; 100 Events in Church History; Child's Story of America; First Voyage to America; History of the US: The First Americans, History of US: From Colonies to Country, Making 13 Colonies, The New Nation, Kingfisher History Encyclopedia, US History for Christian Schools; Ancient Greece; Ancient Rome; Famous Men of Greece; Famous Men of Rome; Journey Through The Bible.*

Physical Education/Health: Abeka's, *Choosing Good Health; Leadership, Doorposts; CSI Physical Education, 5-8.*

Art: *How Great Thou Art.*

Music: *Trinity Hymnal.*