



FIFTH GRADE

Curriculum Guide

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS OF FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS

1. All memory work is to be learned in all subject areas where required.
2. All homework assignments will be completed and turned in on time.
3. Students will show a respectful attitude to fellow students and adults they come in contact with during the school day.
4. Students will exhibit an understanding and working ability to use table manners during lunchtime.
5. Students will adhere to the policies established in the “VisionWay Christian School Handbook for Parents/Students.”
6. Students will conquer study skills and gain knowledge and responsibility of being an independent learner.
7. Students will participate in additional responsibilities as necessary (i.e. flag, lunchroom, recycling.)

GENERAL PROGRAM

Every day begins with Opening Exercises:

Pledge of Allegiance to The American Flag, The Christian Flag, and to the Bible

Daily Prayer

Attendance

Special Announcements

Academic instruction will include:

Bible

Math

Geography

Spelling/Phonics

Language

Science/Health

Reading/Literature

Handwriting

Old World History

Special instruction areas are:

Chapel

Library

Music

Physical Education

Computer

Art

LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading and Literature

- Oral Reading
- Reading Comprehension
- Speed Reading
- Vocabulary Building
- Literature groups and accelerated independent program

Penmanship

- Review of cursive writing formation through skill practice, word exercises, original composition, and sentence dictation.

Spelling and Poetry

- Weekly word lists by various categories and vocabulary study
- Reading and study of some poetry

Grammar

- Recognizing, diagramming all eight parts of speech
- Recognizing and diagramming complements
- Word usage

Writing Process

- Sentences and sentence parts
- Punctuation, capitalization, and quotation facts
- Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms
- Dictionary and Thesaurus skills
- Letters - business, friendly, post cards, thank-you notes
- Making an outline
- Book reports
- Creative writing

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

- Eight documents reviewed
- Geography facts: terms, rivers, capitals, mountains, climate, deserts
- Fertile Crescent: Cradle of Civilization
- Egypt: The Gift of the Nile
- Kingdoms and Empires

- Middle East: Ancient and Modern
- Continent of Europe
- Map Studies
- Greece: Home of Beauty
- Rome: Rule of the Ancient World
- Christianity: The Greatest Force in History

- Nations of Europe
- England and the British Isles
- Asia: The Largest Continent
- Africa: Continent of Natural Wonders
- Australia, Oceania and Antarctica

SCIENCE

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Earth Science

- Geology
- The Dynamic Earth
- Water and Water Systems
- Meteorology
- The Environment
- Astronomy

HEALTH

Circulatory System

- Life in the blood
- Your hardy heart
- Pathways through your body

Digestive System

- Digestion begins in the mouth
- Through the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, liver, pancreas
- Absorbing digested foods

Nutrition

- A balanced diet
- Daily food
- Maintaining your proper weight
- Raising your rate of metabolism
- Physical Fitness

Interpersonal Relationships

- Social Acceptance
- Mental Awareness
- Spiritual Warfare
- Abstinence based program called "Game Plan" - Taught once weekly during last nine weeks, by qualified guest teacher. (By parental consent only.)

MATH

- Place value of whole numbers and decimals
- Mastery of fundamental operations
- Story problems
- Estimating answers
- English and metric measures
- Converting measures within the same system and solving measurement equations
- Roman numerals
- Addition, subtraction, and multiplication involving fractions
- Estimation
- Averaging
- Factoring
- Divisibility rules
- Introduction to decimals
- Making change
- Reading a thermometer
- Converting from a Celsius scale to a Fahrenheit scale and from a Fahrenheit scale to a Celsius scale
- Accelerated Independent Program
- Equation solving
- Graphs and scale drawings
- Basic Geometric shapes
- Perimeter and area

BIBLE

Fifth grade continues the ACSI Bible program with “Christ and My Choices.” The students get an overview of the Old Testament presenting Bible characters in chronological order. The application is derived from the choices made, whether good or bad.

Weekly Bible verses are memorized using the New International Version.

SERVICE PROJECT

To reinforce the concept of becoming a Christian servant, the class will be involved in a community service project.

ENRICHMENT

- Daily independent reading.
- Take local field trips such as: library, post office, stage plays, etc.
- Allow your child to help you with daily activities such as: baking, setting the table, etc.
- Your child will be responsible for chores in the classroom.

RECOMMENDED READING

Little Women - Louisa May Alcott

The Incredible Journey - Sheila Burnford

The Black Stallion - Walter Farley

Old Yeller - Fred Gibson

From the Mixed Up File of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler -
E. L. Konigsburg

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe - C.S. Lewis

Number the Stars - Lois Lowry

Kristy's Great Idea - Ann M. Martin

Gentle Ben - Walt Morey

Island of the Blue Dolphin - Scott O'Dell

The Indian in the Cupboard - Lynn Reid Banks

Black Beauty - Anna Sewell

Treasure Island - Robert Louis Stevenson

The Hobbit - J.R.R. Tolkien

The Swiss Family Robinson - Johann David Wyss

The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame

The Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling

Where the Red Fern Grows - Wilson Rawls

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - Mildred Taylor

The Cay—Theodore Taylor

Caddie Woodlawn - Carol Ryrie Brink

The Borrowers - Mary Norton

MUSIC

Music is a part of everyone's life everyday. Our goal is to teach appreciation of music, all forms and types. Our program will introduce children to music representing diverse cultures and styles. Those being: traditional, patriotic, holiday and religious.

Recognizing that there are many different ways to give children understanding and appreciation of music, there is a wealth of varied activities. Among these are: singing, listening, playing age appropriate instruments, identify differences in elements and expressive qualities between fast and slow tempo, loud and soft dynamics, high and low pitch/direction, long and short duration, same and different form, tone color or timbre, and beat, playing age appropriate music games to reinforce lessons, simple lessons on reading and writing notation.

Music-reading skills are developed in the context of musical experiences. Music-reading skills have important carryover value. They can help children learn language reading skills: i.e. recognizing configuration of melodic patterns is a skill similar to recognizing configuration of words.

Fifth grade students will participate in the Christmas program each year. Other programs could include Celebration of the Arts or a seasonal program. This would be at the discretion of the director.

ART

Art becomes a part of everyday life through TV, magazines, and newspapers. Our goal at VisionWay Christian School is to teach students to appreciate art in all its forms. This year your child will learn about:

1. Mosaic pictures—Learning to make a picture using different colored squares.
2. Pencil drawings—Learning to use more detail and to draw a whole picture using a grid.
3. Famous Artists—Introduction to different artists and using their style of art, but the students own ideas and imagination.
4. Working with clay - masks
5. Using and drawing everyday items
6. Watercolor
7. Working with various mediums

All of these will help your child realize there are many different forms of art in the world and hopefully come to love art.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The purpose of a physical education program at this grade level is to provide for and allow children the experiences that contribute toward the maximum learning potential of each student. The program is child-centered and recognizes that play is the primary avenue through which learning occurs. Motor development is emphasized through experiences involving fine and gross muscular control.

In second through eighth grades, a greater importance is placed on group activities and team organizational skills than in prior grades. The students are involved in many organized sports and are instructed in the proper way to handle equipment that is related to that sport, including jump rope, physical fitness programs, and fifth-eighth grades are introduced to volleyball.

All of this will help the child develop physically and encourage a lifetime of activity and health.