

COURSE OVERVIEW FOR 1ST Grade



Bible

ASCI Elementary Bible Series: The theme for the year is "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." Students learn that God give me a place to live, a family, leaders, people to help me, His word, His son, instructions for how to live, His church, gifts, and abilities. Students attend a school chapel service once a week. We also have a spiritual emphasis week and a Missions emphasis month. Prayer and sharing of biblical principles are intertwined throughout the day.

Reading

In first grade students build their reading skills using phonics and by building a sight vocabulary. We use the Abeka reading program which incorporates books like Fun with Pets, Tiptoes, Stepping Stones, Secrets and Surprises, The Bridge Book, Kind and Brave, Aesop's Fables, and strong and True. The stories themselves emphasize kind behaviors and behaviors that honor God.

Phonics

Phonics is the most logical way to teach students to read. Phonics is taught mainly by orally teaching and reviewing the phonics charts, flashcards, and by applying the sounds on these charts to other words on their independent practice pages. Our phonics program is called Letters and Sounds by Abeka.

Language/English

Beginning creative writing skills and other basic language skills are introduced in First grade. Practice and review are provided in the Language 1 (Abeka) seatwork text.

Spelling

Students are taught one spelling lesson per week, beginning in lesson 18. We practice writing our spelling words for the week each day. We use the say it, spell it, say it method to orally practice our words. Our spelling curriculum is also Abeka.

Handwriting

Students use the Writing with Phonics 1 series by Abeka to practice letter formation. The current phonics sounds are used on their practice pages. In this way a phonic sound is reinforced as they practice correct letter formation enabling us to apply the sounds in daily writing.

Mathematics

Arithmetic 1 by Abeka: Students learn best when they proceed from the particular to the general, from the concrete to the abstract. First grade arithmetic begins with the most elementary, basic arithmetic processes. Once concepts, skills, and facts are introduced, they are reviewed for the remainder of the year. Our themes are counting, number writing, reading numbers, place value, addition and subtraction, problem solving, money, geometry, graphs, the calendar, ruler, clock, measurements, temperatures, and a taste of fractions and multiplication.

Science

Science for Christian Schools by Bob Jones press: The major goals of our material are to develop a knowledge of God while promoting scientific literacy. We discuss topics such as the senses, the sun, moon, and stars, pushes and pulls, plants, matter, animals, teeth, air, sound, and weather.

History

My America and My World by Abeka: One purpose of our curriculum is to stimulate the students' interest in their country by studying important symbols, history, and places of interest. As they realize how important the freedom to worship God and obey the truths of the Bible was to the Pilgrims and other leaders, their own respect for God and His Word will grow. Another purpose is to expose them to the world around them. They will learn more about the people, places, and interesting facts of different countries.

Cultural and Community Experiences

Students go on two field trips as are related to units and learning activities in class. They participate in our annual clean-a-thon day in which we take them into community parks to help clean them for the coming summer months. They will also minister to area charities and centers of need such as Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, and area nursing homes.

Art

Students have art once a week. They learn the elements of art such as line, shape, form, color, texture, and perspective. Creativity in expression is encouraged. We try to enter one art project from each child in our local 4H fair.

Music

Students have music class once a week and a K-2nd grade choir practice once a week. Music includes singing, listening, and reading music. All students prepare and present various programs such as our Christmas program, Spring program and Grandparents day program.

Physical Education

1st graders have physical education class 3 days a week. We use the 3rd edition of Physical Education K-2 by Christian Schools International. 1st grade curriculum focuses on helping students acquire fundamental skills, fitness awareness, understanding of movement, and self-understanding. The fundamental skills are in 3 sections: non-locomotor, locomotor, and manipulative. 3 goals are: play(which flows naturally from mastered skills), fitness awareness, and an understanding of movement.

Computers

Computers are available at the back of the room. Educational programs for math and reading are on them and each child is given turns each week to use these programs.