

5TH GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE



WE CHALLENGE & INSPIRE

<i>Bible</i>	Using Summit Ministries' Building on the Rock curriculum, students examine their Christian worldview by learning Biblical truths. The Bible survey component focuses on Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the gospels. Each week our K4-6th graders memorize Scripture or a Gospel Foundation (question/answer) and learn how to apply that truth to their lives. Since all students in the lower school have the same memory work, it allows our families to learn and grow together as they memorize.
<i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Wonders curriculum, Literature Circles, and Class Novels (including Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher and The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe) are all used as vehicles to help students grow in their passion for reading as well as to think critically about what they read. Students write for different purposes and audiences and respond critically in their writing to what they have read. Students learn to apply knowledge of Latin roots, base words, and affixes, to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words in grade-level content.
<i>Writing</i>	Students will continue to improve in the three forms of writing using the four steps writing process of planning, revising, editing, and finalizing a written draft. Narrative writing will include personal and fictional structures that include dialogue, elaboration, and transitional words. Argumentative writing will be written with a clear claim and supported with at least three reasons from multiple sources. Expository writing will include a main idea with organizational structure, relevant elaboration, and varied transitions. Students will be proficient in presenting information both written and orally including basic writing and grammar skills within a five-paragraph structure. Oral presentations are in a logical sequence, using non-verbal cues, appropriate volume, clear pronunciation, and appropriate pacing. In addition, students will write lower and uppercase letters in cursive. All K4-4th grade students write and present their own book during our Young Author's Day.
<i>Math</i>	Students build number sense in a learning environment that utilizes ability grouping, along with whole group and small group instruction. They feel safe to make mistakes and take risks. Using Big Ideas Curriculum, a heavy emphasis is placed on building students' confidence in math skills, so that they continue to grow in problem solving and content mastery.

<p><i>Science</i></p>	<p>Carolina Biological curriculum is used to allow 5th Graders to participate in meaningful hands-on learning in a real science lab. Students focus on learning the structures and properties of matter, deeper understanding of energy and its transfer, and earth's position and relationship in the solar system. Learning culminates in a Science Fair that is the capstone project of students' elementary learning that includes Biblical application, an oral presentation, and technology.</p>
<p><i>Social Studies</i></p>	<p>Project based learning helps history come to life as students learn about exploration, native tribes, Colonial America, the American Revolution, the founding of our nation, and Westward Expansion. Interactive resources are used to help students grow in their understanding and empathy of people throughout American History.</p>
<p><i>Technology</i></p>	<p>Technology resources are used to enhance learning and equip students for use and management of electronic devices regarding education and beyond. As an Apple certified school, each student is assigned their own iPad that they can take home. Promethean Board Technology, iPads, Google tools, and the Apple Suite are used to enhance learning and increase student engagement. Students learn how to organize and manage their learning through programs such as Canvas and RenWeb.</p>
<p><i>Fostering a Faith that Sticks</i></p>	<p>Our students not only learn the Bible but apply it to their lives to be the hands and feet of Jesus, with the goal of equipping students to transform the world for Christ and His Kingdom. Students are coached on resolving conflict Biblically with their peers. They encourage their classmates by nominating them for weekly WOW Awards when they observe their Christ-like behavior.</p>
<p><i>We Lead</i></p>	<p>5th Graders have the opportunity to apply to serve as Safety Patrols, on Student Council, and in National Elementary Honor Society. Students begin to take ownership of their faith by leading their grade-level chapels. They are among the oldest students at the Lower School and are often called upon to help serve at special events, lead younger students, and are encouraged to be positive role models for the younger students.</p>
<p>THE HEARTBEAT OF 5TH GRADE</p>	<p>A favorite 5th Grade tradition is our annual kickball game where students and parents play together, and homerooms compete against each other. After studying The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, students participate in an on-campus Narnia experience. They go on an incredible overnight trip to Tallahassee. The meaningful itinerary connects directly to important learning in the classroom and includes visits to Wakulla Springs, The Tallahassee Museum, The Florida History Museum, the Old Capitol Building, and the New Capitol Building.</p>