



## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOLS

*Hope Lutheran School is committed to providing quality academic instruction; equipping students for life-long learning; recognizing each child's unique abilities; and nurturing each child in body, mind, and spirit in a community that shares and lives the Christian faith.*

### First Grade Curriculum

#### **Subject: Religion**

**Curriculum Used: The Beginner's Bible, One in Christ, and various Bible songbooks**

**Summary:** Bible stories from the old and New Testament are taught, along with memorization of Bible verses, hymns, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles Creed. Jesus' great love for us is emphasized, resulting in our showing love to one another.

#### **Subject: Reading**

**Curriculum Used: Good Habits, Great Readers (Pearson publishing), The Daily 5**

**Summary:** Reading instruction focuses on the five essential domains of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension) as well as the seven habits of successful readers (see themselves as readers; make sense of text; use what they know; understand how stories work; read to learn; monitor and organize ideas and information; and think critically about books.) Daily instruction will include specific skills-focus lessons as well as shared reading (whole class) and small guided reading (flexible groups with opportunities to practice specific reading skills at appropriate levels.) Daily 5 provides literacy centers which give students more ways to enhance their literacy learning. Children will learn how to pick "just-right" books for independent reading. They will read to themselves, read to others, work with words and sounds, and listen to stories daily. We also use the Accelerated Reader program on the computer to continually challenge readers and emphasize comprehension skills. Children are encouraged to read at home daily both independently and with parents.

#### **Subject: Writing**

**Curriculum Used: Good Habits, Great Readers Write Habits (Pearson publishing); The Daily 5, D.O.L.**

**Summary:** Children are to write nearly every day about their own experiences. They will learn the 6 writing traits of: Ideas, Word Choice, Voice, Sentence Fluency, Conventions, and Organization. Through daily writing in Writer's Notebooks, they will go through the steps of the writing process: Prewriting/Planning, Drafting, Revising, Editing and Publishing. Students will also write for a variety of purposes and in different formats. Instruction is organized around several important writing genres-descriptive, narrative, informational and creative. The children learn to edit for spelling, punctuation, word usage, complete sentences and capitalization through teacher-modeling and application in personal writing. D.O.L. also supports grammar, spelling and

convention skills. The connection between reading and writing is emphasized and writing will also be incorporated into theme units in science, health and social studies.

**Subject: Spelling**

**Curriculum Used: Words Their Way from Pearson, Rebecca Sitton, The Daily 5**

**Summary:** The children learn to spell words based on frequency of usage in the English language. The children master the first 50 words of the word frequency list along with challenge words as needed. They will be expected to spell these words correctly in their daily writing. Children will be able to practice their spelling words daily and reinforce phonic skills through word study activities. They will learn about word families and how that can help when spelling new words.

**Subject: Math**

**Curriculum Used: Harcourt math series, Daily Oral Math**

**Summary:** The children learn to add and subtract to twenty, count coins to \$1.00 and tell time to the half hour. The children will understand place value and use it to solve double digit problems without regrouping. Fractions, measurement and geometry are also included. Daily practice of word problems, basic facts and other math applications reinforce mathematical understanding. The use of manipulatives (such as counters, base ten blocks, connecting cubes, plastic coins, small clocks, etc.) helps connect concepts from an abstract to concrete level.

**Subject: Social Studies**

**Curriculum Used: Teacher created materials and supplemental curriculum resources.**

**Summary:** The children will learn about families, neighborhoods/communities, and our country. They will learn how to make and read maps and will also learn about famous Americans and the significance of our national holidays.

**Subject: Science**

**Curriculum Used: Scott Foresman and supplemental curriculum resources.**

**Summary:** The children will learn through investigation and inquiry into the areas of Life Science (plants, animals, habitats), Physical Science (Grouping Objects, Sound/Heat/Light), Earth Science (Weather, The Earth, The Sky) and the Human Body (Nutrition, Taking Care of our Bodies.) They will participate in experiments and hands-on exploration of topics. They will also read and write about science topics to extend their learning.

**Subject: Art**

**Curriculum Used: Variety of Resources**

**Summary:** The children experience the use of many different mediums such as tempera paint, acrylic paint, crayons, watercolors, colored pencils, clay and different papers. There will be seasonal arts/crafts projects, as well as open-ended art time for free expression and exploration of materials. They will also be introduced to the work of master artists and do a Masterpiece of the Month based on famous artist techniques.

**Subject: Music**

**Curriculum Used: In music classes students are exposed to basic rhythm fundamentals according to age and grade appropriateness. This is done through various types of hands on and movement and singing activities. All grades participate in singing activities, composer studies, folk dancing and a major musical production.**

**Summary:** Measures beat, accents, and 2-3-4 beat rhythm patterns are introduced. The students are also introduced to the instrument families of the orchestra. Class is very hands on and full of movement. We are blessed with many percussion and barred instruments. The music program is very experiential. The students in grades 1-5 put on a musical production each year alternating between a Christmas and spring musicals.

**Subject: Physical Education**

**Summary:** All grades focus on acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain an active life. Students work on improving sports fundamentals and movement skills from the previous grade. Students will demonstrate critical elements in a variety of manipulative skills with a partner, along with spatial awareness. Students begin to move in simple rhythm patterns and demonstrate mature form in levels, direction and swinging.

**Subject: Technology**

**Summary:** Students will learn a variety of skills and activities, adjusted for grade level, including basic skills of computer use, acceptable use of computers and internet safety, and keyboarding skills; intermediate skills such as file management and navigation, MS Word, MS Power Point, Excel, as well as Google Earth; and advanced skills such as Windows Movie Maker, photo editing, 3D Modeling with Google SketchUp, and physics animations and simulations such as SketchyPhysics.

**Subject: Foreign Language (Spanish)**

**Summary:**

1. Initiate and respond to informal greetings and farewells.
2. Identify common objects.
3. Identify colors.
4. Count up to twenty objects.
5. Sing authentic songs and play authentic games.
6. Identify the family unit.
7. Identify familiar stories in the chosen language.