



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.

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Subject: Religion

Curriculum used: One in Christ by Concordia

Summary: We study Old and New Testament stories with applications to personal living. Weekly memorization of Bible verses and the Ten Commandments are integrated with lessons. This year we have started Prayer Partners, of which we rotate with a new person about every three weeks. Journaling is involved.

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 by Pearson, Rebecca Sitton

Summary: This series works with learning spelling words which are based on the words used most frequently in reading and writing in the English language. Core words from various other subjects are integrated with the Rebecca Sitton list.

Subject: Math

Curriculum used: Harcourt Math

Summary: Major topics are addition and subtraction skills with regrouping, multiplication tables 0-12, multiplication up to 4 digit numbers, division with regrouping, fractions and decimals, place value, measurement, probability, algebra, geometry, time and money, and daily review of learned skills. MMM (Math Mad Minutes) are used almost daily to improve basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts.

Subject: Social Studies

Curriculum used: The Washington Adventure (Gibbs/Smith)

Summary: Learning includes the geography of the Northwest with emphasis on Washington State. The history of the area covers Native Americans, explorers, missionaries, Oregon Trail, early Seattle settlement of Seattle, statehood, railroads, logging, and the Klondike Gold Rush. In addition, states and their capitals are covered, and each student does a state report.

Subject: Science

Curriculum used: Scott Foresman

Summary: The curriculum covers the areas of Physical Science, Life Science, Earth Science, and the Human Body. Experiments are often an involved part of the series. Additional booklet units (Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Hurricanes) complete the curriculum.

Subject: Art

Curriculum used: Varied forms of media and activities related to the curriculum round out the art program.

Summary: Art theory covered: points, line, form, size, contrast, dominance, positive and negative space, color wheel, hue, tint and shade, warm and cool colors, shapes, positive and negative space, symmetry, counterchange, and complements and triads.

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: Continuing with note and rest, the staff is introduced. Students begin reading notes on the treble staff. Recorders and barred instruments are used to aid in learning. 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. Throw with accurate form to a moving target, catch with mature form objects thrown at different levels, kick/pass/punt a ball while moving, foot dribble around objects with control and hand dribble at various speeds with control. Being able to hit with a manipulative (racquet or bat) with several forms (backhand, forehand, underhand, batting). Volley in succession with a partner. Demonstrate rhythmic movement during activities (jump rope). Dynamic balance with control (cartwheels and balance beams). Design and performs repeatable sequences of rolling and weight transfer activities with smooth transition. Continue to focus on rules and safety guidelines as in previous years.

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. Listen to expanded conversations, songs and rhymes, proverbs and poems.
2. Present projects in the target language and practice conversational activities in pairs and in small groups.
3. Understand and translate reading selections and present short compositions.
4. Write complete sentences and short paragraphs.
5. Practice advanced dictation, activities and letters.
6. Enrich their vocabulary with regards to sports, food and table settings, time, school subjects, places to visit in the city, vacation activities, household items, following directions, nationalities, description of self and others, present tense verbs, possessive adjectives, introduction to parts of speech and appropriate sentence structure.
7. Recognize cultural similarities and differences in city and family life.