

Grade 5 Curriculum

RELIGION

The religion curriculum is based on the Concordia Publishing House textbook titled *Voyages: Exploring God's Word*. It examines the concepts of Law, Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace. Students learn the importance of God's words and promises as they study Old and New Testament stories. Each lesson focuses on the cross of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's word. Students are also encouraged to put the words into action in their own lives. Memory work is included to teach Bible verses that coincide with weekly lessons.



LANGUAGE ARTS

English

The grammar section of language arts is based on the Macmillan/McGraw-Hill *Language Arts* series. Fifth grade students improve on their communication skills throughout the year. As grammar, mechanics, and word usage are introduced, they are incorporated into a variety of writing assignments and presentations. Six-Trait Writing is used to help students develop their writing abilities. They progress from well-written paragraphs to more lengthy essays and end the year with a research paper. Listening skills are also emphasized as students practice techniques for critical and respectful listening.

Literature

Literature classes are taught by the 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Diane Meyr. The students in grades 5th through 8th read a variety of novels, from a variety of reading genres. The novels are chosen based on interest level, themes that can connect to the world around us, and to the

students' lives, and teachability.

The students respond to the literature through a variety of methods including questioning, whole and small group discussions and journal responses. At the end of every novel, the students have a responding activity in which they are given a creative task that they must think critically and deeply about the novel.

The students also have reading mini lessons that focus on a variety of skills including: story elements, figurative language, literary techniques, poetic language and reading skills. The mini lessons are then tied into the novel that the students are reading.

Five book reports are given a year in which the students choose (with some guidelines) their own novel and type a book report that focuses on the story elements of the novel, theme, importance and author. The book reports are also taught and presented in a way that enhances writing skills such as good

introductions, conclusions, paragraphing, mechanics and style.

The students and I also D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) twice a week.

Most importantly, my literature classrooms are filled with discussions about all of the books we are reading both inside and outside of the classroom, a good adult role model that reads, and is seen reading the books the students are reading, and a classroom filled with students who *want* to read.

Spelling

Themed units help students improve on spelling by reinforcing reading strategies, correct grammar, mechanics, and word usage. Challenge words introduce vocabulary from a wide variety of subjects. Students demonstrate their skills through weekly workbook practice and tests.

MATH

The math curriculum is based on the Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley *Mathematics* series. The math curriculum includes theory, practice, and practical application of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using whole numbers, decimals, fractions, ratios, proportions, integers, and percents. Students are also introduced to geometry, pre-algebra, graphing, and probability. Each lesson incorporates problem solving and writing in math strategies to reinforce students' abilities to understand and solve word problems. Objectives are met through daily assignments, small group activities, and individual tests.

ART

The fifth grade curriculum exposes students to a wide variety of art media and techniques. Students are encouraged to explore their creativity and artistic ability through painting, collage, drawing, sculpture, and design.

COMPUTER

Fifth graders will continue to practice their keyboarding skills as they are introduced to word processing, power point presentations, and effective internet use. Cross curricular projects are enhanced through the

use of technology in the classroom.

HEALTH

The curriculum for health is based on "*Health and Wellness*" by Macmillan / McGraw-Hill. Lessons are presented with age-appropriate content readers as well as integrating supplemental material. 5th and 6th grade students in divided classes of boys and girls study the body systems and how they interact and interrelate. The importance of personal and family health is emphasized throughout the year. Balance, variety, and moderation in diet are highlighted as

students use My Pyramid to create healthy meal plans. Students end the year building healthy relationships by studying life management skills, such as conflict resolution.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The fifth grade curriculum takes students from early America to the modern era. Through a variety of activities, worksheets, and projects, skills are developed in interpreting and using maps, understanding and creating charts and graphs, and explaining and constructing timelines. Students will work with a partner to

research a particular Native American culture. Through a written essay and individual project, the students will present the culture to the class. Various group and individual projects are completed during the year. Students learn the importance of becoming well-educated and informed citizens as they study important historical events, geography, and changes in technology throughout our nation's history.



5th Grade Teacher, Mrs. Laurie Jones - BA in Political Science from the University of Missouri – Columbia 1985 Teaching certificate from Webster University- 2006 (including 18 hours of Masters in Teaching work) This is my 3rd year of teaching at WOL. Prior to WOL, I taught outdoor education for Camp Wyman in Eureka, MO. I have four children, all of whom attended WOL. My two sons have gone on to Lutheran High School South.

OUR MISSION: Word of Life Lutheran School is committed to providing a high quality educational program in an environment where Christ prevails, where a child's human and spiritual needs are met, and where love, dignity and professional accountability are valued promoted and implemented.