

**BIBLE**

Fifth grade uses *Building on the Rock* Bible Curriculum, published by Summit Ministries. *Building on the Rock* lays the groundwork for worldview education. This innovative Christian elementary school Bible curriculum is the first truly integrated biblical worldview and Bible survey course of its kind. Students learn to view the world through four distinct relationships with the Creator, with each other, with ourselves, and with his creation.

*Building on the Rock* is constructed in a spiral sequence, built around twenty biblical truths found throughout Scripture. Through this framework, students begin seeing all of reality from a biblical viewpoint. They stop seeing the Bible as just a book of unique stories and start seeing Scripture as the litmus test for every idea they encounter. Students start “connecting the dots” between what they find in Scripture and how they should think and live. Engaging activities across all curriculum subjects and utilizing the Socratic Method help shape our students’ spiritual formation and instill a confident faith. Students will learn to know, love and trust God’s Word.

**LANGUAGE ARTS****READING AND LITERATURE**

A Beka Speed and Comprehension Book is used to build student reading comprehension and fluency. Students are also required to participate weekly in an Accelerated Reading (A.R.) program. This program has students reading books at their independent reading levels and taking periodic quizzes over these books. The goals of the A.R. program are to create a love of reading and increase reading comprehension skills. Students will engage in at least four literature studies throughout the year: *My Side of the Mountain*, *Tale of Despereaux*, *Bud, Not Buddy*, *Maniac Magee*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, *Frindle*, and *Number the Stars*. The study activities center on building student vocabulary, addressing multiple learning styles, and promoting higher level thinking.

**SPELLING**

Spelling is a fundamental skill in written communication. During 5<sup>th</sup> grade, the spelling goal is for the students to learn and understand how and why words are spelled the way they are. The teacher will focus on 2-3 spelling rules that apply to their current list of words. The total list is made up of 29 essential spelling rules. These 29 rules are a follow-up from the Spalding Method, in which the students are trained in the lower grades. The students are taught to evaluate words and how the rules apply. Example of rules include the five reasons certain words end with a silent final “e”. After learning the rules, the students then complete two of nine spelling activities of their choosing to apply their new knowledge for each list. These activities include multi-sensory activities and differentiated instruction options. The biweekly spelling words come from the vocabulary curriculum, Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop, that is used in class. To further challenge students, additional “Super Spelling & Vocabulary Words” are also assigned each week. Students are tested through sentence dictation, proofreading, spelling tests, matching, and writing. Throughout the year, students are able to see how God gifted us with the privilege of being able to spell and understand our language.

**GRAMMAR AND WRITING**

Shurley English connects grammar, writing, and oral language. Students are taught grammar, capitalization, and punctuation rules, sentence classification, analogy relationships, and vocabulary. Writing instruction includes an emphasis on expository, narrative, persuasive, and descriptive styles. Shurley English focuses on developing strong writers by providing instruction for conventions, voice, organization, development of ideas, sentence fluency, and word choice. Pre-writing, editing, and

publishing are a part of all writing assignments. Students also use the computer writing program, Write-to-Learn. This program allows students to receive editing feedback on essays and summaries.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Scottsdale Christian Academy believes in building student confidence and communication skills early in their education by providing students numerous public speaking opportunities. Students from K-6th grade are given classroom oral reports several times a year, with the additional possibility to publicly address the entire elementary student body in Chapel. With the new global, technologically advanced society surrounding our youth today, SCA believes it is imperative, more than ever, to provide a foundation and enable students to cultivate public speaking at a young age. Expressing thoughts and ideas still remains the cornerstone in any profession or relationship. Development of public communication skills early in life allows students to position themselves for optimal success.

### **MATH**

**enVisionmath 2.0 (Pearson)** is a comprehensive mathematics curriculum for Grades K-5. It is organized to develop mathematical content connections with built-in connections across lessons, across topics, across strands, and across grades. Every lesson in **enVisionmath 2.0** provides a worked-out problem in the student materials that introduces the important mathematics of the lesson through a series of visual illustrations that promote understanding. This is called the Visual Learning Bridge. This is a bridge because it connects the students' thinking and solutions for new mathematical ideas of the lesson. The *Solve and Share* in **enVisionmath 2.0** requires the student to select, implement, and manage multiple math practices. Another layer of **enVisionmath 2.0** relates to math practices. Math practices are the habits of mind, processes, and dispositions that enable a learner to understand mathematics and to use or do mathematics with understanding. Math practices translate to observable verbal and written actions by students as they do mathematics. When students connect ideas, they deepen their understanding. EnVision 2.0 is organized into clusters of connected topics and lessons. Students learn to see relationships, ask questions, and try different approaches. Since the goal and promise of **enVisionmath 2.0** is to develop understanding, the math practices are infused in all aspects of the program. Finally, **enVisionmath 2.0** grows from the organization of the program and the core instructional model used daily. However, there are many other elements that contribute to making **enVisionmath 2.0** a high-quality curriculum. Throughout the program, students at every grade level will make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. **EnVisionmath 2.0** provides a wide variety of differentiation resources and strategies. Tiered activities, learning centers, flexible grouping, and technology help accommodate learning styles and readiness. **EnVisionmath 2.0** also allows students and parents to access online tools from the math curriculum. This online suite allows students and parents access to lessons, practice, videos, and assessments.

### **SCIENCE**

Students use the Purposeful Design Science Series which weaves together the wonders of the created world and a Biblical worldview. The National Science Education Standards specify content requirements for each grade which are fully met in this series. Additionally students gain proficiency in using the scientific method and a variety of technical resources to conduct scientific investigations. Students in Fifth Grade will study: Life Science (Natural Cycles, Life Cycles, Cells, Ecological Succession), Physical Science (Measuring Matter, Changing Matter, Force and Work, Electricity and Magnetism), Earth and Space Science (Earth's Processes, Natural Resources, Weather and Climate, Sun, Earth and Moon), and the Human Body (Transitions, Disease).

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Fifth grade students use the textbook *The United States* by Harcourt. Units of study include: The Land and Early People, Exploration and Settlement, The American Revolution, A Growing Nation, Civil War Times, and The United States and the World. Harcourt Social Studies is a comprehensive K-5 curriculum designed to engage and motivate every student. Through the stories of the intriguing people, exciting places, and fascinating events that make social studies relevant to their lives, students gain a global perspective. They also learn the social studies themes and skills they need to become informed, participating students, use critical thinking skills, and be active in their communities.

Students continue the experience of the Junior Achievement program which reinforces the understanding of family, school and community. They are taught the basic concepts of business, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, economics, and how education is relevant to the workplace.

**ART**

Students in 5th grade attend art class once per week. They develop and refine their drawing skills by creating more realistic landscapes. They learn to add texture to their watercolor paintings by using wax paper, gauze and plastic wrap. Use of shadows and light is developed. They explore the use of clay by creating unique coil pots. Mixed media portraits are introduced by using the grid system for enlarging their photos. Students learn about facial expressions and body positions. Two-dimensional etchings are explored and two-point perspective is used in landscapes. Fifth graders continue their study of master artists through the Art Masterpiece program. It is a national art enrichment project that uses reproductions of fine works of art to promote art literacy in children. Parent volunteers bring the prints to the classroom and present a lesson planned for 5th grade. Art Masterpiece lessons are taught on a monthly basis, usually six times per school year. They usually consist of a "hands on" project. The purpose of the lesson is to increase the child's awareness of art. As this occurs, students are able to recognize more of the art that they encounter in their world every day.

**MUSIC**

Students in 5th grade music attend music class twice per week. SCA's music program focuses on creating a love and awareness of music in daily life. Children are encouraged to have a heart for worship and glorifying God. Music theory, music history and music appreciation are taught through either band or choir. Student objectives are based on National Music Standards and SCA values.

**TECHNOLOGY**

Students in 5th grade attend computer class twice per week. The technology program focuses on higher order skills and curriculum integration with classroom topics and activities. Computers are used to reinforce curriculum and provide both guided and independent practice. Student objectives are based on the Arizona Technology Standards and SCA technology goals.

**SPANISH**

Students in 5th grade go to Spanish class once per week. Students will be able to: respond to classroom commands; understand, read, and write vocabulary related to: numbers 1-100, colors, family members, clothing, foods/place settings, animals, body parts, weather, days of the week, rooms/household; identify people and objects based on oral and written descriptions; greet someone and ask how they are and respond appropriately; ask and answer a question about age; ask for someone else's name and be able to give name when asked; ask "What do you want?," "How much is it?," "What are going to do?"; express

likes and dislikes using the verb “gustar”; recite a short poem, sing a song, memorize and recite a Bible verse; know and use appropriately the greetings according to the time of day; say goodbye in a variety of ways; say please, thank you, no thank you when appropriate; using a map of the world, identify parts of the world where Spanish is spoken by coloring in the countries; identify cognates in Spanish, giving the English equivalent.

### **RESEARCH SKILLS**

Students in 5th grade visit the library once per week for research skills class. Research skills classes focus on using grade specific critical thinking skills to discover facts and information through the use of online and bound reference materials and library resources. Research is integrated with classroom curriculum and topics. Critical thinking skills are also developed via genre and author studies.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Students in 5th grade go to PE class twice per week. PE teaches skills of various sports throughout the year and knowledge of rules for each game. Teaching good attitudes and sportsmanship is an essential part of the PE curriculum. Fifth grade students will learn:

- Basic rules of sports, movement and activity
- Basic team strategy
- Teamwork
- Encouragement
- Cooperation
- Accepting others’ differences
- Skills involved in all sports, activities and movement
- Introduction to new games and creativity

### **INNOVATION AND CREATION HUB**

Each elementary homeroom class visits the Innovation and Creation HUB once a week. Students focus on STEAM learning (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Students are provided with hands-on learning with activities centered around the problem-solving method of Ask, Discuss, Design, Create, Test and Revise. Activities are determined by the curricular units being studied in homeroom classes and are designed for age appropriate learning. Students are encouraged to take risks whether it is designing a Moon Lander, coding a robot to engage in a specific task, or designing a piece to be 3D printed. In the HUB students embrace the four C’s: Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, and Communication. These four C’s are crucial to fostering innovators and leaders of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **FIELD TRIPS AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

- Science Fair
- Junior Achievement BizTown
- Pine Summit Science Camp
- Decades Day
- Feed My Starving Children
- Christmas and End-of-Year Parties off campus