

WCS Fourth Grade Curriculum Guide

“..Because anyone who serves Christ in this way
is pleasing to God and approved by men.”

Romans 14:18



BIBLE –The Bible studies will include the life of Christ from the Gospels; a study of the Holy Spirit from the Gospels, Acts and the Epistles; an understanding of how Christian character develops using Paul’s epistles and the life of Paul from the Book of Acts. The students are assigned a memory verse each week. Text used is Positive Action Bible Curriculum – Building Life Castles – 4th grade and the children’s version of the NIV Bible.

CHAPEL - This is a special time each day where teachers and students alike join in prayer, singing and praising God for loving us. Students are used extensively to lead chapel activities. This leadership training develops personal awareness and self-confidence. One day each week chapel time is extended to include special awards, recitations of class memory work and a brief Bible lesson.

MATHEMATICS - A fourth grade student learns to create and apply mathematical concepts in a more abstract manner. The student learns to reason independently, justify answers, and communicate about thinking processes using appropriate math language and tools. The primary focal points of fourth grade are the application of place value concepts, comparing and ordering fractions and decimals, and developing ideas related to measurement and statistics. The student further refines skills by selecting the correct operation in problem-solving situations. Text used is Saxon.

SCIENCE - The fourth grade student plans and implements investigations using the scientific method. The student analyzes and makes decisions while using tools such as compasses to collect information. The student identifies components and processes of the natural world such as properties of soil, effects of oceans, the role of the sun as our energy source, the physical properties of matter, and causes of change in states of matter. The student observes the roles of living and non-living components and recognizes that adaptations of organisms have increased survival. The student investigates the differences between learned characteristics and inherited traits. A fourth grade student continues to explore change and constancy in systems. Text used is Scott Foresman.

SOCIAL STUDIES - A fourth grade student studies important events, issues, and people of the 19th and 20th centuries. The student examines Texas history from ancient times to the present in regard to human and natural characteristics of the regions of Texas. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of the impact of Native Americans, European explorers, and Mexican influences, as well as other cultural groups on Texas. Text used is Scott Foresman.

LANGUAGE ARTS - A fourth grade student spends significant blocks of time engaged in reading and writing independently. The student reads in a wide variety of subjects and adjusts

reading rate and strategies to meet the demands of the texts and purpose for reading. Using a variety of text structures, a fourth grader reads for meaning, paraphrases text, and analyzes story elements. The student selects different forms of writing and uses style, voice, and complete sentences to enhance meaning. A fourth grade student is a proficient speller and edits based on current knowledge of grammar and usage. The student produces polished written compositions and multimedia presentations. Texts used are Scholastic Literacy Place Series, Volumes 1 & 2 and Wordly Wise.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Students receive instruction three times a week using the CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) Curriculum. As part of this developmentally appropriate curriculum, students participate in activities that: improve both their fine and gross motor skills, teach the importance of being physically fit, introduce them to the concept of teambuilding, as well as develop sportsmanship.

MUSIC - Music for fourth grade occurs three times a week. Students learn to sing and recognize Fa and Ti as well as reinforce the pitches Do, Re, Mi, So, and La. Students are introduced to syncopated rhythms as well as reinforcing straight rhythms by reading, clapping and playing written mixed rhythms. Students learn to translate written music to sound by playing both pitched and un-pitched instruments. Fourth graders also learn to sing in three-part harmony. Dances and games reinforce the songs and encourage rhythmic and style and appropriate movement.

COMPUTER LAB - Students visit the computer lab weekly to enhance their classroom instruction, build their computer skills, and research on the internet with teacher guidance. Later in the year, students use the Alpha Smart program to develop their keyboarding skills.

LIBRARY - Students have one instructional class time each week where library skills are taught plus additional check-in/check-out times available as needed to support the Accelerated Reader program. Students can participate in state and national reading programs: the Bluebonnet and Crown Reading Programs. A store is offered each 6 weeks to supporting the Accelerated Reader (AR) program where students may “buy” items with AR points.

FIELD TRIPS - Taken in connection with and to enhance classroom studies. Destinations may include The Downtown Aquarium, The Children’s Theater, and a visit to a historic site to help students learn more about the state of Texas.

RECESS - Daily playtime is provided on the outside playground. In the case of inclement weather, alternate activities are planned indoors that still provide socialization, play and movement.

HOMEWORK – Students are assigned homework three to four times per week and assignments include spelling mastery, math, Bible memory work, projects and study for tests.

ACADEMIC MEET – Fourth graders are encouraged to participate in an academic meet hosted each year by various Christian schools in Texas. This event allows students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in a particular subject area and be recognized for their achievement. Students in fourth grade may participate in one event and coaching sessions are held either before or after school several weeks prior to this event.