

Christian Education

The Voyages Curriculum (Concordia Publishing House) is used to introduce students to the major events of the Old and New Testament. In the fall, Bible lessons are taken from the Old Testament and include creation, Moses, Noah and the ark, Joseph, David, Samuel, the tabernacle, as well as others. During December, the birth of Christ is the focus. In the spring semester, Jesus' earthly ministry, journey to the cross, death and resurrection are presented. Also covered are the birth of the church and early missionaries. Present in every lesson is a focus on the saving grace of our Savior and what that means for our lives.

Language Arts

The Scott-Foresman reading series provides the structure for teaching reading, writing, listening and speaking. The curriculum provides plenty of opportunities for the teaching of phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, comprehension skills, sight words, sounding out words, word families, and language structure. Each week, a read-aloud children's literature book is used to teach a variety of skills. Students practice reading using individual readers, work pages, and extra activities to reinforce decoding and comprehension skills. The curriculum is supplemented with extra literacy centers, small group work, videos, movement, and hands on projects that integrate skills and provide further practice when needed.

Writing

Instruction in formation of all upper and lowercase letters using lined paper is stressed in the beginning of the year. Students begin using journals in the fall by first participating in modeled writing lessons. Students learn how to stay on topic and make writing and illustrations match. They also learn the basics of the writing process and publish class books. By the end of the year, students should be able to write several sentences on a given topic with proper use of capital letters and punctuation. They should be able to use a combination of sight words, inventive spelling and word recall to express their ideas.

Mathematics

The A Beka Curriculum is used for math instruction along with hands on activities. Students learn to write, recognize and represent numbers 1 - 100; count and compare numbers; skip count by 2's, 5's and 10's; count forward and backward to 100; add and subtract; identify coins and count money; tell time to the hour, half hour and quarter hour; measure length in inches, and learn about two and three dimensional shapes.

Science

Science is taught during theme time in various units with hands on activities. Some of the units covered are living and nonliving things, the five senses, physical properties, sorting and classifying, weather, changing seasons, animals and habitats, life cycles of plants and insects, and food and nutrition. A highlight of the year is "Scientist of the Week", which gives every child a chance to do an experiment for the class.

Social Studies

Social Studies is taught alternately with science during theme. Use of nonfiction books and projects help students to connect to their world. Units include family, school, community helpers, explorers, maps and globes, national symbols, Thanksgiving, presidents, rules and government, Christmas celebrations, and basic economics. A special circus unit is planned for the end of the year to tie together community skills, planning, and organization.

Enrichment

Enrichment classes are offered in the areas of music, art, foreign language, library, physical education, and technology. Students attend computer lab twice each week and use the Accelerated Reading program beginning in the second semester.