ELEMENTARY
COURSE CATALOG

Kindergarten

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Mathematics

This course is designed to give students a beginning foundation in mathematical concepts. Using a variety of techniques and hands-on experiences, students are taught to complete basic math equations and solve simple word problems. We use the KinderMath curriculum, which teaches concepts through a variety of games, hands-on activities, whole-group lessons, partner collaboration, use of manipulatives, and independent practice (worksheets).

Science

Using multimedia lessons, STEM activities, and teacher created resources and trade books, students cover the following topics:

- **Five Senses**: students learn about the five senses, the reason God created each sense, how they affect daily life and how the loss of a sense would impact them within their environment.
- **Recycling**: students learn the goals and reasons for recycling, with emphasis on stewardship and our responsibility to use the resources God has provided wisely.
- **Living vs. Non-Living**: using worksheets, sorting and STEM activities, and multimedia lessons, students practice distinguishing between living and non-living things.
- **Seasons**: students learn about the seasons throughout the year, their attributes and simple science behind the seasonal changes.
- **Plant Life Cycle**: students plant two types of seeds, make predictions, chart and compare and contrast their growth. They will also study the life cycle of various types of plants.
- **Various Animal Mini-Studies**

Language Arts

Students learn manuscript handwriting skills, spelling and vocabulary, Superkids Phonics, reading and composition.

- **Reading**: instruction consists of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension.
- **Vocabulary**: refers to the words used to communicate effectively in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will increase their vocabulary while learning to analyze and utilize new words.
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- **Phonics**: students learn the relationship between the letters (graphemes) of written language and the individual sounds (phonemes) of spoken language. Students will use these relationships to read and write words. CLS uses the SuperKids Phonics program, which provides systematic and explicit phonics instruction using an incremental approach. Letter-sound relationships are taught in clearly defined sequence. The focus of this program is on phonemic awareness, which is the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate the individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words.

- **Handwriting**: students learn manuscript handwriting skills, including correct letter formation, slant and spacing of letters. Correct pencil grip, paper position, and posture are enforced throughout the year.

- **Composition:** students keep writing journals to apply what they learn using descriptive logical structure, organization and language to clearly present all the elements of writing and convey a message.

Bible

This early childhood Bible curriculum focuses on New Testament Bible stories and teaches students how to worship God with their own hearts, minds and bodies; learn to pray with others and individually; to learn God's Word through scripture memory, reading and application of character concepts to their daily lives.

History

Students cover topics on the foundations of our country, Christopher Columbus and the reasons for the Thanksgiving celebration; what a community is and the jobs and services offered in a community; students learn geography by designing, drawing and using a simple map; and an overview of world history through introducing classic stories from other cultures.

1st Grade

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Mathematics

The Eureka Math² curriculum is a comprehensive math program built on the foundational idea that math is best understood as an unfolding story where students learn by connecting new learning to prior knowledge. Consistent math models, content that engages students in productive struggle, and coherence across lessons, modules, and grades provide entry points for all learners to access grade-level mathematics. Eureka Math² is designed with access and engagement in mind. Peer discussion helps students solidify their understanding of math concepts, so every lesson includes opportunities for rich student discourse. Eureka Math² encourages students to think like mathematicians as they tackle tough problems and answer their own questions. In Eureka Math² classrooms, students regularly share their mathematical knowledge through discussion and reasoning. In addition, lessons follow Universal Design for Learning principles to accommodate various learning differences and increase access for multilingual learners and emergent readers.

Specifically, students will be instructed in concepts such as the following: Counting, Comparison, and Addition; Addition and Subtraction Relationships; Properties of Operations to Make Easier Problems; Comparison and Composition of Length Measurements; Place Value Concepts to Compare, Add, and Subtract; and Attributes of Shapes – Advancing Place Value, Addition, and Subtraction.

Science

Five major units of study are covered:

- **Flowers:** students will identify flowers and seeds, name specific flowers common to the area, name flower parts and their function, diagram and dissect a flower, and study the seasonal life cycle of a flower.
- **Geography:** students will create maps, examine a variety of map components, and follow and give basic directions.
- **Health:** students will identify parts of the body, healthy foods, forms of exercise, and learn basic oral and body hygiene.
- **Snow/Water Cycle:** students will learn about snow and the components of a snowflake. They will also identify the three forms of water, experiment with changing forms of water, and study the water cycle.
- **Trees:** students will identify common tree types (evergreen and deciduous) and specific trees common to the area, name tree parts and their function, and study the seasonal life cycle of a tree.
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Language Arts

Reading: The reading program contains four major components. Reading instruction includes reading aloud/modeled reading, guided reading, and independent reading with a goal to instill a love of reading.

- **Accuracy:** students identify, define, and incorporate a variety of strategies to use for decoding unfamiliar words during independent reading.
- **Comprehension:** students identify, define, and incorporate strategies to construct meaning when reading texts from various genres.
- **Fluency:** students identify, define, and incorporate strategies to encourage accurate reading with expression.
- **Vocabulary:** students identify interesting words in reading and gain an understanding of the meaning.

Language Arts: the program contains five components:

- **Phonics:** using the structured Superkids Phonics program, students will learn the relationships between letters (graphemes) and written language, and the individual sounds (phonemes) of spoken language. Students then apply these relationships to reading and writing words.
- **Spelling:** students will apply previously learned phonics concepts to strengthen their spelling skills. The Superkids Phonics program encourages the use of high utility, predictable strategies for spelling. These spelling rules and patterns are used in daily writing.
- **Manuscript Handwriting:** students will learn and practice proper letter formation, correct slant, and spacing between letters and words.
- **Grammar:** students will apply what is learned in the Superkids Phonics program to daily writing using learned parts of speech and punctuation and capitalization rules.
- **Composition:** using the writing component of the Superkids Phonics program, students will learn to draft their own work, then work with the teacher to revise and edit their work. Students will be instructed in the following literary genres: personal narrative, research writing, opinion, story writing, descriptive writing, informational writing, writing a friendly letter, how-to writing, and poetry.

Bible

The Deep Roots Bible curriculum focuses on biblical worldview and apologetics through subject integration, including archaeology, geography, history, and science. Students study Bible events chronologically, beginning with creation in Genesis through the Israelites conquering the Promised Land in Joshua. Inductive Bible study, memory verses, character traits, life application, a Bible timeline, and Old Testament prophecy of the Messiah provide students with a robust view of Scripture. They are encouraged to think critically about faith and real-life scenarios through discussions.

History

Two major units of study are covered:

- **Colonial Life:** students will examine information about the Jamestown Colony and Williamsburg. The reality of religious persecution in England and the importance of trusting in God and taking the steps of faith necessary to courageously sail to a new land will be the focus of a study of the Pilgrims on the Mayflower. The students will compare and contrast their own lives with the lives of people in colonial times. They will gain an appreciation for the work of the Lord in the beginning of our country.

- **U.S. Presidents and American Symbols:** students will examine information about a few of our nation's presidents and the positive impact they had on America. Students will study the history, meaning, and significance of various American symbols.

2nd Grade

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Mathematics

Eureka Math2 is a comprehensive math program built on the foundational idea that math is best understood as an unfolding story where students learn by connecting new learning to prior knowledge. Consistent math models, content that engages students in productive struggle, and coherence across lessons, modules, and grades provide entry points for all learners to access grade-level mathematics. Eureka Math2 is designed with access and engagement in mind. Peer discussion helps students solidify their understanding of math concepts, so every lesson includes opportunities for rich student discourse. Eureka Math2 encourages students to think like mathematicians as they tackle tough problems and answer their own questions. In Eureka Math2 classrooms, students regularly share their mathematical knowledge through discussion and reasoning. In addition, lessons follow Universal Design for Learning principles to accommodate various learning differences and increase access for multilingual learners and emergent readers.

Specifically, students will learn concepts such as place value understanding up to 1000, addition and subtraction of two and three-digit numbers within 1000, shapes, fractions, time to the minute, money, graphs and the foundations of multiplication and division.

Science

The second grade curriculum covers three units of study:

- **Nutrition:** Using the Nutrition Explorations Little D unit, the children will participate in a multi-disciplinary, integrated unit that will give them a thorough understanding of nutrition and its importance for healthy growth. During the course of this unit, the second graders will learn why it is important to eat healthy foods as they are growing. They will also learn the 5 major food groups and their position on the food pyramid. They will learn the benefits of eating foods from all five food groups. They will learn how to classify foods into each food group and what makes up a balanced meal.

- **Matter, Heat and Light:** In this unit, students will learn to identify the properties of heat and light, understand how molecules move in the three forms of matter (solid, liquid, and gas), experiment with changing forms of matter, and discuss how heat affects matter. Students will apply the scientific method in many experiments, focusing on the materials and procedures.

- **Life Cycles of the Frog and Butterfly:** During the course of this unit, the second graders will observe the metamorphosis of actual Painted Lady Butterflies and toad tadpoles in the classroom. Each student will get their own caterpillar and watch the changes that take place every day. There will also be a class tank of tadpoles to observe. Using the scientific method, students will predict, observe, record and analyze. Students will compare and contrast the butterfly life cycle with that of the frog.
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Language Arts

Reading: The reading program contains four major components all in the Superkids curriculum by Zaner Bloser:

- **Developmental Reading**: students develop basic reading skills in the areas of decoding, structural analysis, vocabulary, and comprehension.

- **Literature:** students learn to appreciate various genres and grow in their ability to analyze literature. They will listen to picture, chapter and non-fiction books and use the main comprehension strategies learned to preview, predict, and identify the main idea, and question, infer, make connections and visualize. They will use strategies for reading non-fiction such as identifying text features, comparing/contrasting, and using text evidence through bi-weekly reading of the Super magazine (from Superkids)

- **Content Area Reading:** the science and history materials are excellent resources for teaching informational reading and study skills. Students will analyze and utilize non-fiction text as well as use various comprehension strategies for non-fiction.

- **Independent Reading:** the goal of the reading program is to instill a love of reading in the heart of each child. Students will read many different genres daily.

Language Arts: the language arts program contains four major components:

- **Spelling**: students engage in extensive phonics instruction using material learned previously. They also have weekly spelling words that explore one or more of the "chunks" learned from phonics instruction. In addition, students learn a variety of spelling rules that can be generalized for many words.

- **Grammar**: students learn to apply parts of speech, punctuation and capitalization rules to their daily writing. They will focus on understanding and identifying nouns (common, proper, singular and plural), verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns, synonyms and antonyms.

- **Composition**: students will learn to write a variety of genres including personal narratives, opinion and persuasive, poems, informational, procedural and friendly letters. Students learn to draft, revise and edit their own work.

- **Cursive Handwriting**: students are introduced to cursive writing, learning capital and lowercase letters and how they fit together to make words. They learn proper letter formation, correct slant, and spacing between letters and words.

Bible

During the course of this unit, second graders will learn about God's amazing attributes through age-appropriate demonstrations and hands on experience. The students will be seeking to answer the questions "Who is God?", "What is God like?" and "How should I act toward Him?" with each attribute they learn. They will memorize and examine relevant Bible verses to support the concepts presented.

History

Students cover topics on the Original Thirteen Colonies, the U.S. Election Process, and World Geography.

3rd Grade

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Mathematics

Building on prior years' knowledge, this course is designed to add to the student's knowledge with more complex problems. Multiplication facts are taught and the multiplication algorithm is explored and division is introduced as well. Money, time, calendar skills and other concepts are learned as well as higher level problem solving. The curriculum used is Eureka Math Squared.

Science

Five major units of study are covered:

- **Ocean Life:** students are exposed to the power and majesty of God through His creation of the ocean and its creatures. Through a series of activities, experiments and research, the students will learn to recognize many aspects of the ocean and its life.

- **Flight and Aerodynamics**: Students gain a basic understanding of some of the behaviors and principles related to air and flight. Through various experiments and a paper airplane design contest, students develop a greater understanding of air pressure and how planes fly.

- **The Solar System**: students gain a basic understanding of outer space and develop an appreciation for God's sovereign design in the universe. They will learn about stars, constellations, galaxies, our solar system, planets, including our planet Earth and the living conditions in space. Each student will select one planet from our solar system as a topic for a research project.

- **Land Biomes:** students are introduced to the primary land biomes (habitats), learn plant, animal and insect life in each biome, as well as compare and contrast between the ecosystems of each biome. Students learn the natural resources humanity gains from the different biomes as well as how mankind can be stewards of what God has given us.

- **Animal Classification**: students are introduced to the various animal categories. They will distinguish between vertebrate, invertebrate, meat eating, plant eating, and warm and cold-blooded animals. Students will also identify characteristics of the five classes of vertebrates: mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians.

Reading and Language Arts

Reading: The reading program contains four major components.

- **Developmental Reading**: The goal of this component is to develop basic reading skills in the areas of decoding, structural analysis, vocabulary, and comprehension.
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- **Literature:** The students will learn to appreciate the various genres and grow in their ability to analyze literature. Students complete four book studies as a class.

- **Content Area Reading**: The science and history materials are excellent resources for teaching informational reading and study skills. The students will learn how to analyze and utilize non-fiction text as well as learning various comprehension strategies specifically for non -fiction.

- **Independent Reading**: A major goal in each component of the reading program is to instill a "love of reading" in the heart of each child. The students will be required to read books of a variety of genres throughout the year.

Language Arts: The language arts program contains five major components.

- **Spelling**: The students will be reviewing previously learned phonics concepts and strengthening their spelling skills. The Modern Curriculum Press "Spelling Workout" program includes a thorough review of basic spelling, phonetic, and syllabication rules in addition to developing spelling and vocabulary skills.

- **Grammar:** Using the structured Shurley Grammar program to teach the parts of speech, punctuation and capitalization rules, the students will apply what they have learned in their daily writing.

- **Composition**: The major focus of the writing program will be on the writing process as students learn how to draft, revise, edit, and publish their own work. A variety of writing tasks will be assigned such as expository, descriptive, persuasive, and narrative.

- **Research Skills**: Students will continue to build their research and Internet skills. They will also be completing an age-appropriate research report 2-3 times through the year.

- **Cursive Handwriting**: The students will review and practice the proper letter formation, correct slant, and spacing between letters and words.

Bible

In this course, students will study the history of Israel using the Sean McDowell developed Deep Roots curriculum. Students will memorize and examine relevant Bible Verses to support the concepts presented. They also will be exposed to an age-appropriate concept of apologetics.

History

Students cover topics on Native Americans, New World Explorers, and World Geography, which focuses on map skills and identifying oceans and continents. Students complete a research report and model on a Native American tribe and a New World Explorer.

4th Grade

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Mathematics

This course is designed to develop students' skills learned in previous degrees at more complex levels. Multi-digit multiplication and division, fractions, decimals, percent conversions, basic algebra, and more complex word problems and problem solving skills are learned and developed throughout this course. The curriculum used is Saxon Math.

Science

- **Weather:** Students will learn about the basic components and types of weather, instruments used to predict and analyze weather, and the different types of storms and precipitation.
- **Simple Machines:** Students will learn the basics about mechanics, gravity, force, and the 6 types of simple machines.
- **Human Systems:** Students will learn about the human body, with particular focus on the digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems.
- **Common Elements:** Students will learn some basics about the common elements and some basic chemistry.

Reading and Language Arts:

Reading: The reading program contains four major components.

- **Developmental Reading**: The goal of this component is to develop basic reading skills in the areas of decoding, structural analysis, vocabulary, and comprehension. Students will use strategy-based thinking to understand text through guided comprehension, in order to develop their literal, inferential, and evaluative comprehension skills.
- **Literature:** The students will learn to appreciate the various genres and grow in their ability to analyze literature. Main genre units of study include Nonfiction, Poetry, Realistic Fiction, Mystery, Fables, Tall Tales, Historical Fiction, and Humor.
- **Content Area Reading**: Students will read materials, both fiction and nonfiction, that cover our main science and history units. This will give them a chance to learn how to analyze nonfiction text, as well as connect to the time period through historical fiction.
- **Independent Reading**: A major goal in each component of the reading program is to instill a "love of reading" in the heart of each child. The students will be given the chance to read books from a variety of genres throughout the year.

Language Arts: The language arts program contains five major components.

- **Spelling**: The students will be reviewing previously learned phonics concepts and strengthening their spelling skills. The program includes a thorough review of basic
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spelling, phonetic, and syllabication rules in addition to developing spelling and vocabulary skills through learning Greek and Latin roots.

- **Grammar:** Using the structured Shurley Grammar program to teach the parts of speech, punctuation and capitalization rules, the students will apply what they have learned in their daily writing.

- **Composition**: The major focus of the writing program will be on the "writing process" using the Six Plus One Traits writing method (ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation). The students will learn how to draft, revise and edit their own work.

- **Research Skills**: The students will begin to build their research and Internet skills, through various assignments and projects that require them to use nonfiction resources to learn about certain topics.

- **Cursive Handwriting**: The students will review and practice the proper letter formation, correct slant, and spacing between letters and words.

Bible

Students learn of God's plan for their lives, through the study of His word and discussions about how to apply what they learn to their daily lives. Major areas of focus include wisdom vs foolishness, developing good friendships, Jesus's death on the cross for our sins, and conflict resolution.

History

Students cover topics on Ancient Rome, the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, the U.S. Constitution, the Civil War, and basic Geography.

5th Grade

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Mathematics

The emphasis in math is to assure a solid foundation of the basic operational skills and concepts, plus to increase the students' problem solving capabilities. This course is designed to develop the students' skills in number theory and set concepts, computations, geometry, algebra and problem solving. As the students apply themselves to mathematical thinking they will grow in discipline and the ability to logically solve problems. Throughout the study of math, the students will focus on the supreme nature of God and His character as displayed in the order and absolute truth of mathematics.

Science

Students cover topics related to physics (magnetism, electricity, and electronics), life science (brain and nervous system), earth science (rocks and fossils), and environmental science (ecology, ecosystems and the Chesapeake Bay).

Reading and Language Arts

Reading: The reading program contains four major components.

- **Developmental Reading**: The goal of this component is to develop basic reading skills in the areas of decoding, structural analysis, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- **Literature:** The students will learn to appreciate the various genres and grow in their ability to analyze literature. They read one novel per quarter as a class.
- **Content Area Reading**: The science and history materials are excellent resources for teaching informational reading and study skills. The students will learn how to analyze and utilize non-fiction text as well as learning various comprehension strategies specifically for non -fiction.
- **Independent Reading**: A major goal in each component of the reading program is to instill a "love of reading" in the heart of each child. The students will be required to read books of a variety of genres throughout the year.

Language Arts: The language arts program contains five major components.

- **Spelling**: The students will be reviewing previously learned phonics concepts and strengthening their spelling skills. The program includes a thorough review of basic spelling, phonetic, and syllabication rules in addition to developing spelling and vocabulary skills through learning Greek and Latin roots.
- **Grammar:** Using the structured Shurley Grammar program to teach the parts of speech, punctuation and capitalization rules, the students will apply what they have learned in their daily writing.
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- **Composition**: The major focus of the writing program will be on the "writing process" using the Six Plus One Traits writing method (ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation). The students will learn how to draft, revise and edit their own work.

- **Research Skills**: The students will continue to build their research and Internet skills. They will also be writing a short research paper each semester.

- **Cursive Handwriting**: The students will review and practice the proper letter formation, correct slant, and spacing between letters and words.

Bible

Students will learn how to study the Bible independently using the "topical" method. The topic may consist of a concept, a theme, a word, or a phrase which occurs in a single book, such as Proverbs, or throughout the entire Scriptures. While realizing that the Bible was written by human beings and must be treated as other forms of communication according to the normal rules of grammar and context, the students will also acknowledge that all Scripture is God-breathed and absolute in its authority for doctrine and life. This unit will be closely integrated with the students' studies of grammar, literary analysis, composition, and the use of reference books, such as a concordance. The students also continue their study of biblical conflict solving strategies using The Young Peacemaker.

History

Students cover topics on medieval times, Maryland history, black history, and U.S. geography regions and map skills. History is taught using an interdisciplinary approach which incorporates culture, literature, art, and music related to each topic.

Weekly Specials

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Computer

Kindergarten
Students learn iPad and PC skills while using apps and the internet. Pre-coding skills and small motor coordination are developed while building mouse skills and learning basic gestures.

1st Grade
Students learn iPad and PC skills while using apps and the internet. Pre-coding skills and small motor coordination continues to develop while building mouse skills and learning basic gestures.

2nd Grade
Students learn iPad and PC skills, broadening their application skills, and developing online safety habits. Students learn creative and practical apps while exploring pre-coding skills.

3rd Grade
Students learn iPad and PC skills with email basics, creativity apps, Google suite and Office skills, Google search skills, and file management for apps. Early coding is explored.

4th Grade
Students learn iPad and PC skills, developing email skills and internet responsibility; Google suite and Office skills are deepened. Creativity apps and online coding in Scratch and Micro:bit are explored.

5th Grade
Students learn iPad and PC skills, developing email skills and internet responsibility; Google suite and Office skills are deepened. Creativity apps and online coding in Scratch and Micro:bit are explored.

Music - two sections:

Once per week: Students will learn music theory, composers that reflect different cultures and backgrounds and sing a variety of songs in a fun, age-appropriate way.

Once per week: Additionally, each grade learns:

- **Music Appreciation: students play musical games with scarves, shakers and props to have a solid understanding of loud/soft, fast/slow, beat/rhythm that become the foundation of our musical growth** (Kindergarten & First Grade)
- **How to play Boomwhackers** (Second Grade)
- **How to play Recorder** (Third Grade)
- **How to play Piano** (Fourth Grade)
- **How to play Guitar and learn Medieval Songs culminating in the 'Medieval Feast'.** (Fifth Grade)
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Students may also participate in:

- **Choir:** Open to all 3rd-5th grades meeting 1x a week after school
- **Strings:** Open to all 3rd-5th grades meeting 2x a week during school.
- **Band:** Open to all 4th-5th grades meeting 2x a week during school.

Art

The purpose of this course is to expose the children to a wide variety of artists, and to help them discover their own creativity by imitation as well as experience with a variety of mediums. Students also learn art techniques and the elements of art.

Physical Education

Students participate in weekly fitness, movement, dance, sports, or tumbling/gymnastics.

Library

Weekly reading of different types of literature.

Foreign Language

Spanish - Second & Third Grade (three times weekly)

Our goal is that students will learn Spanish and discover God's amazing creativity in the languages and cultures He created. We will focus on exposing students to the rhythms, sounds, and concepts of the Spanish language. Through materials and activities, students will build a word bank of basic vocabulary and phrases. They will also gain experience in interacting with, and communicating through Spanish. Students will be able to:

- Use greetings with each other and the teacher
- Use appropriate manners vocabulary in context (please, thank you, etc.)
- Count to 10
- Identify colors
- Answer the questions:
    - How many?
    - What color is it?
    - What is it?
    - How old are you?
- Demonstrate comprehension of, and identify members of the family vocabulary
- Demonstrate comprehension of, and identify fruit vocabulary
- Retell simple stories using learned texts
- Use adjectives of size to describe nouns
- Memorize short Bible verses