

NorthCreek Academy

Fifth Grade

Bible

This year the fifth graders will be on a Wisdom Quest through the Bible. They will consider great passages of the Bible and will use various Bible study methods to glean its truths and make application to their own lives. Our challenge is to go beyond just enjoying a good Bible story to actually studying Scripture. Our Bible curriculum allows students to practice what they learn with real life scenarios through role playing and discussions.

Language Arts

Developing effective writing skills and competent oral communication skills is a key component of our Language Arts program. While we continue to learn about grammar, sentence structure, and other mechanics of writing through Shurley English, a major focus in fifth grade is writing thoughtful responses to our reading. We continue practicing researching, note-taking and composition culminating in the fifth grade State Report and monthly book reports. In Language Arts we continue to develop reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary through the use of our literature anthologies and corresponding spelling curriculum. Class literature units fifth graders will be reading include: *Call it Courage*, *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, *Sign of the Beaver*, and *The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe*. Fifth graders continue to practice their keyboarding skills.

History/Social Studies

Fifth grade history begins with a review of Geography and a quick overview of Native American cultures. This is followed by a chronological study of exploration, colonization, the fight for independence, westward expansion, and immigration. Students will complete chapter reviews and produce chapter summaries to chronicle main ideas. Weekly Geography packets reinforce prior learning and introduce new facts and concepts through the use of world maps and legends. Included worksheets afford students the opportunity to practice map skills. There will be special projects and days related to the following studies: Colonial Life, The Civil War, and The States.

Math

In fifth grade, the concepts of fractions and decimals will be further developed, and students will use all four operations with these number types. There will also be an increased emphasis on algebraic thinking. Other topics that are studied include: statistics, geometry, measurement, probability, percents, and proportions. Special attention is given to critical thinking, problem solving, and mental math. Your fifth grader will not only learn to value math, but become a confident problem solver and learn to reason and communicate mathematically as well.

Science

FOSS (Full Option Science System) utilizes a strong, hands-on approach to the world of science. This year's units include: Living Systems, The Water Planet, and Mixtures & Solutions. Each unit is composed of numerous investigations (chapters) complete with a variety of science labs. All labs are constructed in a small learning group environment. Throughout our study, students will investigate the world around them to deepen their understanding of God's creation. There will be special projects and days related to the following studies: Weather Station Project, Chabot Space and Science Center to tie in to our planet investigations, and the San Francisco Exploratorium to coincide with our Life Science Unit.