

## Overview of Fifth Grade Curriculum

**Language Arts, including English, Handwriting, Spelling and Reading: Bob Jones University Press:** In all areas of the language arts program, fifth graders continue to build on and refine skills introduced in earlier grades. Great emphasis is placed on the writing process and use of correct grammar and sentence structure within a variety of writing styles. The particular skills that are taught and/or reviewed include identification of sentences and sentence parts, the correct usage of punctuation, capitalization and quotation of facts, an understanding of synonyms, antonyms and homonyms, dictionary and thesaurus skills, writing letters of various types, making an outline, writing a library research paper, writing book reports, refining creative writing skills, recognizing and diagramming all eight parts of speech, recognizing and diagramming complements and word usage. Correct cursive penmanship is practiced through word exercises, original composition and sentence dictation. Weekly spelling and vocabulary word lists help students refine their spelling skills as well as increase their oral and written vocabulary. As students read from an extensive selection of classic literature and character building stories, they improve their performance in oral reading, comprehension, and speed-reading.

### **Mathematics: Bob Jones Publication**

The goal of Bob Jones Math Curriculum is for students to understand math concepts to become lifelong problem solvers. It contains an integrated Christian content that cultivates a biblical worldview. Students develop problem-solving skills using manipulatives and methods that foster discussion and reflection.

At the fifth-grade level students are introduced to and encouraged to master the following concepts:

- Place Value: identify the ones, hundreds, and thousands; identify the value of digits in a number with 9 or fewer digits; write numbers with nine or fewer digits in standard, expanded, and word form; compare numbers in written in standard, expanded, and word form; rounding; renaming
- Money: determine the value of a set of money; count back change by using coins and dollars; round amounts of money to the place with the greatest value
- Addition and subtraction: complete a missing addend equation with a variable; use variables when adding doubles; add two-, three-, four-, and five-digit numbers with renaming; estimate the sum with rounding; solve a word problem with three addends; estimating differences;
- Fractions: identify the whole and equivalents; identify part of a set and use the correct numerator and denominator to describe it; write the fraction that names the part of a set; determine probability; compare and order like and unlike fractions; add and subtract like fractions; identify proper and improper; add and subtract mixed numbers; determine fractional part of a whole

**History and Geography – ABeka Publications:** During the fifth grade year, students study Old World history and geography. They learn geographical facts including developing an understanding of the following terms: rivers; capitals; mountains; climate; and deserts. In chronological order students travel through time and experience the following events that have led to the development of the world as we know it:

- Fertile Crescent: Cradle of civilization

- Ancient Middle East (followed by a discussion of the Middle East today)
- Countries of Central and Southern Asia
- Countries of the Far East
- Egypt: The Gift of the Nile
- Africa Long Ago
- Africa in Modern Times
- Ancient Greece: Home of Beauty
- Rome: ruler of the Ancient World
- Christianity: The Greatest force in History
- England and the British Isles
- Other Countries of Western Europe
- Countries of Eastern Europe
- Australia: Land Down Under and Beyond

**Science - Bob Jones University Press:** Fifth grade students are led from the known to the unknown with the teaching of important science concepts in the context of things they can see and know. The objective of this type of an approach is to help students really understand basic principles of science rather than merely to teach them science vocabulary. The text presents the world as the creation of God and glorifies Him as its Sustainer and Upholder. Students are introduced to great scientists and naturalists who believed in the Biblical account of Creation. Specific units of study are listed below:

- **Earth Science:**
  - Earth
    - Layers of the earth
    - Soil
    - Minerals
    - Rocks
    - Fossils
    - Layers of the atmosphere
    - Weather
  - Space
- Space technology
- **Life Science:**
  - Living things
    - Dinosaurs
    - Biomes
    - Ecosystems
  - Human body:
    - **Respiratory system**
    - **Circulatory system**
- **Physical Science**
  - Energy
    - Heat
    - Sound
    - Light
  - Matter
    - Measuring matter

- Physical changes
- Atoms and molecules
- Mixtures

**Bible-Association of Christian Schools International: Christ and My Choices:** The fifth graders study of Bible focuses on studying the Old Testament in depth. After an overview of Old Testament, the students discuss the lives of individual personalities of the Old Testament in chronological order. Finally, they focus on the choices, good and bad, that these individuals made. At this point, the children are ready to apply what they have learned to choices they will need to make in their own lives.

Also:

**Computer Introduction and Instruction:** Curriculum skillfully integrates classroom studies with computer skills. Students at all grade levels learn about keyboarding, desktop publishing, data base management, spreadsheets, multimedia presentations and all other components of the Virginia Standards of Learning in the area of technology.

**Music:** In weekly music classes, students learn the fundamentals of rhythm and music theory. In fifth grade, students who have participated in beginning strings in 4<sup>th</sup> grade have the option to take strings in lieu of general music class. For students not enrolled in strings, a worship arts class is available. Students taking Worship Arts support worship during the weekly chapel service.

**Physical Education:** Our physical education teacher helps the students develop large motor skills and knowledge of games with rules.

**Art:** Students have an art class in addition to the art that is integrated the daily program. Students learn about different techniques and about working with different media, as well as receiving an introduction to Art History. They are introduced to famous artists and see how Bible stories and concepts have been illustrated through the centuries with art.

**Spanish:** Conversational Spanish is taught weekly to students through games, stories and song.

**Chapel:** The entire elementary school joins together in the church chapel for a short service each Wednesday morning. This is a time of worship, prayer and testimonies. Classes take turns presenting the weekly lessons. Christ Chapel pastors are frequent visitors.