

Math

“Mathematics” (MacMillan/McGraw-Hill 2005) Math focuses on the fundamental basics for everyday use in math for later years in school and in life. Problems deal with certain objectives for the day along with story problems that bring reality to their math. Areas covered are the traditional adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing plus the learning of place value, decimals, fractions, graphing, geometry, statistics, measurement, and probability.

Music (Musicplay Curriculum 2006)

Music classes (combined with fourth grade) meet twice a week to learn songs for scheduled Sunday services and other music related events during the school year. Band and recorder classes are offered weekly. Some secular songs are learned in the classroom.

Art

Students have a chance to show their own creativity in various areas of art media. Drawing, perspective, contrast, painting, and other areas are introduced. Art generally meets weekly with some projects having extended periods, especially with more than one step required. The class is introduced to works of Kandinsky and participate in an Art Fair every three years. Students study famous artwork from the Minneapolis Institute of Art during Art Appreciation month.

Physical Education

The P.E. programs emphasize participation and good sportsmanship with a strong emphasis on team play, cooperation, self-concepts, fitness, and skill development. With the sixth graders, the students practice and participate in learning skills for sports such as soccer, volleyball, basketball, skiing, floor hockey, softball, bowling, track and field, and physical fitness. The fifth graders also have a recess for free play and other activities.

Computer

Classes meet for three fifteen-minute sessions a week to learn typing skills and some word processing. Simulation software and Power Point skills are included with their social studies curriculum.

**St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran
School****9141 CO RD 101****Maple Grove, MN 55311****763-420-2426**www.stjohnsmg.org**CURRICULUM REVIEW*****FIFTH GRADE******Teacher: Mr. Robert Rehmer*****Principal
Gary L. Volberding**

Religion

“*Voyages*” (CPH 2001) The main purpose of our religion curriculum at fifth grade is to emphasize the Law and Gospel approach in Old Testament stories. There are 120 lessons overall with most stories from the Old Testament. The book ends with selected New Testament stories showing the fulfillment of God’s plan for mankind’s need for a Savior, while the Old Testament stories dwell on the need and promises of a Savior to come.

Memory Work

Daily Bible verses are memorized that coincide with the religion lesson for the day. Tests are given after each five verses memorized. The six chief parts of *Luther’s Small Catechism* is memorized as well. The first five parts have been learned in the previous grades. The section “Office of the Keys and Confession” is new.

Reading

“*Open Court Reading*” (SRA 2002) The fifth grade curriculum applies the idea that students are now at a level where they “read to learn”. Students read most stories individually and are tested on their comprehension, vocabulary, and skills that are related to each story. We also include the Accelerated Reader program, where students are tested on library books that are read. Paperback novels or stories are read as a class with comprehension questions and tests included.

English

“*Language Arts*” (McGraw-Hill 2005) The English curriculum is divided into two areas, grammar and writing. All parts of speech are taught along with capitalization, punctuation, word usage, and other areas of grammar to help improve writing skills. There are various writing assignments included in English. Examples are compare-contrast themes, set of directions, narrative story, description, and poetry. Research writing skills are also introduced.

Spelling

“*Spelling Connections*” (Zaner-Bloser 2002) The spelling curriculum is based on words at the fifth grade level where the student not only learns to spell the word, but also learns the meaning of words and applies them in spelling exercises for each unit. Twenty words are learned in each unit along with five religion words from lessons done in the same week. There are review units every six weeks.

Science

A Closer Look, MacMillan-McGraw-Hill 2007. Our new science curriculum divides science into three main areas. (Life, Physical, and Earth.) Every effort is placed to apply Christian perspectives in all three areas. Various hands on activities and demonstrations are added to supplement concepts learned in these areas of science. Sex education is taught in alternate years. A Science Fair occurs every three years.

Social Studies

“*United States History*” (Harcourt-Brace 2000) The social studies program in fifth grade focuses on American History. The students are introduced to the basic events of different time periods. The basic periods include Native American culture, European exploration, European colonies, American Revolution, foundation of American government, War of 1812, Era of Good Feelings, Mexican-American War, Manifest Destiny, Civil War, Reconstruction, the western frontier, World War I, the Roaring 20’s, the Great Depression, World War II, and the Modern Era. Students also learn important skills like measuring distances on maps and globes, interpreting cartograms, interpreting political cartoons, and using lines of latitude and longitude. Students also use computer simulations like Oregon Trail and Railroad Tycoon to promote a deeper understanding of the different time periods. Social Studies Fair is held every three years.

Current Events

The 5th graders use the “Weekly Reader” for discussion and learning of current events.