

Curriculum: Overview for all Grade Levels

Kindergarten:

- **Kindergarten:** *Bible Truths* Teaches that the Bible is God's Word, aids students in recognizing their need of Christ as personal Savior, encourages Christlikeness in students, instills a desire in students to know more about God, encourages students to apply Bible knowledge to their daily lives.

- ABeka phonics/reading with implementation of Orton Gillingham methodologies
*Details at bottom
- Harcourt Brace materials are used for remediation and enrichment.
- ABeka Math, Science, Social Studies and Handwriting
- Unit Studies: magnets, China, Seasons/Weather, Folk Heroes, Rain Forests; Me, Myself, and I; Seashore, Animals
* These may change periodically.
- Field trips: Madison Ark, Puppetry Guild, New Orleans Trip, Old Capitol
* These may change periodically.
- Art: Students study a featured artist and implement methods.

First Grade:

- **Grade 1:** *A Father's Care* Lessons establish the authority of Scripture, aid children to recognize their need for a savior, familiarize them with basic Biblical stories, encourage practical application of Biblical principles and connect the Bible with historical events and other subjects. Coloring, fill-in-the-blank, cut and paste, multiple choice, crossword puzzles and more comprise an enjoyable and reverent workbook. Also included are hymns, Bible maps, a glossary of Bible terms.

- We use Harcourt Brace Reading, Spelling, Phonics, and the writing process that accompanies every story. Orton Gillingham methodologies are incorporated.
*Details at bottom
- Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
- The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.
- We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar
- AR Enterprise upgrade: Students can take voice recorded AR tests. Students take the STAR Test 4 times a year.
* Details at the bottom under **Assessment**
- ABeka: Math, Science, Social Studies, Handwriting
- Unit Studies: Zoo, Farm, Ocean, Spring, International Day Country Study, Space
* These may change periodically.

- Field Trips: Easter Egg Hunt, MSU Riley Center, Global Wildlife Center
* These may change periodically.

Second Grade:

- **Grade 2: *A Servant's Heart*** Lessons establish the authority of Scripture, aid children to recognize their need for a savior, familiarize them with basic Biblical stories, encourage practical application of Biblical principles and connect the Bible with historical events and other subjects. Coloring, fill-in-the-blank, cut and paste, multiple choice, crossword puzzles and more comprise an enjoyable and reverent workbook. Also included are hymns, Bible maps, a glossary of Bible terms, and catechism.
- We use Harcourt Brace Reading, Spelling, Phonics, and the writing process that accompanies every story.
- Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
- The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.
- Chapter book studies will be done throughout the year. *The Truth About Bats and Penguin Puzzle*
- We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar.
- AR Enterprise upgrade: Students take AR tests but will also incorporate the new vocabulary tests that accompany each story. Students take the STAR Test 3 times a year.
* Details at the bottom under **Assessment**
- ABeka: Math, Science, Social Studies
- Zaner Bloser: Handwriting- Manuscript and Cursive
- Unit Studies: Bats, Penguins
*These may change periodically.
- Field Trips: MS Museum of Natural Science to correlate with bats and New Stage Theatre to correlate with literature
* These may change periodically.

Third Grade:

- **Grade 3: *Following Christ*** Covers many of Christianity's central concepts such as sin and salvation, Gospel events, Christian friends, God's love and more. Hymns, Bible area maps, catechism, and a glossary of Bible terms included.
- We use Harcourt Brace Reading, Spelling, Phonics, and the writing process that accompanies every story.
- Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
- The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.

- Regarding Harcourt Brace Reading: These stories are excerpts from chapter books. Some story units will be extended in length to cover the entire book.
- Extra enrichment activities with comprehension will be done through the ABeka Read and Think Skills Reading Supplement.
- We use current novel studies: Little House in the Big Woods, The Secret of the Maple Tree
- We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar.
- AR Enterprise upgrade: Students will continue to take AR tests but will also incorporate the new vocabulary tests that accompany each story. Students take the STAR Test 3 times a year
 - * Details at the bottom under **Assessment**
- ABeka: Math, Science, Social Studies
- Zaner Bloser: Cursive Handwriting
- Unit Studies: Pioneers, Dramatic Biography Book Reports, Plants, Italy, Walter Anderson
 - * These may change periodically.
- Field Trips: Governor's Mansion and Capitol Building, Natural Science Museum to correlate with plants and Agricultural Museum to correlate with pioneers, New Stage Theatre
 - * These may change periodically.

Fourth Grade:

- **Grade 4:** *God and His People* This text focuses on the dealings of God with His people, from the calling of Moses to the work of the Apostles. Coloring, fill-in-the-blank, cut and paste, multiple choice, crossword puzzles and more comprise an enjoyable and reverent workbook. Includes glossary and catechism.
- We use Harcourt Brace Reading and the writing process that accompanies every story.
- Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
- The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.
- Novel studies are incorporated throughout the year.
- Extra enrichment activities with comprehension will be done through the A Beka Read and Think Skills Reading Supplement.
- Spelling: Harcourt Brace words and challenge words that relate to the story Also, MAIS spelling bee words are included each week.
- We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar.
- AR Enterprise upgrade: Students will continue to take AR tests but will also incorporate the new vocabulary tests that accompany each story. AR test scores are integrated into our overall reading grades. Students take the STAR Test 3 times a year.
 - * Details at the bottom under **Assessment**

- ABeka: math, science, social studies, health
- Houghton Mifflin: MS Studies
- Unit Studies: Germany, State of MS, States and Capitols
 - * These may change periodically.
- Field Trip: Vicksburg
 - * This may change periodically.

Fifth Grade:

- **Grade 5: *Living in God's Love*** Students are guided in learning more about God through the study of His Word. Students will use Bible study aids such as cross-references, a concordance, and a Bible dictionary. The Student Worktext includes bible references for independent Bible study, hymns, Bible area maps, catechism, and a glossary of Bible terms.
 - We use Harcourt Brace Reading and the writing process that accompanies every story.
 - Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
 - The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.
 - Current novel studies: The Bronze Bow; The Egypt Game; A Wrinkle in Time; From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler; The Hiding Place.
 - Extra enrichment activities with comprehension will be done through the A Beka Read and Think Skills Reading Supplement.
 - Spelling: Harcourt Brace words and challenge words that relate to the story Also, MAIS spelling bee words are incorporated each week. A dictation test is also given using the spelling words of the week.
 - We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar.
 - AR Enterprise upgrade: Students will continue to take AR tests but will also incorporate the new vocabulary tests and literacy skills tests that accompany each story. AR test scores are integrated into our overall reading grades. Students take the STAR Test 3 times a year.
 - * Details at the bottom under **Assessment**
 - ABeka: math, science, and social studies
 - Unit Studies: Space, Inventors, Weather, Egypt,
 - * These may change periodically.
 - Field Trips: NASA Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama; Nissan Factory, Environmental Workshop at Camp Wahi
 - * These may change periodically.

Sixth Grade:

- **Grade 6: *Redemption--God's Grand Design*** This text focuses on God's plan of redemption throughout the ages, from Adam & Eve to the Mosaic Covenant to the redemption in Jesus' resurrection. Fill-in-the-blank, charts, literature excerpts, interactive exercises, multiple choice, crossword puzzles and other exercises comprise an enjoyable and reverent workbook.; includes glossary, index, prayer journal, and catechism.
 - We use Harcourt Brace reading and the writing process that accompanies every story.
 - Biblical principles are incorporated into story units.
 - The writing process is taught beginning the first nine weeks and will continue all year.
 - Novel study units are incorporated throughout the year.
 - Extra enrichment activities with comprehension will be done through the ABeka Read and Think Skills Reading Supplement.
 - Spelling: Harcourt Brace spelling words and challenge words that relate to the story. Also, MAIS spelling bee words are incorporated each week.
 - We use Houghton Mifflin Grammar
 - AR Enterprise upgrade: Students take AR tests but will also incorporate the new vocabulary tests and literacy skills tests that accompany each story. AR test grades are incorporated into our overall reading grades. Students continue to take the STAR Test 3 times a year.
 - * Details at the bottom under **Assessment**
 - ABeka: math, science, social studies
 - Unit Studies: science experiments, Canada, Latin America
 - * These may change periodically.
 - Field Trip: Overnight trip to Atlanta, Georgia
 - * This may change periodically

School-wide Reading Enrichment:

Orton-Gillingham: This methodology is incorporated into our Kindergarten and First Grade programs.

Language-based: The Orton-Gillingham approach is based on a technique of studying and teaching language, understanding the nature of human language, the mechanisms involved in learning, and the language-learning processes in individuals.

Multisensory: Orton-Gillingham teaching sessions are action-oriented and involve constant interaction between the teacher and the student and the simultaneous use of multiple sensory input channels reinforcing each other for optimal learning. Using auditory, visual, and kinesthetic elements, all language skills taught are reinforced by

having the student listen, speak, read and write. The approach requires intense instruction with ample practice. The use of multiple input channels is thought to enhance memory storage and retrieval by providing multiple "triggers" for memory. ^[1]

Structured, Sequential, and Cumulative: The Orton-Gillingham teacher introduces the elements of the language systematically. Sound-symbol associations along with linguistic rules and generalizations are introduced in a linguistically logical, understandable order. Students begin by reading and writing sounds in isolation. Then they blend the sounds into syllables and words. Students learn the elements of language--consonants, vowels, [digraphs](#), blends, and [diphthongs](#)—in an orderly fashion. They then proceed to advanced structural elements such as syllable types, roots, and affixes. As students learn new material, they continue to review old material to the level of automaticity. The teacher addresses vocabulary, sentence structure, composition, and reading comprehension in a similar structured, sequential, and cumulative manner.

Bridges:

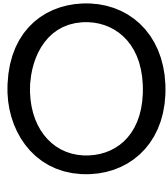
This is a specialized computer lab that uses the Essential Learning Systems program from the Creative Education Institute in Waco, Texas. The program uses a therapeutic approach with activities that link visual, auditory, and motor-kinesthetic pathways. The software uses a multidimensional, therapeutic approach to address the reading, language and learning development needs of students of all ages. It focuses attention to the individual needs of each student. The software provides built-in accountability reports and independent, nationally recognized evaluations.

Learning takes place through a variety of modes. It is most effective when it involves multiple senses. This is called multisensory learning. Our approach focuses on mastery, positive reinforcement and motivation, resulting in significant gains in grade-level equivalencies, test scores, self-esteem and overall performance. This is a multisensory, interactive learning system because it combines speech recordings with graphics and text to provide a stimulating learning environment. It allows each student to work at his own pace. It allows each student to have an individualized curriculum based on mastery.

How can your child benefit from Bridges? Studies show that children who received language enrichment instruction exhibited:

- Higher IQs
- Higher Reading Achievement
- Higher Math Scores

Accelerated Reader Upgrade:



nly Accelerated Reader Enterprise offers unlimited access

to more than 120,000 quizzes on books from publishers around the world so you can give students plenty of guided reading practice at the appropriate level to maximize growth. With so many fun, motivational quizzes, your students can choose books from the school library, the public library, and even from home. With each successive quiz, you'll build more reading excitement among students and create a culture of reading and learning throughout your entire school.

Reading Practice Quizzes

After independent, read aloud, or paired reading, the student takes a short Reading Practice Quiz (many available in both English and Spanish) to measure comprehension. These quizzes are motivational and provide the necessary feedback so teachers can guide student reading.

Recorded Voice Quizzes

Reading Practice Quizzes are available with audio for many primary-level books. When your students take a quiz, a professional narrator reads the questions and the answer choices aloud. Now, even beginning readers can take quizzes on their own, including Spanish Recorded Voice Quizzes.

Literacy Skills Quizzes

Literacy Skills Quizzes help you measure students' proficiency in 24 literacy skills most often assessed on high-stakes standardized tests. Each quiz includes an electronic teacher's guide with a brief summary, main character list, vocabulary words, and questions that prompt discussion.

Accelerated Reader: Each child is required to check books out that fall within their ZPD range. Research shows that the most growth occurs when they check books out in the middle of that range.

Assessment:

STAR: STAR Reading is a reliable, valid and efficient progress-monitoring assessment of general reading achievement and reading comprehension. STAR Reading provides accurate, norm-referenced reading scores for grades 1-12, criterion-referenced measures of students' instructional reading levels, and a way for teachers to track student growth throughout the year.

STAR Reading uses computer –adaptive technology to tailor each student’s test based on responses to previous items. Using STAR Reading, students’ reading abilities are assessed in 10 minutes or less, and the software immediately generates a variety of informative, easy-to-understand reports for teachers and parents.

Stanford 10: The **Stanford Achievement Test Series**, usually referred to simply as the "SAT 9" or "SAT 10" (where the number reflects the series being used), is one of the leading [standardized achievement tests](#) utilized by [school districts](#) in the [United States](#) for assessing children from [kindergarten](#) through [high school](#); it is used to measure academic knowledge of [elementary](#) and [secondary school](#) students. The test is available in 13 levels that roughly correspond to the year in school. Each level of the test is broken into subtests or strands covering various subjects such as [reading comprehension](#), [mathematical problem solving](#), and [science](#).

The tests include three types of questions: [multiple choice](#), short answer, and extended response. Besides requiring a written answer of five or six sentences, the extended response may also require the student to graph, illustrate or show work. Such answers are usually included within the areas of science or mathematics.

Test scores can be reported in several different formats that measure performance in different ways, including a developmental scale, norm-based scores that compare a student's performance with that of a representative [sample](#) of students across the United States, and achievement-to-ability comparisons with scores from the [Otis-Lennon School Ability Test](#).

Otis-Lennon School Ability Test: The **Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT)**, published by [Harcourt Assessment, Inc.](#) — a subsidiary of [Pearson plc](#) — is a [test](#) of abstract thinking and reasoning ability of children pre-K to 18. The Otis-Lennon is a group-administered (except preschool), multiple choice, taken with pencil and paper, measures verbal, quantitative, and spatial reasoning ability. The test yields verbal and nonverbal scores, from which a total score is derived, called a School Ability Index (SAI). The SAI is a normalized standard score with a [mean](#) of 100 and a [standard deviation](#) of 16. With the exception of pre-K, the test is administered in groups. OLSAT is not an [IQ](#) test.

The test has twenty-one subtests, organized into five areas, and an equal number of verbal and non-verbal items is included at each area. The five areas are:

1. Verbal comprehension
2. Verbal reasoning
3. Pictorial reasoning
4. Figural reasoning
5. Quantitative reasoning

Metropolitan Rediness Test: The Metropolitan Readiness Tests (MRT) are designed to assess the development of the cognitive skills necessary for success in beginning reading

and math. We use this assessment with our kindergarten classes and it helps educators 1) to identify students who need special attention to prevent their falling behind, 2) to form instructional groups, and 3) to make curriculum decisions based on group and individual needs.

Technological Integrations with Academics:

Automated Library System:



Destiny Library Manager™ combines circulation, cataloging, searching, reporting and management in one centrally installed library system. Your students and faculty patrons access the system through any workstation with a supported web browser, through your school's network and the Internet.

Destiny Library Manager is an easy-to-use, web-based library management solution that offers:
Integration

- Integrated circulation, cataloging, searching, reporting and library management to help your library work more efficiently.
- Powerful management including searching, interlibrary loan, holds, reporting, and system administration.

Smart Boards:

SMART Board interactive whiteboards



SMART Board is an interactive whiteboard because it helps energize presentations and motivate learners. It is the world's leading interactive whiteboard. Combining the simplicity of a whiteboard with the power of a computer, the SMART Board interactive whiteboard engages students.

The touch-sensitive display connects to your computer and digital projector to show your computer image. You can then control computer applications directly from the display, write notes in digital ink and save your work to share later.

ELMO: In a quick summary, it is a visual presentation tool that anyone can use.

Not only is it easy to use, but set up is a snap as well.

Simply connect the Document Camera with a projector or monitor and just turn it on. All that's left to do is to place the desired object under the camera.

The image size can be enlarged or reduced. Such a simple tool for quick, everyday usage is gaining popularity very rapidly in elementary and junior high classrooms around the world.

It is a favorite ICT (Information & Communication Technologies) tool for daily productive teaching.

There is no waste of time to present almost any study material. Face-to-face teaching can create great class atmosphere and encourage their comprehension. This increases a child's ability to concentrate and peak their interest.

As a result, the class will be filled with better comprehension and learning ability. Furthermore, any study materials in the class, such as homework, projects or textbooks can be captured by the document camera and easily saved on an SD card or computer. All these wonderful materials can be easily found and showed as many times as needed without losing the quality of the original content.

And of course, the benefit does not stop there; document cameras can be used together with an Interactive White Board or Interactive Digital Board to further improve the learning experience.

Using your document camera projecting an enlarged object onto the big screen improves a child's ability to concentrate and develop more curiosity. They can experience a whole new world. Projecting a textbook onto the screen offers a new and better way of communications that can be developed between teacher and student as all eyes will be looking up. This is a great way to create enthusiasm for presentations for both presenter and audience. Students must look up and this gives the teacher a bird's eye view of student participation.