



# FREEDOM PROJECT ACADEMY

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Course Syllabus:

The curriculum for 1<sup>st</sup> grade at FPA places a strong emphasis on the fundamentals of reading, writing, and arithmetic. We prioritize a strong phonics-based program. Students learn listening, writing, and reading skills that will enable them to better understand the English language. Reading brings them new adventures as they go through rich, literature-based stories. They are challenged with comprehension exercises as well as enrichment activities that develop creative thinking. Additionally, students gain consistent practice in number recognition and basic addition and subtraction skills through classroom review and daily worksheets that help reinforce these learning concepts.

### Arithmetic:

Students will gain confidence as they practice and memorize addition and subtraction facts and begin to learn about time, money, place values, shapes, and measurements.

### Reading:

Students will practice their phonetic skills through reading engaging literature-based books, where they will be challenged to think, make comparisons, and contrast in the study guides as well as during class. Literature studies encompass word study, vocabulary, sequencing events, and discussion questions.

### Phonics:

Students apply phonics skills to help them to decode words accurately. They will practice listening, writing, reading, and language skills during class time and throughout their workbook activities and begin to achieve automaticity with the phonetic code.

### English:

Students will practice penmanship skills as well as reading comprehension and word usage skills. Basic grammar concepts including capitalization, proper punctuation and simple sentence structure are also introduced.

### Spelling:

Students will combine spelling with phonics, writing, and other language skills. They will have opportunities for auditory, tactile, and visual learning.

### Handwriting:

Students will learn proper letter formation and have an opportunity to practice printing those letters while writing verses from Scripture.

### History:

Students study geography, including continents, oceans, and landforms like mountains and valleys. They learn about bodies of water, maps, the Jamestown Settlement, and the first 13 colonies. Additionally, they will explore American symbols and hear the stories of inventors and notable presidents.

## Science:

In this God-honoring study of plants, students will begin to learn the exciting world of flowers, trees, and all growing green things from a creation perspective. Engaging in hands-on activities, students will discover how plants grow, the elements needed to stay healthy, and their significant role in God's creation.

## Text/Required Materials:

*McGuffey's First Eclectic Reader (free access)*

*Soft and White*

*At the Farm*

*On the Trail*

Sounds of the Sea

StoryTime Treasures (3rd Edition)

Little Bear

Frog and Toad are Friends

Caps for Sale

Make Way for Ducklings

Billy and Blaze

Blaze and the Forest Fire

The Story of Ping

SRA Phonics 2

A Reason for Handwriting A

Voyages in English 2018 Grade 1 Student Edition

Exploring Creation with Botany Text (optional)

FPA First Grade Arithmetic Workbook

History Stories for Children 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (optional)

## Grading:

Assignments uploaded and submitted into Canvas will be graded as well as any Canvas quizzes. Reading checks are highlighted in yellow and are assigned the same day they are due.

All assignments must be completed by Friday, at 10:59 pm Central Time. However, students in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade are granted a one-day grace period.

## Attendance/Participation:

Students should attend class Monday-Thursday and are expected to actively participate and engage during class time to benefit from direct instruction by the teacher. Please notify the teacher in advance (if possible) of any absences. For extended absences such as a vacation, please notify FPA administration.

## Expectations/Guidelines:

Assignment sheets will be posted by noon Central Time every Friday for the upcoming week. These schedules will include all assignments (Monday-Friday) required for each subject during that week. Teachers will provide feedback and parents are encouraged to review the graded assignments with the student to facilitate learning from any errors made. This approach to partnership with parents, fosters independent learning and growth, instilling confidence in our students.