

FREEDOMPROJECT ACADEMY SYLLABUS

Course: Fourth Grade

Course Description

Fourth grade at FreedomProject Academy is a stimulating grade level for students as it continues to build on previously learned concepts and skills, challenging students to reach their highest potential through active engagement. The history of the modern age is examined, from the early 1800s to the late 1990s, giving students a general overview of major historic events and people during this time period. Mammals, reptiles, amphibians and dinosaurs, along with many suborders of each animal type are covered in science. Students continue to improve their cursive handwriting skills by focusing on proper character alignment, shape, slant and neatness. Language arts abilities continue to be built up through the study of parts of speech, good sentence and paragraph structure, as well as learning various stylistic techniques. Exposure to classics of literature help develop rich vocabulary and comprehension. Rounding out the fourth grade curriculum is the study of Latin as used in both religious and scientific settings with emphasis given to English derivatives and well-known prayers and songs.

Topics of Study

Arithmetic:

Text: *Saxon Math 5/4 An Incremental Development 1st Edition*

Scope: number sense, numeration, numerical operations, measurement, geometry, patterns, relationships, adding three-digit numbers, subtract numbers with regrouping, elapsed time, write numbers, number lines, estimate, divide with two-digit answers, multiply three or more factors, simplify fraction answers, decimals,

Skills Development: Saxon introduces concepts in an incremental, spiral method. Once concepts are introduced, students will continue to encounter these skills throughout the curriculum with a more developed approach to

concepts in later lessons. Over time, students gain mastery through this continued exposure to concepts.

Reading:

Texts: *McGuffey's Fourth Eclectic Reader*

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe with Memoria Press Student Study Guide

Heidi with Study Guide with Memoria Press Student Study Guide

Lassie with Study Guide with Memoria Press Student Study Guide

Scope: vocabulary, comprehension, discussion, compare and contrast, sequencing, inference skills, literary elements, fluent reading

Skills Development: Students will gain an extensive vocabulary through word study and reading these classic novels. Discussions of each chapter give students a deeper understanding of characters, settings, plot, conflict, resolution, and themes. McGuffey's reader gives students practice in oral reading helping to improve fluency in this area.

Latin:

Text: *Latina Christiana I 4th Edition*

Scope: Latin sayings, vocabulary, derivatives, conjugating verbs, declining nouns, sentence translating

Skills Development: Students will learn common Latin sayings along with weekly vocabulary lists which give students a foundation for learning English and foreign languages. Practice in conjugating verbs and declining nouns is practiced throughout the curriculum. A study in English derivatives gives students a strong basis in the English language.

English:

Text: *Building Christian English, Grade 4: Building with Diligence* by Rod & Staff

Scope: oral communication, parts of speech, word study, sentence structure, capitalization, punctuation, types of writing, using resources

Skills Development: Students continue to build on previously learned concepts and skills. Oral communication is practiced by giving reports and telling stories. Identification and proper use of the various parts of speech such as nouns and verbs are focused on. Sentence structure and sentence diagramming as well as paragraph development are taught.

Writing:

Text: *Structure and Style, Year 1 Level A* by Institute for Excellence in Writing

Scope: Outlining, parts of speech, clauses, sentence openers, following checklists, how to write interesting titles

Skills Development: Students begin by reading a source text, making notes and outlining. They then move to writing from notes taken. Retelling narrative stories and summarizing references follows. Students also learn to write stories using a picture prompt. Brainstorming, asking questions and then writing their own story from an outline completes this program.

Spelling:

Text: *Spelling By Sound and Structure* by Rod and Staff

Scope: phonetics, building words, using words, dictionary skills

Skills Development: Students complete exercises for twelve new words and four review words each week. Each lesson's focus is on the phonetic sounds and letters common in each word list, learning the meaning(s) of each word, along with building onto existing words.

Handwriting:

Text: *A Reason For Handwriting Level D*

Scope: size, spacing, alignment, shape, and slant of cursive alphabet letters

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

History:

Texts: *Story of the World Volume 4*

Story of the World Activity Book Volume 4

Scope: the modern age– from Queen Victoria in the early 1800s to the collapse of the USSR in the early 1990s, comprehension questions and answers, maps, projects, suggestions for additional history readings, year-long timeline assignment

Skills Development: Students will read the exciting stories of modern times while having an opportunity to complete projects along with a timeline to help reinforce what they are learning. Class time will consist of discussion of the stories along with engaging activities.

Science:

Text: *Exploring Creation with Zoology 3, Land Creatures of the Sixth Day* by Apologia

Scope: canines, felines, ungulates, marsupials, primates, rodents, reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs, insects, arachnids, gastropods, worms

Skills Development: Students keep a record of where each animal is found on a map and learn to identify animal tracks. They also enjoy many hands-on projects and experiments throughout the course. Students will participate in a year-long project creating their own zoo to demonstrate knowledge of animal habitats.

Class Expectations:

Attendance/Participation:

Students are expected to attend class Monday-Thursday. They will be encouraged to participate and engage during class time. Participation (or lack thereof) affects each student's grade.

Assignment Sheets:

Assignment Sheets will be posted by Sunday evening for the following week. They will include all assignments (Monday-Friday) that need to be complete for each subject for that week. Assignments in black are to be completed at home and checked by a parent. Assignments in red must be scanned and uploaded into

Canvas. Assignments in blue are completed online in the student's Canvas account.

Grades:

Assignments turned into Canvas will be graded as well as any quizzes and tests that are completed in Canvas. There will also be reading and math evaluations that will be conducted in class by the teacher.

Due Dates:

All assignments for the week are due on Friday by 10:59 p.m. CT.