



FREEDOM PROJECT ACADEMY

Course Syllabus

5th Grade

Course Description:

FPA offers a rigorous classical education to students of all ages. The fifth-grade experience is a transitional year focused on assisting your student in making the change from elementary to middle school. Using Saxon Math 65 for Arithmetic, teachers challenge and support students with fundamental mathematical concepts. After completing Rod and Staff's English 5, your student will be confidently diagramming sentences, able to define parts of speech and use words properly within the English language. Writing skills are honed using a combination of Rod and Staff curriculum and IEW's (The Institute for Excellence in Writing) outline-rewrite concepts. Our focus on classical literature exposes students to historically accurate novels that trigger the imagination and build impressive vocabularies. Apologia's Anatomy and Physiology course explores the amazing wonders of the human body and the manifestation of God's awesome creation. Although we take a break from history in fifth grade, our study of United State Geography incorporates a vast array of historical facts while cementing geographical concepts and knowledge of our country's geographical features. Latin, which enhances our grasp of English grammar and vocabulary, is an introduction to the language's structure. It is an appropriate beginning point. We continue to explore language with Rod and Staff's Spelling program that systematically teaches vowel and consonant rules through syllables as they apply to complete words. Appropriately completing our program is the Reason for Handwriting manuscript instruction and practice course. Our fifth-grade team works diligently to ensure that your student is adequately prepared for higher education.

Arithmetic:

Students will gain confidence with a thorough review of previous mathematical concepts. As they continue to build on fundamental arithmetic, they will be taught a complete approach to fractions and decimals. Daily lessons in the classroom and problem sets completed as homework help reinforce these learning concepts.

Reading:

Students are asked to read slightly above their comfort level to develop into superior readers. Literature study guides train students to become active readers. Our guides focus on vocabulary, comprehension, and composition skills. Each lesson includes a word study to help students build vocabulary. The comprehension questions challenge students to consider what they have read, identify the important content of each story, and compose clear, concise answers (a difficult skill at any age). Using our study of Literary Analysis, students are introduced to setting and its importance to its story, plot, conflict, character development critiques, and theme. Because of their clarity, children's stories provide the best opportunities for learning these elements. Discussion of these elements as a class enable students to recognize components of literature even on their own. Literary Analysis skills and terminology are then applied to our novels providing a continual learning regime.

English:

Students will have practice in parts of speech, sentence diagramming, word usage skills, and the introduction of grammar concepts, and the study of poetry and memorization.

Spelling:

Students will combine spelling with phonics practice as they build important spelling skills.

Latin:

Students will practice translating, conversation, learn common sayings, derivatives, songs and prayers. Weekly assignments and tests will assist in helping to build solid skills and retain learning concepts.

Handwriting:

Students will practice proper letter formation while writing verses from Scripture. Prior proper letter formation is assumed in this text book, but may be practiced simultaneously.

Writing:

Institute of Excellence in Writing: Teacher Directed. Students will learn strategies taught in a clear manner that quickly improve writing skills using a repertoire of writing techniques that will be used across the curriculum. They will learn outlining skills that assist in creating well organized, cohesive paragraphs.

Geography:

Major geographical regions and landform of the US, memorization of the location and capital of each state. Interesting information about the Geography and major cities of each state will be discussed. Children will be continually exposed to map work and study.

Science:

Students will begin to learn about the wonders of the human body with a creation viewpoint through instruction and hands-on experiments. They will learn to explain and illustrate different scientific terms. They will practice using the Scientific Method and complete lab reports.

Text/Required Materials:

McGuffey's Fifth Eclectic Reader (free access)
The Door in the Wall Study Guide
The Door in the Wall Book
Story of Rolf and the Viking Adventure Comprehension Guide
Story of Rolf: A Viking Adventure Book
Caddie Woodlawn (study guide provided by FPA)
Adam of the Road Student Guide
Adam of the Road Book
Rod & Staff Grade 5 Spelling Workbook
A Reason for Handwriting Level E
Rod & Staff Following the Plan Textbook
Rod & Staff Following the Plan Workbook
Rod & Staff Following the Plan Tests

Text/Required Materials: (cont'd)

Saxon 6/5 Text 1st Edition (optional)

Apologia Human Anatomy and Physiology Text

Human Anatomy & Physiology Notebooking Journal

Abeka The History of Our United States in Christian Perspective, Fourth Edition

Latina Christiana 1 Student 4th Edition

Grades:

All assignments turned into Canvas will be graded by instructors within one week of the due date.

Attendance/Participation:

Students are expected to attend class Monday-Thursday. They are expected to participate and engage during class time. Please notify the teacher in advance (if possible) if any classes will be missed.

Expectations/Guidelines:

Assignment Sheets will be posted by the Friday prior to the start of the week the assignments outline. They will include all assignments (Monday-Thursday) that need to be done for each subject for that week. Assignments in black can be done at home and checked by a parent. Assignments in red need to be scanned and uploaded into Canvas. They may not be emailed to the teacher. All assignments for the week are due on Thursday, and close Friday. Homework should be submitted by Thursday with Friday as a day to finalize a few assignments.

The administration and teachers of FreedomProject Academy are steadfast in our efforts to provide an excellent education for our students. This requires vigilance as practices and trends promoting mediocrity and low standards abound in government schools and private schools of all kinds.

Excellence in education begins with an evaluation of the student's independently completed work. The recent trend of resubmitting assignments after receiving teacher feedback leads to better grades but is not an accurate evaluation of a student's independent skill level. This practice stems from Common Core/ No Child Left Behind/Outcome-Based Education and puts the emphasis on grades (outcome). An excellent education is focused on learning and the student's growth not just outcome.

Our grading policy is designed to promote learning and student growth. For clarity, once an assignment is submitted, no resubmission will be accepted. Much effort is taken to grade and provide feedback. It is the parent's responsibility to review graded assignments with the child for the purpose of learning from mistakes. This permits the parent and teacher to direct the growth of each uniquely individual child with accurate knowledge.