



FREEDOMPROJECT ACADEMY

4th Grade Course Syllabus:

The 4th-grade curriculum at FPA is designed to engage students and foster their growth by expanding on foundational knowledge while encouraging active participation. Through exposure to classical literature, students enhance their vocabulary, comprehension, and analytical skills. The mathematics curriculum challenges them to excel in more complex arithmetic concepts. Integration of biblical perspectives into subjects like science and Latin provides a comprehensive approach to education, enriching their understanding across diverse disciplines.

Arithmetic:

Our curriculum provides an incremental, spiral method to introduce complex arithmetic concepts. By progressively building on prior knowledge, students consistently encounter these skills throughout the curriculum, each time with a more refined understanding in subsequent lessons. Through this approach, students gradually attain mastery over increasingly more complex problems.

Reading:

By engaging in word study and reading these timeless novels, students will continue to broaden their vocabulary. Analyzing each chapter facilitates a richer comprehension of characters, settings, plots, conflicts, resolutions, and themes. Through exercises in oral reading, students will enhance their fluency skills, thereby strengthening their overall proficiency.

English:

Students build upon prior knowledge, focusing on parts of speech, sentence structure, and paragraph development by exploring various stylistic techniques. Communication skills are further developed through activities such as giving presentations and narrating stories. Special attention is given to the identification and proper application of different parts of speech as well as demonstrating sentence diagramming with more complex sentence structure.

Spelling:

Students complete exercises for twelve newly introduced words and review four previously learned words each week. The lessons emphasize phonetic sounds and rules found in the word lists, while also focusing on understanding the meaning of each word to expand existing vocabulary.

Latin:

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

Cursive Writing:

These lessons integrate faith with the fundamentals of cursive writing. Students will engage in writing Scripture verses while honing proper letter formation. Mastery of proper letter formation is assumed yet can be reinforced through simultaneous practice.

History:

The history curriculum presents pivotal figures, conflicts, and advancements that have shaped the course of human history. Students will learn about the Victorian Era, The American Civil War, and the period of westward expansion, alongside significant global events like World War I, World War II, and contemporary American history including the War on Terror. Each topic is enriched with engaging activities and maps to facilitate learning.

Science:

Students explore the vast array of God's magnificent creatures. The study of mammals offers insight into adaptation and ecological interactions while reptiles reveal the wonders of cold-blooded physiology. Continued studies of amphibians provide valuable clues to the unique dual life of water and land while dinosaurs continue to unveil the secrets of ancient ecosystems. Students engage in a year – long project creating a zoo to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of different animal habitats.

Text/Required Materials:

McGuffey's Fourth Eclectic Reader (free access)

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe Student Guide

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe Book

Heidi Student Guide

Heidi Book

Lassie, Come Home Student Guide

Lassie, Come Home Book

Rod & Staff Grade 4 Spelling Workbook

A Reason for Handwriting Level D Student

Rod & Staff Building with Diligence Textbook

Rod & Staff Building with Diligence Worksheets

Rod & Staff Building with Diligence Tests

FPA Arithmetic book

Apologia Exploring Creation with Zoology 3: Land Animals of the 6th Day Student Text

Zoology 3 Notebooking Journal

Latina Christiana 1 Student 4th Edition

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.

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.