

## **FIFTH Grade: Curriculum Summary**

The program of instruction in fifth grade classes at Brentwood Christian School includes a wide variety of developmentally appropriate activities and studies. Teachers write curriculum for each area of study based upon the school's philosophy and goals. In areas where texts are used, the teachers review publications from both Christian and secular publishers, select the best material, and write curriculum which employs that material. Studies and activities in each class are based upon the following guidelines:

**BIBLE** – Features a thorough New Testament study that begins with an examination of the book of Luke to establish a foundation in the life and teachings of Christ and continues with close scrutiny of the history of the early church in the book of Acts.

**CHAPEL** – Is held weekly with K4 through 5th grade in attendance; about once every six weeks an all-school chapel assembly is held. Chapel services have lessons that focus on character traits growing out of scriptural lessons and include singing and prayer. Most chapel services conclude with the principal's announcements or recognitions.

**LANGUAGE ARTS** – Includes reading, spelling, English, and handwriting. Applies vocabulary, comprehension, and reading study skills in all content areas. Applies spelling patterns, basic grammar, usage, and punctuation skills in writing processes such as proofreading and editing. Integrates literature themes and content with history, Bible studies, and other content areas. Uses listening, speaking, and writing skills to produce poetry, reports, short stories, and essays. Requires reading from anthologies as well as complete novels; encourages daily independent reading at home.

Texts currently in use: Reading Workshop, Writing Workshop, Evan Moor *Language Fundamentals*, and selected trade books.

**MATHEMATICS** – Reviews the four basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) using whole numbers, including multiplication with several-digit multipliers and division with multiple-digit divisors and quotients; teaches computation using all four operations with decimals, fractions, and mixed numbers; explores concepts of number relationships, measurement, estimation, and geometry; introduces algebraic reasoning. Applies concepts and skills in problem-solving activities.

Text currently in use: *EnVision Math*, Pearson, and selected trade books.

**SCIENCE** – 5th grade has adopted *Science Fusion* by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH), which focuses on small group, hands-on explorations of real-world science activities, and STEM projects.

This program starts the lesson with a small-group investigation where students collaborate to make observations and record results in data notebooks. The investigation is followed by

readings from science materials and group discussions. Each lesson makes real-world and cross-curricular connections to make the learning relevant. It is aligned to TEKS and integrated into BCS grade level standards. It cycles through life science, earth science, and physical science through the school year, providing a balanced science curriculum each year.

**SOCIAL STUDIES** – Examines physical environment, government, religion, technology, and economics in studying the historical development of the United States of America. Applies skills in reading, reference use, geography, and study strategies in interdisciplinary activities; includes activity-based projects and projects requiring group and individual research. Uses field trips, including an overnight trip to Corpus Christi to stay on board the World War II vessel U.S.S. Lexington and a visit to the Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco, to enrich studies of our free enterprise system.

Texts currently in use: *The United States*, published by Harcourt.

**SPANISH** – Taught by an experienced Spanish teacher; provides opportunity to learn basic vocabulary and practice correct pronunciation; is based on the premise that acquaintance with another language and culture is important in broadening students' horizons and reminding them of the value of all people in God's sight and of all languages and cultures.

**FINE ARTS** – Provides choice of two among three possible options: band, art, and choir; students attend classes in their two choices on alternating days, with these features:

- **Band** – Provides beginning instruction in all aspects of instrumental performance, including theory and technique (fingering, scales, tonality, breathing); prepares students for performance in concerts and other programs during the fall, winter, and spring, as well as some outside performances at retirement homes, malls, and other settings.
- **Choir** – Provides continued instruction in sight-reading as well as in other aspects of vocal performance, including breathing, vocal tone, blend, and harmony; prepares students for performance in concerts and programs during the fall, winter, and spring, as well as some outside performances at retirement homes, malls, and other settings.
- **Art** – Provides instruction in the use of a wide variety of media with a wide variety of techniques, including drawing (pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, colored pencil), painting (watercolor, tempera, acrylic), sculpture, paper-mâché, carving, three-dimensional constructions, and paper construction.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** – Taught by physical education teachers; students participate four times per week in forty-minute physical education classes taking place in the gym and on outdoor fields; includes conditioning exercises, physical games and activities, and development of athletic skills. Provides opportunity for students to participate on teams in voluntary

interscholastic competition with other area schools; includes soccer, basketball, cross country, flag football for boys, and volleyball for girls.

**COMPUTER LAB** – Taught weekly in an extended class by a trained computer teacher. Students will focus on mastering the skills introduced earlier and increasing their level of expertise. They will learn to apply more complex calculations to spreadsheets and work more with databases. They will learn to use more advanced communication tools. Advanced students may also begin using basic HTML code to create web pages. During the fourth quarter, students will continue learning basic coding/programming, beginning with Hour of Code and then moving to a programming website called Scratch. This curriculum is used to enhance language arts, math, science, and social studies skills.

Text currently in use: *Easy Tech*, Learning.com. Students will learn to communicate, construct, evaluate, collaborate, and create using technology.

**LIBRARY** – Features a 45-minute class once a week where students are exposed to quality children's literature and have the opportunity to check out books.

**FIELD TRIPS** – Taken in connection with and to enhance subject area studies; destinations include the U.S.S. Lexington and the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco, Village Christian Apartments, National Museum of the Pacific War, and Austin Symphony's annual Young People's Concert.

**RECESS** – A twenty-five minute daily playtime in an outdoor play area provides an opportunity for unstructured recreation.

**HOMEWORK** – Assigned daily; includes independent reading, spelling mastery, math computation, studying for chapter and unit tests in social studies and science, Bible reading and memory work, and work on independent study projects. See Handbook for time guidelines for each grade.