

# *Northshore Christian Academy*

## KINDERGARTEN – 5<sup>TH</sup> CURRICULUM GUIDE 2009-2010



## *Northshore Christian Academy Experience Excellence*



*Northshore Christian Academy exists as a partner with parents to provide a superior Christian education, which includes developing spiritual, academic and personal excellence in a Christ-centered environment.*



# FULL & HALF DAY KINDERGARTEN OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

### CLASSROOM STRUCTURE

Self contained. Basic skill areas.

### Specialists (full day program only)

Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

### TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO

22:2 - Includes a half-day Educational Assistant

### SCHOOL DAY

**Half Day** 8:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Morning recess - 15 minutes

**Full Day** 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Morning recess - 15 minutes

Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes

Afternoon recess - Varies

### SPIRITUAL LIFE

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Emphasis is placed on relating our Christian faith to our everyday experiences and decisions. Our theme, "Firmly Planted", is indicative of our prayer for the students. Emphasis is on God as our creator, our protector and our redeemer, as our teacher and friend, God as our helper and planner of our future as we study the lives of Joseph, Esther and Moses. Bible stories depict how unique and special each student is to God and how much He cares for them. Students will begin a Biblical worldview by being "firmly planted" in the word of God through daily study of the Bible and weekly Bible verse memorization.

**Chapel:** Students are active participants in chapel each week, singing and praising God, they enjoy listening and learning more about Him and His Word through guest speakers. Puppet shows, object lessons, interactive question and answering, worship, prayer and praise are an integral part of chapel.

### ACADEMIC LIFE

**Reading/Language Arts:** Recognition and use of consonants and short vowels to decode and encode are taught as a love of learning to read is captured at this early age. Students acquire an appreciation for literature through written and oral experiences. Students learn to read books by January. Reading groups are established at this time so that children can grow in their reading skills at their learning pace. Students develop writing skills by learning the fundamental skills of spelling, sentence structure and handwriting skills.

**Math:** Students learn about God's perfect order and patterns through the study of math. Students solve problems through the use of math concepts of addition, subtraction, money values (base ten), clock times, linear measurement and simple graphing.

**Social Studies:** Emphasis is placed on learning how special God has made each child, each family, and the community we live in. Students are introduced to the Pacific Northwest through simple map skills, making comparisons to how we live and work, and to children around the world. Themes include apples, "me",

pumpkins, weather, seasons (fall, winter, spring), Easter, presidents. We compare/contrast our culture with other cultures through special projects like Flat Stanley and Flat Stacy. Study of community helpers, through real contact with firefighters, police officers, pilots, dentists, doctors, etc., is highlighted.

**Science:** Students learn about the solar system, plant life cycles, weather and zoology throughout the year. Students learn how God created the heavens and earth through the study of animal and plant life cycles, earth and space, and how the 5 senses work together in our wonderful bodies that God created.

**Art:** Meet the Master's Art curriculum introduces students to 7 famous artists and their artistic techniques. They learn basic art theory and practice some of those simple techniques. Emphasis is on learning about and participating in a variety of art mediums. Art is used to teach appreciation for God's beauty and design.

**Computers:** The emphasis is on learning about the computer and developing an understanding of the tools and features of the Kid Pix paint program through various projects.

**Library:** Emphasis is on book care, reviewing ABC order, library citizenship, and an introduction to various authors.

**Spanish:** Students use gestures and props to demonstrate their understanding of colors, numbers 1-20, parts of the body, animals, verbs and adjectives, days of the week and songs, all of which lead to understanding stories, performing skits and games. They then learn to recite vocabulary and can dialogue using daily greetings.

**Music:** Emphasis is on singing, movement to music, identifying names of the notes C-G, and rhythmic activities. Students also participate in group singing, rhythm and musical games to reinforce concepts being learned in math, science and language. Students develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music and the use of instruments.

**P.E.:** Students learn age-appropriate physical development and fitness. They learn competence in useful physical skills, enjoyment of recreation and developing a desirable self-concept through success and applying fairness and cooperation in group situations. There are skills testing on basic elements.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** There are two or three field trips per year, which vary, some field trips may be: a play at the children's theatre; riding a ferry boat, visit a petting zoo, farm or bakery.

**Events:** Christmas Concert, Kindergarten Graduation, Muffins with Mom, Dad and Daughter Square Dance, Grandparents Day, Missions Month, Walk-a-Thon

**Missions:** Emphasis is on helping others: locally, regionally, and worldwide. Students are taught to reach out and share with others. We focus on a country during Missions Month.

## TEXTBOOKS

**Bible:** *God and Me*, ACS1

**Reading/Language Arts:** *Storytown*, Harcourt Brace; *Phonics*, A Beka and Open Court.

**Handwriting:** *Handwriting Without Tears*, Jan Z. Olson, OTR

**Math:** *Kindergarten Math*, Saxon Math 2007

**Social Studies:** Educator-developed materials

**Science:** Foss Kits

## KINDERGARTEN READINESS

**Children should be able to:**

- Print their first name
- Recognize and name letters of the alphabet
- Recognize and name numbers 1 through 10
- Self-sufficient in self-care (toilet training, tying shoes)
- Independent in basic skills (lunch, separation anxiety, blowing nose)



# FIRST GRADE OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

### **CLASSROOM STRUCTURE**

Self contained. Basic skill areas.

**Specialists:** Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

### **TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO**

22:2 - Includes a half-day Educational Assistant

### **SCHOOL DAY**

8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes

Afternoon recess - Varies

### **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Stories of the Bible come to life when students read and hear from the "Read with Me" Bible. These familiar stories are expanded so that the students learn about God's gifts: the earth, family, friends, salvation, the church, and a way of life. Stories relate to Christian living, covering subjects such as obedience, kindness, honesty and keeping promises. Character First curriculum is used weekly to teach a variety of character traits.

**Bible Memorization:** One verse per week.

**Chapel:** Emphasis is on students' involvement in praising and singing in a weekly worship environment, with exposure to practical Christian beliefs through guest speakers, character quality awards and student of the month awards.

### **ACADEMIC LIFE**

**Reading/Language Arts:** Students learn to recognize and use the logical phonics system, coupled with reading texts that are interesting, and challenging. Phonics is taught by orally teaching and reviewing phonics charts and flashcards and by applying these sounds to other words. Activities include personal reading, silent reading, partner reading, small group reading and for listening to stories being read aloud. To encourage reading at home, there is an exciting reading incentive program. Students are required to do two book reports at home. Highly motivated students are encouraged to participate in our Accelerated Reading program.

**Handwriting:** Emphasis is placed on correct pencil position. Students learn traditional manuscript and neat writing is emphasized as an important communication skill.

**Writing:** Students have many opportunities for writing: journal writing, creating class books, letter writing, poetry and creative writing. For creative writing, the Six Trait Writing program introduces sentence formation, ideas, sentence fluency, voice, conventions, word choice and organization. Students write several reports on thematic projects: Ocean Animal Report, Bird Report, Reptile and a Rainforest Animal Report.

**Spelling:** Emphasis is on learning and using spelling rules, coupled with a strong foundational phonics system, word lists, ongoing spelling in class and at home, and weekly dictation sentence tests which build a strong spelling foundation in every student.

**Math:** Students gain skills in accurate counting, number writing, reading numerals, place value, addition and subtraction, problem solving, money, logical thinking, graphing, calendar, measuring, time, fractions, temperature and the basic concept of multiplication. The use of manipulatives and math games reinforce

important concepts and students are challenged to excel. Bi-weekly timed speed drills are performed to ensure accuracy in subtraction and addition.

**Social Studies:** Students learn about colonial days, community systems, national holidays and other special days. In geography, students learn about where they live (our city, major cities around us, and our state). Students learn map skills and are introduced to symbols and terms, directions on a map, locations and names of the major oceans, locations of Canada, U.S., Mexico, Arctic and Antarctic, and they are introduced to the states.

**Science:** Emphasis is on the major animal groups and their habitats. Spiders and the food chain are also a highlight to learning science. Students study botany, magnets, geology and entomology.

**Art:** Students study seven famous artists each year. They study their artwork and techniques that has made their artwork world renowned. Students learn new art techniques using various mediums.

**Computers:** The emphasis is on learning the tools and features of a paint program and applying those skills to advanced projects.

**Library:** Students continue to cover ABC order and begin study on authors and illustrators, how a book is laid out (title, title page, table page, picture page), and the difference between fiction and non-fiction.

**Music:** Emphasis is on voice training, rhythm clapping exercises, and increasing knowledge of names of notes in the treble clef. Hands-on projects are an integral part of this program.

**P.E.:** Students learn the basic skills and rules of the following sports: flag football, hockey, volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball, juggling, speedball, Lacrosse, track orienteering and Taekwondo. Building physical skills include balance, flexibility, muscle strength, cardiovascular endurance, agility, coordination, speed and reaction time. Students learn to develop a willingness to try new activities, to respect others, to follow directions, and to show good sportsmanship at all times.

**Foreign Language (Spanish):** Students use gestures and props to demonstrate their understanding of colors, numbers 1-20, parts of the body, animals, verbs and adjectives, days of the week and songs, all of which lead to understanding stories, performing skits and games. They learn to recite vocabulary and dialogue using daily greetings.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** Woodland Park Zoo, Children's Theater Play

**Concerts:** Christmas and Best of the Elementary Concert

**Classroom Highlights:** Charlotte's Web Party, Teddy Bear Picnic, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas Party, Aloha to First Grade, 100th Day Celebration, Reading Celebrations, and Resurrection Sunday Celebration.

**Events:** Speech Meet, Spelling Bee, Missions Month, Safety Fair, Grandparents Day, Walk-a-Thon, Mother's Day Tea, Dad and Daughter Square Dance

**Afterschool Clubs:** Chess, Scrabble science, Art, scrapbooking, folk dancing, aeronautic club, craft club, drama (offered on a rotating basis).

## TEXTBOOKS

**Bible:** *Read with Me Bible; Character First*

**Reading/Language Arts:** *Letters and Sounds 1, A Beka; Language 1, A Beka; Spelling and Poetry 1, A Beka*

**Writing:** *Six-Trait Writing; Manuscript A, Concerned Communications*

**Math:** *First Grade Math, Saxon Math*

**Social Studies:** *Heritage Studies Bob Jones Press*

**Science:** *Federal Way Science Kits, Foss Kits*

**Handwriting:** *Handwriting Without Tears, Jan Z. Olson, OTR*



# SECOND GRADE OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

### **CLASSROOM STRUCTURE**

Self contained. Basic skill areas.

**Specialists:** Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

### **TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO**

22:1

### **SCHOOL DAY**

8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes

Afternoon Recess - Varies

### **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Emphasis is on praise, worship, and prayer and the application of these in the student's daily life. A chronological study of Genesis through Judges is taught throughout the year. Bible stories are learned using multi-sensory lessons.

**Bible Memorization:** Weekly Bible memorization. Verses apply to our topic of study.

**Chapel:** Emphasis is on students' involvement in praising and singing in a weekly worship environment, with exposure to practical Christian beliefs through guest speakers, character quality awards and student of the month awards.

### **ACADEMIC LIFE**

**Reading/Language Arts:** Student's gain confidence and skills in reading, writing, and speaking throughout the year. A phonics based program along with other strategies build reading fluency, expression, speed and comprehension. Chapter books are introduced in the reading program. Students are assigned daily reading homework. Accelerated Reading is used to provide enrichment.

**Writing/Spelling:** Emphasis is on writing foundations, using creative stories, book reports, biographies and a short science report. Instruction includes the Six-Trait Writing program: using ideas, sentence fluency, voice, conventions, word choice and organization. Students are taught the writing process: brainstorm, evaluate, revise, edit, and publishing. They use the "most frequently missed word list" for challenge words in Spelling. Reports are done on Presidents, Christmas around the world, Pilgrims, Thanksgiving, dinosaurs and the human body.

**Math:** New math concepts are introduced through whole group instruction and then the students work independently to practice and solidify these concepts. A variety of manipulatives and math games are used to reinforce important concepts. Concepts taught include: counting, place value, addition and subtraction, problem solving, money, geometry, logical thinking, Roman numerals, graphing, calendar, measuring, time, fractions, temperature, multiplication and division. To help students learn math facts, teachers use speed drills and music. The students work at individual levels on math mastery facts. The Accelerated Math program is available to challenge students who are at a high performance level.

**Social Studies:** Learning focuses on colonial days, important US history events and famous Americans who were part of those events. Topics include Black History Month, Lincoln and the Civil War, Washington and the Revolutionary War, Thomas Jefferson and many other famous Americans. Students are introduced to geography: the continents, the major oceans and are introduced to the states and their capitals. Students also learn all the Presidents of the United States.

**Science:** Students learn to enjoy God's creation as they explore weather, nutrition, dinosaurs, zoology and the intricate human body.

**Art:** Students study seven famous artists each year such as: Monet, Picasso, van Gogh, Cassatt, Homer, Mondrian, and Escher. They study their artwork and techniques that have made their artwork world renowned. Students learn art theory and techniques through hands on art projects that build art skills using various mediums.

**Computers:** The emphasis is on learning the tools and features of our Kid Pix paint program and applying those skills to advanced projects.

**Library:** Students learn about book care, title and copyright, table of contents, book index, and illustration pages.

**Music:** Emphasis is on developing the singing voice, rhythmic dictation, xylophones, pianos, and classical composers. Hands-on activities are incorporated in every class.

**PE:** Students learn the basic skills and rules of the following sports: flag football, hockey, volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball, juggling, speedball, Lacrosse, track orienteering and Taekwondo. Building physical skills include balance, flexibility, muscle strength, cardiovascular endurance, agility, coordination, speed and reaction time. Students learn to develop a willingness to try new activities, to respect others, to follow directions, and to show good sportsmanship at all times.

**Spanish:** Students build their Spanish language skills through weekly practice, skits, songs and multi-sensory activities. Through immersion teaching strategies and role-playing techniques they learn the days of the week, numbers, weather, classroom objects, feelings, numbers 20-100, positions, buildings, communities and customs. Along with learning adjectives, verbs and nouns, they begin to express ideas in Spanish using their growing Spanish vocabulary.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** Children's Museum, Pioneer Farms, Pacific Science Center

**Concerts:** Christmas, Best of Elementary and Grandparents Day

**Classroom Highlights:** Memorizing the books of the Bible, Presenting the 2nd Grade Parade of Presidents and the Mayflower play, Human Body Project, Friday Math Games, Learning multiplication facts, Accelerated Reading program, chapter books

**Events:** Speech Meet, Spelling Bee Missions Month, Safety Fair, Grandparents Day, Walk-a-Thon, Mother's Day Tea, Dad and Daughter Square Dance

**Afterschool Clubs:** Chess, Scrabble science, Art, scrapbooking, folk dancing, aeronautic club, craft club, drama (offered on a rotating basis).

## TEXTBOOKS

**Bible:** *NIV Bible*, International Bible Society

**Reading/L.A.:** *Student Books*, A Beka; *Letters and Sounds 2*, A Beka; *Language 2*, A Beka; *Spelling and Poetry 2*, A Beka

**Handwriting:** *A Reason for Writing Transition Workbook*, Concerned Communications

**Math:** Saxon Math

**Social Studies:** Heritage Studies (Bob Jones)



# THIRD GRADE OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

### **CLASSROOM STRUCTURE**

Self contained. Basic skill areas.

**Specialists:** Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

**TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO:** 22:1

**SCHOOL DAY:** 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.                      Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes

### **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Biblical principles are integrated throughout the curriculum. In-depth study is given to the life of Christ and the building of the church. The books and major themes of the books of the Bible are learned through interactive visuals and music.

**Bible Memorization:** Students are encouraged to "hide God's Word in their hearts" by memorizing a scripture passage each week.

**Chapel:** One day each week, students attend Chapel with other classes. They enjoy worship through singing, Bible lessons, character trait awards, and student of the month awards. They are inspired to expand their faith and put into practice what they hear from guest speakers, who challenge them to live a Godly life.

### **ACADEMIC LIFE**

**Language Arts:** Emphasis is on sentence and paragraph formation, capitalization, punctuation, plurals, contractions, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, proper grammar usage, dictionary skills and parts of speech. Transfer of these lifelong skills to other content areas is also practiced.

**Spelling:** Students expand their phonetic and spelling rule skills and practice applying these skills in everyday writing. They are challenged through standardize and challenge lists and develop according to their abilities.

**Writing:** Emphasis is on writing paragraphs, letters, stories in first and the third person, book reports, poetry, fairy tales, and short research reports using the Six-Trait Writing process. This program teaches students to evaluate writing for ideas, sentence fluency, voice, conventions, word choice, and organization.

**Handwriting:** Students are taught cursive letter formation by practicing connections, slant and spacing, and applying these skills to daily work.

**Reading:** Emphasis is placed on expanding oral reading ability, comprehension and higher-level thinking skills. Reading goals include: setting goals, clarifying, summing-up, making predictions, asking questions, making comparisons, identifying the main idea, cause and effect, word meanings, story elements, story structure, author's purpose, technique and inferring. Literature selections are chosen appropriate to each student's reading level and interest. Reading strategies and skills are taught in small literature circle groups as well as the whole class. A variety of exciting book reports increases student awareness of the many genres of books that are available for their selection and enjoyment.

**Math:** A solid math foundation is built through whole-group instruction, drills, games, and hands-on manipulatives. Concepts include place value, carrying, borrowing, multiplication, division, problem solving, money, greater than and less than, fractions, averaging, temperature, geometry, Roman numerals, graphing English and metric measures, and decimals. A computerized Accelerate Math program is available to students who are ready for additional challenges.

**Social Studies:** Emphasis is on the development, growth and culture of communities. Students learn

appreciation for North American culture through studies of Mexico, Canada and Native Americans. Geography skills taught include terms, map reading, continents and states.

**Science:** Emphasis is on habitats, movement, sound, electricity and our environment, including the water cycle. These are taught in conjunction with our NASA Science Program, which utilizes award-winning video segments to introduce new scientific subjects.

**Art:** Students study seven famous artists each year such as: Monet, Picasso, van Gogh, Cassatt, Homer, Mondrian, and Escher. They study their artwork and techniques that have made their artwork world renowned. Students learn art theory and techniques through hands on art projects that build art skills using various mediums.

**Computers:** The emphasis is on learning typing skills, beginning word processing, and learning basic operating system skills.

**Library:** Students learn the Dewey Decimal system, fiction, nonfiction and biography call numbers, and how to use dictionaries and encyclopedias. Poetry and fantasy genres are also covered.

**Music:** Emphasis is on developing the singing voice and building on their musical vocabulary. There are activities to enhance rhythm and theory skills. Students learn about instruments, xylophones, drums, pianos. Hands-on music class activities. Learn numerous songs in foreign languages and incorporate American Sign Language. All third grade students are required to play the violin during Music class.

**PE:** Students learn the basic skills and rules of the following sports: flag football, hockey, volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball, juggling, speedball, Lacrosse, track orienteering and Taekwondo. Building physical skills include balance, flexibility, muscle strength, cardiovascular endurance, agility, coordination, speed and reaction time. Students learn to develop a willingness to try new activities, to respect others, to follow directions, and to show good sportsmanship at all times. Students also participate in Presidential Physical Fitness testing.

**Spanish:** During two half-hour classes per week students hear and act out stories in Spanish, sometimes adding ideas that are uniquely their own creation. They answer questions and add their own story endings. Students begin to express their own thoughts verbally in Spanish. New vocabulary includes rooms and household objects, family, many verbs, numbers to 1,000, calendar information and telling time. Interactive songs, games and skits are all part of the curriculum that has fluency in Spanish as its aim. Learning Latin songs and dances are part of the cultural studies included in the curriculum. Students also study Religious and Patriotic celebrations and daily life in Spanish speaking countries.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** Pioneer Farms, Seattle Aquarium

**Concerts:** Christmas and Best of Elementary, Grandparents Day

**Classroom Highlights:** Multiplication ice cream party, Marine Science Unit, Bible Heroes Play, first year of NASA Science, cursive writing and typing training

**Events:** Speech Meet, Spelling Bee, Math Olympics, Missions Month, Safety Fair, Grandparents Day, Walk-a-thon, Mother's Day Tea, Dad and Daughter Square Dance

**Afterschool Clubs:** Chess, Scrabble science, Art, scrapbooking, folk dancing, aeronautic club, craft club, drama (offered on a rotating basis).

**TEXTBOOKS:** Bible: ABeka

**Reading/Language Arts:** *Language 3*, A Beka; *Spelling and Poetry 3*, A Beka; *Time for Dreams and Across the World*, Open Court Reading

**Handwriting:** *Cursive C*, Concerned Communications

**Math:** Saxon Math

**Social Studies:** *Living in Our World*, Harcourt Brace

**Science:** NASA Science Files, *Discover the Wonder*, Scott Foresman,



# FOURTH GRADE OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

**CLASSROOM STRUCTURE:** Self contained. Basic skill areas.

**Specialists:** Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

**TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO:** 22:1

**SCHOOL DAY:**

8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Morning Recess - 15 minutes

Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes, Afternoon Recess - Varies

### SPIRITUAL LIFE

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Biblical principles are integrated throughout the curriculum. Student's study in-depth the life of Christ and the building of the church. The major themes of the books of the Bible are learned through interactive visuals and music.

**Bible Memorization:** Students are taught to "hide God's Word in their hearts" by memorizing a scripture passage each week.

**Chapel:** One day each week, students attend Chapel with other classes. They enjoy worship through singing, Bible lessons, character trait awards, and student of the month awards. They are inspired to expand their faith and put into practice what they hear from guest speakers, who challenge them to live a Godly life.

### ACADEMIC LIFE

**Reading/Language Arts:** Emphasis is primarily around novel studies. Literature circles and whole class studies develop skills which help students become more strategic readers, improve their writing ability and develop higher-level thinking skills. Focus is on developing strong grammar usage, writing skills and word expression. The Accelerated Reading program is used as a supplement to our reading program. The spelling and poetry curriculum guides students toward better spelling, a richer vocabulary, and an enjoyment of good poetry. Both group and challenge spelling lists are used for weekly instruction of students.

**Handwriting/Writing:** Students are given weekly instruction and practice of the five key components for improving their cursive handwriting skills. Students are taught the Six-Trait Writing program. The writing process is developed as students' writing is integrated throughout the curriculum. Students are assigned weekly Writing Excursions. Their writing skills are stretched by taking an assigned Writing Excursion topic and writing a well structured paragraph on that topic. Various research projects, reports, stories, poetry and narratives are also assigned throughout the year. Vital writing skills are developed both in the classroom and in computer lab. Book reports are assigned each quarter. These include a biography, mystery or adventure, non-fiction and historical fiction.

**Math:** Our Saxon Math Curriculum introduces new concepts and vocabulary to students daily while continually building upon and revisiting previously learned skills. Students are encouraged to use higher level thinking skills to determine which problem solving strategy they used to solve their problems. Manipulative and various challenging activities are integrated into daily lessons for enhancement. The Accelerated Math program is a supplemental program, which promotes and enhances problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

**Social Studies:** Emphasis is on studying all 50 states and their regions, with special attention to Washington State. Students are required to identify each state's location, abbreviation and capital city. Students also complete a research report on one of the fifty states by applying their state research to technological programs learned in our computer lab. Each student is assigned a state to complete research on, write a report, develop a power point presentation and create a colorful state brochure. Students share their knowledge and completed projects at our annual state luncheon. At the luncheon, students serve homemade recipes that are representative of the state they are presenting. Classroom focus is then turned to studying the state of Washington, from historical times through present day. Our study culminates with a class field trip to the Washington State History Museum.

**Science:** Science is explored through the use of our NASA science curriculum, science kits and NASA science experiments. Emphasis is on the earth, other planets, weather, earthquakes, volcanoes and flight. The scientific process is emphasized. Science vocabulary is learned every week.

**Computers:** Students learn to develop word processing abilities, master typing skills, begin PowerPoint proficiency, learn research techniques, and develop Publisher skills. Students learn to use various software tools when producing writing, history and science projects.

**Library:** Students cover the Dewey Decimal system, parts of a book, encyclopedias, the atlas, and writing a book report.

**Music:** The music program emphasizes the development of the singing voice, studying classical music, jazz, and improving rhythmic reading skills and theory knowledge. Students also study piano, song writing, recorders, xylophones, drums. Hands-on activities reinforce concepts and allow for on going practice. At the end of the year, students have studied all of the instruments offered in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band. Students continue to learn songs in foreign languages and incorporate American Sign Language.

**PE:** Students learn the basic skills and rules of the following sports: flag football, hockey, volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball, juggling, speedball, Lacrosse, track orienteering and Taekwondo. Building physical skills include balance, flexibility, muscle strength, cardiovascular endurance, agility, coordination, speed and reaction time. Students learn to develop a willingness to try new activities, to respect others, to follow directions, and to show good sportsmanship at all times. Students participate in Presidential Physical Fitness testing.

**Spanish:** During two half-hour classes per week students hear and act out stories in Spanish. They answer questions and add their own story endings. They write their own unique stories expressing their own thoughts verbally in Spanish. Vocabulary continues to expand. Spanish vocabulary is practiced and memorized each week. Interactive songs, games and skits are all part of the curriculum that has fluency in Spanish as its aim. Learning Latin dances and Caribbean rhythms on Conga drums are part of the cultural studies included in the Spanish class. They also learn about Religious and Patriotic celebrations and daily life in Spanish speaking countries. A missionary emphasis to Latin American countries is studied.

**Art:** Students study seven famous artists each year such as: Monet, Picasso, van Gogh, Cassatt, Homer, Mondrian, and Escher. They study their artwork and techniques that have made their artwork world renowned. Students learn art theory and techniques through hands on art projects that build art skills using various mediums.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** Washington State History Museum, Museum of Flight, Boeing tour

**Concerts:** Christmas, Best of Elementary, Grandparents Day, Beginning Band

**Classroom Highlights:** State reports and luncheon, cabin building unit, making volcanoes, literature circles

**Events:** Speech Meet, Spelling Bee, Math Olympics, Missions Month, Safety Fair, Grandparents Day, Walk-a-thon, Mother's Day Tea, Dad and Daughter Square Dance

**Afterschool Clubs:** Chess, Scrabble science, Art, scrapbooking, folk dancing, aeronautic club, craft club, drama (offered on a rotating basis).

**TEXTBOOKS** **Bible:** *Christ and His Word*, ACSI

**Reading:** Various literature selections.

**L.A./Spelling:** *God's Gift of Language A*, A Beka; *Spelling and Poetry 4*, A Beka

**Handwriting:** *A Reason for Handwriting*, the Concerned Group

**Writing:** Six Trait Writing

**Math:** Saxon Math

**Social Studies:** *States and Regions*, Harcourt and *The Washington Adventure*

**Science:** *Discover the Wonder* and NASA Science



# FIFTH GRADE OVERVIEW

## Objectives and Goals

**CLASSROOM STRUCTURE:** Self contained. Basic skill areas. **SCHOOL DAY:** 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

**Specialists:** Computers, Library, Music, PE, Spanish

**TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO:** 25:1

Lunch/Recess - 25 minutes/20 minutes

### SPIRITUAL LIFE

Northshore Christian Academy filters all learning and curriculum through a Biblical world-view that recognizes Christ as Creator and Lord. We endeavor to train students spiritually, academically, and personally. Northshore integrates faith and learning as we educate and equip the whole child to impact a changing world to the glory of God. The entire process of education is used by the Holy Spirit to bring students into fellowship with God, develop a Christ-like mind, and to train them in Godly living, so that they can fulfill God's total purpose for their lives personally and vocationally.

**Bible:** Emphasis is on a survey or overview of the Old Testament; an in-depth study of the lives of various Bible characters presented in chronological order. Themes include trust, obedience, rejection, forgiveness, sin, and courage.

**Bible Memorization:** A memory verse for memorization is assigned each week.

**Chapel:** Emphasis is on Christian commitment, lifestyle issues, and practical applications of Biblical truth to daily living through guest speakers who share God's word through drama, speech and other media.

### ACADEMIC LIFE

**Reading:** Through literature circles, students develop critical thinking skills and develop a foundation for strong, independent reading. The students continually build their reading strategies by practicing the following skills: establishing goals, clarifying, summing-up, making predictions, asking questions, making comparisons, identifying the main idea, cause and effect, word meanings, story elements, structure, author's purpose and technique, and inferring. Literature studies reinforce speech and the study of sentence structure. Many viewpoints and subjects are integrated through literature study. Students view a book from an author's point of view, as well as a reader's. In addition, many novels are connected to our social studies. Discussion of the literature allows the student to integrate Biblical knowledge and apply scripture. Quarterly book reports and monthly reading responses are based on the homework requirement of 2 hours per week. All book reports/responses are part of the homework program. The Accelerated Reading program is a supplemental challenge program. Students choose accelerated reading goals each quarter.

**Writing:** Writing is taught and practiced through the Writer's Workshop format. Not only do students learn the process of how to write, but they learn to evaluate writing through the traits of ideas, organization, voice/style, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions. Students learn how to write a variety of forms, including narrative, persuasive and expository writing as well as research report writing.

**Language:** Students' writing is enhanced through the study of grammar, including the parts of speech and sentence structure.

**Spelling:** Phonics based spelling lists are designed to help students learn new words; both spelling and vocabulary are emphasized. Latin root words are studied each week.

**Read Aloud:** To develop appreciation for excellent literature, teachers read a novel aloud to students for 10-15 minutes per day. Through modeling a love of literature and reading strategies, the teacher can influence students to become lifelong readers.

**Math:** Emphasis is on number sense and numeration, addition, subtraction, multiplication of whole numbers, division of one and two-digit divisors, fraction concepts, fractions with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, ratio, percent, statistics and probability, making sense of large numbers, introduction to algebra and integers. In addition to the skills, students engage in multiple problem-solving activities through "daily math problem activities". Accelerated Math is supplemental and it is used to challenge or assist students.

**Social Studies:** Emphasis is on the study of American History from the earliest Americans through westward movement. Units are planned so that students also learn research skills and presentation skills.

**Science:** Students learn to use the scientific method as they explore a variety of unique scientific mysteries. Emphasis is on hands-on learning.

**Art:** Emphasis is placed on informal projects that train students on key elements of art.

**Computers:** The emphasis is on beginning Excel, typing proficiency, and developing abilities in PowerPoint, Word, and Publisher through various integrated projects.

**Library:** Students learn how to do research, including brainstorming, and choosing a topic. They learn how to use a dictionary bank, magazines, book indexes and almanacs as sources for research. They also learn how to utilize charts, timelines and tables. Also covered is how to take notes, organizing an outline, skimming, free writing and supporting research statements. Students learn how to finish a report with footnotes, bibliography and proofreading.

**Music:** Continued emphasis on developing the singing voice, studying classical and jazz music, and improving rhythmic reading skills and theory knowledge. The students study piano, song-writing, recorders, xylophones, and drums with hands-on activities. **Beginning Band:** Students begin mastering band instruments (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone baritone, French horn, bells, percussion, bass guitar) **Beginning Orchestra**

**PE:** Students learn the basic skills and rules of the following sports: flag football, hockey, volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball, juggling, speedball, Lacrosse, track orienteering and Taekwondo. Building physical skills include balance, flexibility, muscle strength, cardiovascular endurance, agility, coordination, speed and reaction time. Students learn to develop a willingness to try new activities, to respect others, to follow directions, and to show good sportsmanship at all times. Students also participate in Presidential Physical Fitness testing.

**Spanish:** During two half hour classes per week students learn restaurant conversation and vocabulary for food. They learn Spanish phrases for how to purchase items in a store as well as clothing vocabulary. They create their own endings for stories in Spanish and write their own skits and act them out. Learning Caribbean rhythms on conga drums are part of the cultural studies, as well as learning about religious and patriotic celebrations and daily life in Spanish speaking countries.

**Art:** Students study seven famous artists each year such as: Monet, Picasso, van Gogh, Cassatt, Homer, Mondrian, and Escher. They study their artwork and techniques that have made their art world renowned. Students learn art theory and techniques through hands on art projects that build art skills using various mediums.

## GRADE ACTIVITIES

**Field Trips:** Washington State Capital in Olympia, Outdoor Education at Cedar Springs Camp

**Concerts:** Christmas, Best of Elementary, Beginning Band

**Classroom Highlights:** Wax Museum of History and Science; Invention Design Unit, Sail America Expo, Outdoor Education at Cedar Springs Camp, Student-Led Conferences

**Events:** Speech Meet, Spelling Bee, Math Olympics, Missions Month, Safety Fair, Grandparents Day, Walk-a-thon, Mother's Day Tea, Dad and Daughter Square Dance

**Afterschool Clubs:** Chess, Scrabble science, Art, scrapbooking, folk dancing, aeronautic club, craft club, drama (offered on a rotating basis).

**TEXTBOOKS: Bible:** ACSI

**Reading/Language Arts:** *Language B*, *A Beka*; *Spelling, Vocabulary and Poetry 5*, *A Beka*; *Chapter Books*, Open Court;

**Novel Studies:** Heroes of the Faith series, Wilderness Survival series, American History series

**Writing:** Six Trait Writing

**Math:** Saxon Math

**Social Studies:** *America's Stories*, Harcourt Brace

**Science:** *Discover the Wonder*, Scott Foresman

