



Academic Overview – 4th Grade

Bible: Students will study the life of Christ, the early church, and the Christian's walk. The purpose is to make the Word of God more meaningful in the lives of students so that they will be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Unit 1: Jesus Before He Began His Ministry, Unit 2: Christ's Ministry, Unit 3: Crucifixion and Resurrection, Unit 4: Work of the Holy Spirit, Unit 5: The Christian's Walk and holiday related lessons at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter as well as celebrating Missions Month. Students also have weekly scripture memorization.

Textbook: *Building Castles*. Positive Action in Christ

Language Arts

Writing: Students will communicate their beliefs clearly, use words effectively, understand and evaluate what they read and hear, and develop a body of thought in an intelligent and orderly manner. The focus is on sentence structure, punctuation, and capitalization.

Textbook: *God's Gift of Language A*. A Beka

Reading: Students will gain a love of reading, develop fluency and enhance comprehension in oral and silent reading. Novels: Saved at Sea, Song of the Brook, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, Misty of Chincoteague, and In Search of Liberty. Across the Centuries curriculum is used for The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe and Misty of Chincoteague and A Christian Teacher's Guide to The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe from Carson Dellosa Publishing is also used to help guide instruction as students compare this well-known allegory with the words of Scripture and the character of Jesus Christ.

Textbook: *Read and Think Skills*. A Beka

Spelling: Spelling is taught using a word study approach. Students are assessed at the beginning of the year and then again mid-year to determine their developmental level in spelling. Spelling lists are then formulated based on the students' needs; weekly lists focus on a combination of phonetic patterns as well as high frequency words so that students can apply spelling skills to their writing.

Textbook: *Spelling 4*. Purposeful Design

Math: Students will reinforce addition, subtraction, and multiplication skills previously taught, and explore factors, multiples, fractions, and division as well as emphasizing higher level reasoning skills used in solving word problems.

Textbook: Under review

Science: Students will cultivate a love and appreciation of God's creation and gain a solid foundation in Science that is based on God's Word and Christian principles. Units include: Insects, Plants, Simple Machines, Electricity and Circuits, Matter, Energy, and Geology.

Textbook: *Understanding God's World*. A Beka

Social Studies: Students will explore the early history of our country and the history and geography of Virginia from a perspective based on the Word of God and Christian principles. Unit focuses include: Virginia State History, Jamestown, The Great Awakening, The American Revolution, and 8 Virginia Born

Presidents.

Textbook: *History of Our United States and My State Notebook*. A Beka

Enrichment Classes: Music (Choir and Chimes), Art, Technology, Spanish, P.E., Library

Special Activities and Field Trips:

- Virginia Project
- Williamsburg and Jamestown field trip
- A class play adapted from The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe performed by students during the Easter Chapel
- Woodrow Wilson's Birthplace and Montpelier Field Trips
- The Harrisonburg Children's Museum to explore Electricity and Circuits
- Camping Day Celebration (An end of the year day-celebration including activities surrounding a camping theme and a cook out with 1st grade Reading Buddies)
- Regional Opportunities: ACSI Music Festival, Math Olympics, Spelling Bee, Kings Dominion Music Festival