

Rosslyn Academy

Grade 5



Program Overview with Selected Sample Objectives

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The language arts curriculum in *Grade 5* uses quality literature books as the core for teaching reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These core stories allow integration of Biblical principles, science, social studies, health, art, and other subjects into the language arts curriculum.

Math skills are developed using Harcourt Brace and Company's *Mathematics PLUS* textbook. Word problems and mastery of basic skills are important parts of math instruction at Rosslyn.

Full Option Science System (FOSS) utilizes hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning in science. Students will develop science knowledge and skills with class instruction, experimentation, as well as class field trips.

The focus of the social studies curriculum is the early history of the United States. Emphasis is given not only to learning the historical facts of this time period, but also on developing study skills which will be beneficial in all future social studies learning.

Grade 5 studies *Old Testament Survey* with an emphasis on making wise choices as Christians. Students are encouraged to use their personal Bible, provided by Rosslyn Academy, for reading at both home and school.

Specialists teach the students a second language, as well as art, music, physical education, science, computer and library skills. Each teacher has a vital part of the learning process in fifth grade.

Fifth grade is the first year for students to be involved in the *Cultural Field Studies (CFS)* program. The students will participate in a three-day, two-night field trip in order to learn more about the country in which they live. They will participate in a similar program every year, throughout middle and high school.

Bible

Effective learning of Biblical principles, resulting in life change, is fully dependent upon the work of the Holy Spirit. These principles and their application are integrated throughout the school curriculum.

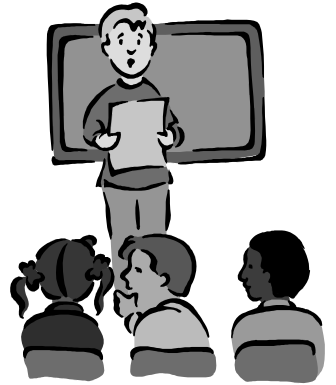
Grade 5 studies **Old Testament Survey** under the theme **Christ and My Choices**. Each unit focuses on the life of a prominent Old Testament character and the choices he/she made. After a study of the life of each character, attention is then given to the teachings of Christ regarding similar life choices that must be made by each student. The lessons are often discussion-oriented, and very practical in nature. Reading directly from the Bible is encouraged so that the students can gain an understanding that God's Word is applicable to them and that they are at an age where it is also understandable to them. In addition to these things, the curriculum also includes Bible study skills, Bible geography, and scripture memorization.

The student will:

- Learn about the lives of key characters in the Old Testament
- Use their knowledge of the choices that Bible characters made to make wise choices in their own lives
- Understand how the stories of the Old Testament fit together with the complete story of God's plan for mankind
- Discover more fully the nature and character of who God is
- Be challenged to accept Jesus Christ as personal Savior
- Read and understand the Bible stories directly from the text
- Memorize assigned Scriptures

Language Arts

Language arts instruction at Rosslyn Academy is based on the dynamic interrelationships of listening, speaking, reading, and writing—God's gift of communication to humans.



Listening

The student will:

- Demonstrate active listening to others' presentations
- Listen to, understand, and follow directions

Speaking

The student will:

- Read aloud previewed materials for fluency and expression
- Give oral reports, individually or with partners, which convey information from several sources, demonstrate ability to organize and present ideas, and use effective public speaking

Reading

The student will:

- Read several assigned chapter books with his/her classmates throughout the school year [These books form the core of the language arts curriculum and most other language arts activities will be related to the content of these books]
- Read (at home) and do reports on books at an appropriate reading level
- Recognize, understand, and identify setting, plot, character, theme, mood/tone, point of view, and author's purpose
- Use comprehension strategies to understand what is read
- Use the STAR Reader and Accelerated Reader (AR) programs in order to identify reading level
- Set an individual reading goal and strive to meet it each academic quarter by reading quality books within the student's reading range
- Self-monitor comprehension of individual reading by taking AR book quizzes



Writing

Writing - The student will:

- Use the *6 Traits Writing* process (Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Conventions)
- Use the Big 6 Information Problem Solving Process (Task Definition, Information Seeking Strategies, Location and Access, Use of Information, Synthesis, Evaluation) in order to enhance research and writing skills
- Further develop the usage of correct structure for sentences and paragraphs
- Write for a variety of purposes—persuasive paragraph, letter, personal narrative, autobiographical incident, research-based report, poetry, journals, and descriptive paragraph

Grammar and Mechanics - The student will:

Identify and use correctly the eight parts of speech

- Capitalize and punctuate writing correctly

Handwriting - The student will:

- Use his/her best handwriting in all assignments
- Review and practice cursive writing

Spelling - The student will:

- Spell high-frequency words correctly in all writing
- Take a weekly spelling test



Research and Library Skills

In addition to stimulating a love for books and reading, the library program develops students' abilities to be effective users of ideas and information. The librarian works with the classroom teacher to coordinate the teaching of library and research skills with the classroom curriculum, making use of the Big 6 Information Problem Solving Process. Fifth graders expand their ability to practice the skills learned in previous grades.

The student will:

- Locate books in the various sections of the library
- Understand the Dewey Decimal Classification System
- Determine the most appropriate reference material to use for a specific purpose
- Formulate research questions on a specific topic.
- Find relevant material for research on a topic using a variety of sources, both print and electronic
- Skim materials to locate information
- Take useful notes, in student's own words, and understand the meaning of plagiarism and copyright
- Synthesize information by writing a report or creating another product
- Create a bibliography according to an assigned format

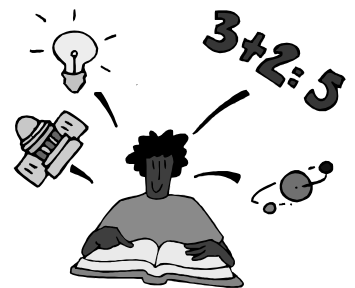


Math

Mathematics is a science of patterns which allows us to look deeper into the order and precision found in the world around us, God's creation. The purpose of the mathematical instruction at Rosslyn Academy is to develop students who are problem solvers, critical thinkers, and effective mathematical communicators.

The student will:

- Understand the place value, and be able to read, write, compare, and order whole numbers to the billions and decimals to ten thousandths
- Solve word problems using the four operations, fractions, and decimals
- Add and subtract whole numbers and decimals
- Round whole numbers and decimals and estimate sums, differences, products, and quotients
- Enhance knowledge of basic facts in multiplication and division by taking frequent timed tests
- Multiply whole numbers and decimals by one and two-digit numbers
- Divide whole numbers and decimals by one and two-digit numbers
- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers
- Multiply and divide fractions
- Understand the concepts of factors, multiples, exponents, and prime numbers
- Create and draw conclusions from graphs - bar, circle, line, stem and leaf plots, and line plots
- Interpret tables used in everyday life
- Understand and use geometric concepts related to lines, angles, polygons and solid figures
- Estimate and measure length, weight, volume and mass in both metric and customary units
- Estimate and find area and perimeter of polygons
- Determine probability, ratio, and percent
- Understand the relationships between percentage, decimals, and fractions
- Identify and apply math in everyday situations and other disciplines
- Use a calculator, computer, and other sources as tools



Science

Science education at Rosslyn emphasizes experiential learning. Rather than using textbooks, students learn through direct observation, group projects, experiments, and library research. Along with science skills, the teacher encourages thankfulness to God and responsible stewardship of God's creation.

Environments—The student will:

- identify environmental factors in land and water environments
- predict the effect of environmental factors on plants and animals
- investigate the effect of environmental factors through experiments
- describe several environmental issues in Kenya

Variables—The student will:

- design and perform a controlled experiment
- name variables that could affect the results of an experiment
- use graphs and tables to find patterns in experimental results and predict future results
- prepare a science fair project (2nd semester)



Mixtures & Solutions—The student will:

- explain the difference between a mixture and a solution
- compare the solubility of materials in water
- arrange solutions from most diluted to most concentrated
- observe and compare chemical reactions

Models and Designs - The student will:

- develop the concept of a scientific model and provide opportunities for students to create solutions to a variety of problems
- focus on the construction of working models

Maps and Grids - The student will learn:

- how to read different types of maps and grids
- the purposes of different types of maps and grid
- how to design their own maps and grids

Social Studies

The social studies curriculum is a study of the early history of the United States. It focuses primarily on the history from the time of exploration, until the late 1800's (after the Civil War). Emphasis is given not only to the study of historical facts, but also to learning skills, which will benefit the students in all areas of social studies learning in the future.

The student will:

- Learn to interpret various types of maps
- Learn basic U.S. geography, including names of states, and significant landforms
- Study important events and people in U.S. history
- Read several historical fiction books related to specific areas of history
- Research an important event or place and use the information to write a research paper

Kiswahili

Instruction in this class will expand students' knowledge of the language through oral practice, understanding and appreciation of various cultural aspects. Students are separated into classes according to ability levels.

The student will:

- Identify and use appropriate greetings
- Recall vocabulary to describe objects
- Decode and give simple instructions
- Exchange information with peers
- Utilize accurate grammar and structure to perform basic functions
- Present simple oral reports
- Recite poetry
- Write correct sentences and short paragraphs
- Celebrate holidays and traditions through food, dress and music
- Know basic cultural beliefs of people relating to family, school, work and play



Health

Rosslyn Academy is committed to following Christ's example of a balanced life. Therefore we desire growth in four areas: wisdom (mental/emotional), stature (physical), favor with God (spiritual), and favor with man (social). Consistent with our integration-based philosophy of education, we strive to incorporate instruction for life-long wellness throughout the curriculum.

The student will:

- Understand principles related to overall wellness and fitness
- Study the respiratory and reproductive systems of the body
- Learn facts about different harmful substances that should be avoided
- Discuss the emotional and physical changes that occur during puberty (This discussion takes place in gender-separated classes, and with parental permission.)
- Learn basic first aid knowledge
- Study basic nutrition facts and practice applying them to daily life

Computer Technology

The student will:



- Learn correct keyboarding of all alphabetic keys (both lowercase and uppercase)
- Improve keyboarding accuracy and speed
- Learn and use relevant computer terminology
- Create picture stories using various programs
- Learn and apply simple computer programming concepts using LOGO
- Learn basic word processing skills
- Type and edit projects in collaboration with the classroom teacher

Art

The visual arts program at Rosslyn strives to enhance the visual expression of each student through the study of art history and by involving him/her in creative artworks that incorporate the elements and principles of design.

The student will:

- Draw portraits and still lifes
- Compose views
- Create non-objective works, a stencil, a visual symbol, a monoprint, sculptures, a photomontage
- Use a sketchbook, lines to create illusion, perspective to create space
- Etch lines and textures
- Experiment with acrylic paints, animations and calligraphy
- Decorate using patterns
- Mix colors and color harmonies
- Design a park, a city, a product, a postage stamp and clothing
- Examine positive/negative shapes and styles in architecture
- Express feelings using visual rhythms
- Illustrate cartoons, comics and an album cover
- Discuss and critique personal artwork and artwork of others
- Study art as a historical/cultural record and a variety of crafts from "then and now"
- Communicate through art



Physical Education

In this class the student will develop bodily self-awareness, physical skills and knowledge through participating in physical activity.

Activities :



- Soccer
- Kickball/Baseball
- Basketball
- Court Hockey/Field Hockey
- Flag Football
- Fitness Activities
- Assorted Games and Activities (i.e. juggling, archery, scooters, parachute)

The student will:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of team sports and develop skills as a team player
- Reflect positive character development and social skills based on Biblical principles
- Understand and evaluate the role physical activity has in their life
- Achieve and maintain an appropriate level of fitness
- Display necessary skills for playing games and participating in various leisure activities



Music

God gave us music for enjoyment—as listeners or participants. In response, we use music to praise and worship God.

The first semester of fifth grade music focuses on regular classroom music studies. During the second semester of fifth grade music, students have the option of learning a band instrument during class time. Those who do not choose to learn a band instrument, continue with classroom music. Each semester the students will demonstrate their music skills by participating in an end-of-semester concert.

The student will:

- Review music reading and notation
- Sing in parts (melody/harmony)
- Sight-sing
- Participate in movement and dictation exercises
- Be introduced to music composition
- Discuss forms of music
- Sing/Play an instrument to a variety of rhythms, including syncopation
- Play accompaniment using percussion instruments such as wooden blocks, tambourine, and timpani
- Study several Western composers, their music and musical styles



How Parents Can Help Activities That Support Your Child's Learning

- Listen to your child
- Read to and with your child, asking questions about what is being read
- Praise your child's reading
- Encourage older children to read to their younger siblings
- Model the importance of reading by being a reader yourself
- Talk with your child rather than at him/her
- Help your child keep a writing journal
- Provide a quiet place for homework and study
- Encourage early completion of homework while allowing the child to incur the natural consequences of lapses
- Help your child capitalize on his learning style
- Allow your child as much independence as he proves he/she can handle
- Encourage your child to ask questions and seek answers
- Celebrate successes
- Create special times to be alone with your child to participate in activities (cooking dinner, working in the shop, etc.)
- Take your child to places and talk about the visits
- Limit time spent on computer games
- Tell your child family stories, especially events that happened when you were his/her age
- Watch television with your child and discuss the programs together; limit viewing time; choose programs with care
- Play memory and math games, vocabulary games, physical games
- Talk with your child about the school work he/she brings home
- Give your child responsibilities
- Communicate your expectations regarding his/her behavior and performance at school



"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)

Notes