

RELIGION

The CPH *One in Christ* curriculum is used to teach the faith to first graders. Instruction consists of units connected by a common theme which are grounded in God's Word. Bible stories provide a survey of God's story of love and salvation for His people as found in the Old and New Testaments and continuing on to touch our lives today. Within the context of each unit, students are taught key concepts of faith such as Law and Gospel, confession and repentance, forgiveness and grace. Students are also introduced to our Lutheran heritage. A joyful and willing attitude toward prayer and worship is encouraged. Through a planned memory program, students learn Scripture verses, hymns, and portions of the Catechism which highlight the theme of each lesson.

ART

A variety of visual art experiences challenges first graders to express themselves using various media including pencil, crayon, chalk, paint, paper, glue, and craft materials. An introduction to artistic styles develops an appreciation for God's gift of art.

COMPUTERS

First graders use the ipads to support, reinforce, and extend what is learned in other curricular areas. Students learn proper care and use of the ipads.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The ever-expanding world of a first grade student is nurtured through the following topics: *People and Traditions, Where We Live, Beginning Economics, Good Citizens, and Skills and Maps.*

GERMAN

Activities expand upon basic concepts learned in Kindergarten. Further vocabulary includes but is not limited to the alphabet and spelling, classroom vocabulary recognition, family, animals and pets, numbers to 100, and additional songs and prayers. Vocabulary primarily involves speaking and listening skills as acquired through instructional games, activities, and music.

MATH

Our math program offers a balance of experiences leading students from the concrete to the symbolic stages. Through concept introduction, skill building, problem solving, and application, first graders are taught about numbers, addition and subtraction facts, place value through 100, time, geometry, fractions, and measurement. Estimation, mental math, and thinking skills are stressed as students apply math concepts to real life situations.

MUSIC

First graders experience the world of music by listening, singing, performing, moving and playing instruments. They learn the difference between rhythm and beat and read and write simple rhythmic patterns. Using the solfege method (do-re-mi), children match pitches, determine melodic direction and recognize the contour of simple melodies. The children use their voices to praise God by singing for church and chapel.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Skill development is important at an early age. In first grade, students learn and reinforce locomotor movements such as skipping, galloping, running, leaping and

hopping. They also begin basic forms of non-locomotor movements such as throwing, catching, kicking and stroking. Fitness concepts are also introduced during dance/movement units. As the students are learning these basic concepts, teamwork, fair play, compassion for others and good leadership are focused on.

SCIENCE

The first grade science program uses quality literature, student journals, and hands-on learning experiences to develop vital science skills and understandings as students grow in their appreciation of God's creation. The program offers a life science unit on animals and earth science units on weather and seasons, and physical science units on matter and forces.

LANGUAGE ARTS

English

The language components of speaking, listening, reading, and writing are integrated throughout the first grade language arts program. Students plan and write sentences, paragraphs, stories, and letters and have the opportunity to orally share their finished products. As they learn about sentences, students study proper word usage, capitalization, punctuation, and identify and use nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

Handwriting

In the area of written language, the students strive to develop consistent and legible handwriting as they continue to learn proper manuscript techniques. They learn to identify and use the basic strokes and use the headline, midline, and baseline

correctly. The four keys to legibility- size, shape, slant, and spacing are practiced and reviewed throughout the handwriting program and also in students daily work as they write numerals, letters, words, sentences, and paragraphs.

Reading

The first grade reading program covers many skills to move the child through emerging literacy and beginning reading. Instruction emphasizes both word recognition skills and comprehension. Word recognition is taught through a multiple skills approach. Phonics, context, word structure, and word meaning skills are developed together. The students are exposed to various styles of fiction and informational text. Comprehension skills and strategies are taught to enhance their reading for meaning. Skills are also developed through listening and speaking, vocabulary activities, and writing.

Spelling

First grade spelling is designed to help students spell any word, not just words on their spelling lists. Spelling lessons are based on concept lists or sound patterns. Lists reinforce language arts instruction so that students make use of the same patterns they learn in reading.

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