

The **Mission** of Grand County Christian Academy is to teach truth that transforms hearts and minds.

# Junior High (7th - 8th Grades)

### Earth Science - BJU Press

### Goals:

- To extend scientific knowledge, inquiry skills, and laboratory skills
- To guide students in applying scientific knowledge and skills in ethical ways to solve real-world problems
- To enable students to create models that describe the natural world and use them to make predictions
- To equip students with the skills to interpret informational text and apply scientific knowledge in accordance with biblical teaching

## By the end of this course students will study:

- Geography (maps and cartography, GIS)
- Geology (earth's structure; tectonic forces, faults, and earthquakes; landforms; volcanoes)
- Mineralogy and Petrology (identification and classification of rocks and minerals)
- Paleontology (fossilization, fossil fuels)
- Hydrosphere (oceans, lakes, and ponds; groundwater, caves and karst topography)
- Atmosphere (composition and thermal structure, weather, clouds, storms, climate)
- Astronomy (sun, moon, planets, small solar system bodies, stars and constellations)

## Life Science - BJU Press

### Goals:

- To extend scientific knowledge, inquiry skills, and laboratory skills
- To guide students in applying scientific knowledge and skills in ethical ways to solve real-world problems
- To enable students to create models that describe the natural world and use them to make predictions
- To equip students with the skills to interpret informational text and apply scientific knowledge in accordance with biblical teaching

- Science skills (measuring, modeling, thinking scientifically, and the scientific process)
- Cells (structure, reproduction, genetics)
- Bacteria and viruses (structure and reproduction)
- Protists and Fungi (nutrition, classification, and reproduction)
- Plants (classification and functions)
- Animals (classification, characteristics, structure, function, reproduction and development)
- The Human Body (anatomy, functions of systems)
- Ecology (ecosystems, food chains and webs, relationships between organisms, cycles of matter)



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## Music - Fun Music Company "Ukulele Curriculum System" (Lessons 1-40)

# By the end of this course students will be expected to know:

- That worship of God through music is a gift.
- That music is a wat to integrate faith into learning, fostering a love for God through creative expression
- How to correctly hold and tune the ukulele
- The parts of the ukulele
- At least three strumming patterns on ukulele, including the 'Hawaiian strum'
- The ukulele chords: Am<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>7</sup>, F, A, C, G<sup>7</sup>, D, G
- How to fingerpick
- How to perform and respond to music in meaningful ways
- The following music vocabulary: melody, harmony, beat, dynamics, tempo, pitch, rhythm
- The technical skills of vocal production in singing
- How to perform three-part vocal rounds
- How to engage in refinement and feedback processes to prepare for performances
- How to self-evaluate to refine musical performance
- How to evaluate progress through practice as well as recognizing performance problems and possible solutions, increasing critical thinking within a musical context
- How to create and use specific criteria in making judgements about the quality of a musical performance

## **Geography III: Exploring and Mapping the World, Memoria Press**

# By the end of this course students will be expected to:

- locate 167 major countries
- 50 national capital cities
- major oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, mountain ranges, and deserts
- Draw an accurate map of the world based on the Robinson projection
- Human geography of each continent in four main categories: cultural, economic, political, and historical
- Basic overview of topography, climate, culture, history, religions of countries and regions.

## Literature: A range of novels, poetry and non-fiction texts on a two-year cycle

- how to read closely to determine what the text explicitly states
- how to make logical inferences, citing specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn
- how to determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development
- how to interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text



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- how to analyze how specific word choice shapes meaning and tone
- how to analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs or larger portions of text relate to each other and the whole
- how to determine figurative and connotative meaning
- how to analyze and author's ability to develop and contrast different characters' points of view
- how to identify key supporting details and ideas in a text
- hot to differentiate between prose and poetry
- how form or structure contributes to the meaning of a text
- how language represents and constructs how readers perceive events, people, groups, and ideas

## Writing: "Structure and Style for Students" 2B - IEW

# By the end of this course students will be expected to know:

- how to write a key word outline (KWO)
- how to use a key word outline to create a rough draft
- how to enhance their writing by adding dress-ups such as -ly adverbs, who/which clauses, strong verbs, quality adjectives and <a href="https://www.asia.b">www.asia.b</a> clauses
- all six sentence openers and use these effectively in their writing
- how to check for 'banned' words eg. Say/said, see/saw, go/went
- the title rule to create a title for their writing
- all nine structural models (note making and outlines, retelling narrative stories, summarizing a reference, writing from pictures, summarizing multiple references, inventive writing, formal essay models and formal critique)
- how to revise their writing to review content
- how to edit their writing to tackle mechanics such as correct spelling, grammar and punctuation
- how to provide peer feedback (positive and constructive improvements) to help others enhance their writing
- how to produce a final draft to submit for teacher feedback

## Grammar: "Fix-it Grammar Level 4: Mowgli and Shere Khan" - IEW

- How to identify and correctly use the following parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, preposition, conjunction, adjective, adverb, interjection.
- How to identify and correctly use nouns of direct address and plural nouns
- Capitalization rules including capitalization with proper nouns, proper adjectives, personal pronouns, interjections and quotation marks



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- How to use the three end marks correctly, commas in 18 different grammatical situations, apostrophes in contractions and possessive adjectives, hyphens in compound adjectives, and quotation marks
- The following clauses: who/which clause; that clause; adverb clause; dependent clause, main clause
- How to use prepositional phrases, verb phrases and -ing phrases
- Fused sentences and comma splices
- The following usage: pronoun agreement; subject/verb agreement; verb tense; who/whom/whose
- A variety of stylistic techniques including strong verb, quality adjective, who/which clause, -ly adverb, adverb clause, #1 subject opener, #2 prepositional opener, #3 -ly adverb opener, #4 -ing opener, #5 clausal opener, #6 vss opener

# <u>Bible: "Connecting with God and the Bible; New Testament Survey" by Timothy Foutz/ Gary Gordon</u> by Purposeful Design Publications

- God's Word is Living and Active-fully true!
- Memorize New Testament Books of the Bible
- See God at work in the 4 Gospels: verse by verse through book of Mark.
  - Jesus is Son of God and Son of Man. Jesus is Savior. Jesus came to serve and give His life as a ransom for us.
- See God at work through Revelation.
  - Jesus has all authority. We have eternal life because of Jesus' work on the cross. We do
    not fear God's wrath to come- we are safe in Jesus. God will judge the earth and make a
    new heavens and new earth.
- Students understand the book of Acts: How the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, the start of the church. How Christ came for all nations- Jews and Gentiles.
- Students will grasp the Epistles.
- Students will complete an in-depth Epistle project, on one of Paul's letters to the churches.
- Students will understand the different genres of the NT books.
- Students will be able to study any passage of Scripture using Observation, Interpretation, and Application.
- Students will be able to make personal applications- letting Scripture transform their hearts and actions.
- Students will complete pages in the curriculum, overviewing each book of the NT, understanding its theme and author.



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## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math: Fundamentals of Math, BJU Press

## By the end of this course students will be expected to know:

## 1. Number Sense & Operations

- Solidify understanding of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers.
- Reinforce number-theory concepts including exponents and square roots.

## 2. Algebra Readiness & Expressions

- Build skills with algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities.
- Encourage modeling of real-world situations using mathematical language.

### 3. Geometry & Measurement

Analyze geometric shapes (plane and solid figures), calculate area, surface area, and volume.

### 4. Ratios, Percents & Proportional Reasoning

• Develop operations with percentages and proportional relationships.

## 5. Functions

• Introduce the concept of functions and their application.

### 6. Probability, Statistics & Data Analysis

- Understand probability theory and compare expected vs. actual outcomes.
- Learn to collect, interpret, and represent data (simple, descriptive, and inferential statistics).

## 7. Real-World Problem Solving & Modeling

- Apply math to "real-life" problems using problem-solving strategies and mathematical modeling.
- Engage in STEM projects that reinforce concepts in practical contexts.

# 8. Biblical/Worldview Integration

 Reinforce a biblical worldview of mathematics, focusing on reasoning, ethics, and stewardship through designated exercises.

# 9. Grade-Level Differentiation

 Lessons are tiered into minimum, standard, and extended tracks to meet a range of learner needs.



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# 8th Grade Math: Pre-Algebra, BJU Press

- 1. Number Sense & Operations
  - Apply operations on integers, fractions, decimals, and percents
  - Understand exponents, including laws of exponents and scientific notation
- 2. Expressions, Equations & Inequalities
  - Simplify algebraic expressions and evaluate using the order of operations
  - Solve linear equations and inequalities, including systems of two equations (by graphing, substitution, elimination)
- 3. Functions & Linear Relationships
  - Graph and interpret linear functions, relating slope to proportional relationships
  - Use tables, graphs, and equations to describe functions
- 4. Geometry & Measurement
  - Explore congruence via transformations (translations, reflections, rotations, dilations)
  - Compute perimeter, area, and volume of various shapes (including cylinders, cones, spheres)
- 5. Data, Statistics & Probability
  - Analyze and interpret data using scatter plots, trend lines, and two-way tables
  - Calculate and apply probability principles
- 6. Exponents & Scientific Notation
  - Apply rules for exponents and operations
  - Convert and compute using scientific notation
- 7. Real-World Applications & Critical Thinking
  - Solve real-world and contextual problems involving algebra, geometry, rates, volume, and data
  - Engage in higher-order thinking through STEM-integrated tasks (e.g., construct a water wheel or ping-pong catapult)