

Third Grade Curriculum

Religion

One In Christ is a religion curriculum for children, infants through eighth grade, from Concordia Publishing House. Through a comprehensive Bible survey and life-application stories, *One in Christ* promotes Bible literacy and discipleship. Integrated technology-based activities and application will complement printed materials, adding another dimension to the student experience. The *One in Christ* curriculum centers on Christ so that students will have optimal opportunities to grow in their faith and Christian lives. Third graders memorize selected Bible verses and the Lord's Prayer and its meaning. Each Wednesday students attend a school chapel service. Prayer and sharing from God's Word are integrated into the entire school day.

Reading

McMillian-McGraw-Hill: Treasures is a comprehensive, research-based reading program. It offers a variety of high quality literature to engage learners. Explicit instruction and ample practice ensure students' growth in reading proficiency. Differentiated instruction allows for students to practice reading skills at their own level. Each week's lesson integrates fluency, phonics, spelling, comprehension, and study skills.

Writing

ScottForseman: D'Nealian Handwriting is used as students continue to practice cursive letter formation.

Houghton Mifflin: English is used to teach grammar, usage, and mechanics skills, as well as 6-traits writing through instruction, practice, and application.

Spelling

McMillian-McGraw-Hill: Treasures Spelling Practice is used to teach spelling patterns and gain practice in context to help students spell better.

Mathematics

Saxon Math 3 is used to introduce students to math concepts and problem-solving strategies. Students learn addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, geometry, estimation, place value, measurement and graphing, time, and money. They learn their multiplication tables by memory. Each day there is a Math meeting, fact practice, guided class practice, and independent practice. After each five lessons there is an assessment.

Science

Harcourt School Publishers: Illinois Science is used to introduce students to scientific discovery in units in life science, physical science, and earth science. A science fair is offered each year in order for students to demonstrate their own collection or discovery methods and findings. Students learn about science from the Christian perspective emphasizing the wonders of God's creation.

Social Studies

McGraw Hill: Communities is used to teach students about their own community and others around the world. Students learn about the people, government, history, and resources in a community. Practice exercises are given in map, globe, chart, and graph skills. Critical thinking and research skills are encouraged.

Art

Arts Attack is used to introduce students to the elements of art (line, shape, form, color, texture, composition and perspective). They are also taught art appreciation using the works of many famous artists.

Music

Students have music instruction two times a week. One time is during the choir rehearsal where Christian songs and hymns are taught to be sung in Zion Lutheran Church's Worship services. Another music instruction time is dedicated to instruction in music theory, appreciation, and singing of secular songs. Zion Lutheran Students are involved in the preparation and presentation of a school musical each May. All students are strongly encouraged to participate when the choir sings in church and in the Spring Musical. Students will also learn the basic techniques and fingerings of the recorder.

Physical Education

Students have Physical Education twice a week. Students participate in activities to develop strength, endurance, and flexibility. They develop basic skills in individual and team sports. Emphasis is placed on cooperation as a team and showing good sportsmanship.

Computer

Third Graders have computer class twice a week with the following being covered in the classes:

- Basic computer terminology and parts
- Microsoft Word
- Keyboarding
- "Mavis Beacon Typing," a touch-typing program
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft PowerPoint: creating a slideshow
- Searching the Internet

Cultural Experiences

Students go on field trips that are related to units and learning activities in class. We may see a play at Lewis and Clark Community College and the Musical at Metro East Lutheran High School. Students create community brochures to help understand culture and their communities.