

Academy

# **CURRICULUM**

# Kindergarten

"...they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor." Isaiah 61:3

**BIBLE** 

Answers Bible Curriculum brings the Bible to life and addresses the real-life issues that confront Christians today. Students will get a thorough understanding of the teachings and relevance of Scripture. All ages are equipped to defend their faith, becoming conformed to the image of Christ, as they learn to apply God's Word in their everyday lives.

ABC is a 4-year chronological curriculum covering the entire Bible, from Creation to Consummation. Each year includes 36 lessons, two of which are review weeks.

- Year 1 covers the foundational book of Genesis, from creation to the life of Joseph.
- Year 2 follows the nation of Israel as the Hebrew people emerged from Egypt through the judgment sent on the divided monarchy.
- Year 3 traces the history of Israel's remnant through tumultuous years of captivity until the promised Messiah finally arrived.
- Year 4 focuses on the final year of Jesus' ministry and the growth of the church, ending with the promised restoration of all things.

A Bible verse goes with each week's lesson to be learned, understood and memorized. Along with the daily opportunity to begin each day with Bible time, singing and worship play a vital role as the first graders learn to communicate their love and faith through praising Jesus Christ.

# **PHONEMIC AWARENESS AND PHONICS**

The Hundred Acre Academy uses the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum. This curriculum provides students with consistent and repeated instruction, and this transfers to developing a student's decoding and encoding skills. All students participate in the lessons as part of their daily curriculum in preschool, kindergarten, 1st grade, and some 2nd grade classrooms.

Daily lessons teach early, basic, and advanced skills such as:

- Rhyming and onset fluency.
- Isolating final or medial sounds.
- Blending and segmenting words, syllables, and phonemes.
- Adding and deleting phonemes.
- Substituting phonemes.

The Hundred Acre Academy uses BJU Press (Bob Jones University) curriculum to teach phonics. The BJU Press early learning program sets children on a path for future learning success by developing foundational knowledge and skills and by helping them to take joy in learning. Students engage in intentional learning with free play, hands-on learning, and independent discovery-based and teacher-guided activities. Themes, visuals, and learning centers encourage the students' natural curiosity, and group learning opportunities help students with their social-emotional development.

## READING

The Hundred Acre Academy uses BJU Press' reading program. This engaging and highly visual program incorporates a biblical worldview into all areas of teaching and learning. Students will apply fundamental skills of phonics, decoding, phonemic awareness, word analysis, and word recognition skills and engage in activities that will also develop skills in listening, speaking, English grammar, and comprehension.

Lessons present the biblical worldview goal of viewing language as a gift from God. A wide variety of quality reading selections stimulates the students' appreciation of literature and enjoyment of reading. Some trade books are used in reading groups as well.

Reading is the foundation for almost all other subjects. In kindergarten, students learn alphabet letters and sounds, how to blend, and how to read one- and two-vowel words. Our kindergarteners find real joy as they continue to develop their reading skills and learn to overcome the many exceptions in the English language.

#### WRITING/PENMANSHIP

Hundred Acre teachers use the <u>Handwriting without Tears</u> program, designed to teach children how to write in a manner than it readable and without frustration. Learning how to write in a manner that is readable and precise is a skill that can be difficult to master. It takes time to learn how to write and learning how to do it properly is often skipped over. However, this is a vital skill!

Our students practice handwriting skills through dictation and by independently copying from the board. Throughout the year, they learn to compose their own original sentences and stories and use correct capitalization and punctuation. When they are writing for creativity, our objective is to enable students to communicate their ideas clearly. Students learn spelling naturally through repeated exposure to it in daily dictation practice and phonics drills.

#### MATH

Hundred Acre teachers use catchy drills, songs, and exercises to enhance math lessons and provide review. We assess what the students know and then review and build upon that knowledge. As our kindergartners learn to measure and compute, we introduce additional math concepts, such as money, time, place value, odd and even numbers, story problems, and probability. We teach math in the proper sequence, working from fundamental to complex concepts and reviewing former concepts while teaching new ones for greater retention and mastery.

In addition, the Purposeful Design math curriculum is used as the core textbook. Lessons integrate conceptual understanding, problem solving skills, modeling, reasoning, and strands of algebra and geometry with a strong emphasis on skill development and concept mastery. In kindergarten, units focus on classifying and sorting, exploring patterns, counting money, telling time, identifying solids, shapes, and equal parts, addition and subtraction, and measurements.

## **SCIENCE**

Science is the study of God's order, provision and general revelation as discovered in His physical creation. Hundred Acre teachers use the God's Design Science series, which is based on a biblical worldview and reveals how science supports the biblical account of creation. The lessons feature beautiful color pictures, age-appropriate activities, worksheets, Scripture learning, writing practice, and more.

Kindergartners will cover the following life science topics:

- **Plants for Beginners:** Explore the amazing variety of plants that God created! Children love learning about the parts of plants and flowers and how plants get energy and grow.
- The Human Body for Beginners: Discover the human body is an incredible complex wonder! Students focus on the amazing functions of each system and understand that they are created in God's image.
- Animals for Beginners: Adventure into the animal kingdom God created! How animals are designed to be unique, from cuddly mammals and slimy frogs, to jellyfish, butterflies, and bacteria.

# HISTORY

Hundred Acre teachers approach history as a revelation of God in His dealings with man and the universe. We use the BJU curriculum, which covers the following topics:

- Developing a Christian worldview of the family, community, jobs, land, and the United States
- Geography: (1) Types of land and water, continents and oceans. (2) Globes and maps (title, key, compass rose), cardinal directions
- Weather: (1) Seasons and (2) Water cycle
- History: (1) American History: Native Americans, explorers, settlements: Jamestown and Plymouth (2) Founding of the United States: Abraham Lincoln, effects of immigration
- United States today: Government