



**HUNDRED ACRE**  
*Academy*

## CURRICULUM

### First Grade

*"...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, through exciting theme lessons that combine phonics, reading, listening, comprehension, creative writing, and grammar. The six units cover short and long vowels, single consonant blends, and diagraphs, r-influenced vowels, special vowel sounds, silent consonants, suffixes, and syllable division. Phonics patterns are also taught using word families.

## 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.

Because of the phonics foundation our students acquire in kindergarten, they are able to begin independently reading works with more complex themes, characters, and plots and learn to examine literary elements such as character, plot, setting, and main idea. Through discussing the stories, students begin to understand the relationship between choices and consequences.

## SPELLING

BJU Spelling is a **phonics-based spelling program** designed to give students an understanding of generalizations and rules that will allow them to spell most words they encounter, not just those they've memorized off a list.

## WRITING/PENMANSHIP

In first grade, students continue to practice their penmanship as they learn to write effective sentences and paragraphs. Brainstorming exercises allow students creative freedom as they work on sequencing to describe real and imaginary happenings. Using

all their senses, first graders learn to add vivid detail to their writing. On the creative side of things, they practice writing acrostic, shape, and haiku poems.

## 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. For example, students easily make the transition to solving multiplication problems because they understand the concept of repeated addition. First grade math introduces Venn diagrams, place value, area, perimeter, and graphing, as well as other concepts.

Critical thinking skills are incorporated into daily problem solving, which helps students see connections among a variety of math topics. Problems emphasize real-world situations, enforcing the importance of mathematics in student's daily lives.

In addition, the Purposeful Design math curriculum is used as the core textbook. This is a complete math program that provides daily activities including oral drills, teaching of new material, practice of new material and review of basic fact. 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 first grade, students will encounter units on addition and subtraction fact families to 10, adding and subtracting three-digit numbers and money, time to the quarter hour, shapes and rotations, place value, fractions to  $\frac{1}{2}$ , graphs and maps, measurement in customary and metric, and problem solving.

## 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.

First graders 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 in grade one:

- 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