

# ACTS

Albemarle Christian Teaching Support, Inc.

*Course Descriptions  
and  
Teacher Information  
2024-2025*

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Courses are arranged in alphabetical order under each course category.

## Art

### Acrylics

Teacher: Sarah Otis

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Students will explore acrylic painting and learn new skills. Acrylics are an incredibly versatile medium. They are water-based but dry to a waterproof finish. Using Acrylics, students will study various subject matter such as still life, landscapes, figure and abstract painting. They will continue to develop skills in color composition and painting techniques. We will explore the process and develop individual artistic expression.

Supply list:

Acrylic paint

Watercolor paper

Variety of brushes

Palette

Water container

Pencil and eraser

## Art

### Art Through the Centuries

Teacher: Sunny Gritsko

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$40)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	no
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-6
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Art Through the Centuries is a multi-media art class using the world's great artists as inspiration. The class will "meet" an artist at the beginning of most sessions by looking at a famous work. They will use new art vocabulary to discuss the piece. The rest of the time will be spent on creating art sparked by the artist's technique, medium, or subject matter. My unique approach weaves art history, art instruction, and God moments with fantastic art projects!

The students will be getting a good general overview of art history as well as experiencing a variety of art methods such as: painting, sculpture, printmaking, and more. Basic drawing principles will be covered using the five shape families and the seven secrets of perspective, as well as principles of portraits and figure drawing.

Materials fee will cover all supplies.

Fifth and sixth-graders may take this class for two years (A, B) as different projects/lessons are offered each year.

Plan to display your favorite pieces at the ACTS end-of-the-year art and talent show in May!

# Art

## ArtWorks

Teacher: Mrs. Michelle Bentzen

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	optional
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

How does Art Work?

Art is an expressive language. Let's create (and get a bit messy) with the many different art mediums and materials together!

In ArtWorks, we will explore the visual Elements of Art through line, shape, form, value, space, color, and texture. As our year progresses, the students will dive deeper into an understanding of the Principles of Art: rhythm, balance, contrast, proportion, harmony, variety, and movement. This course will provide opportunities to develop art skills and techniques, while we learn art history, art appreciation, art production, and art criticism. Art teaches creative thinking, problem solving, and decision making skills in the process. Your artist will learn how to express themselves through their art!

We will experiment with many different art techniques in mixed media using paint, watercolors, color pencils, graphite pencils, oil pastels, clay, printmaking, etc...

Students will need to supply their own sketchbook and smock.

Lastly, students will exhibit a few of their ArtWorks in the Year-end Celebration.

## Art

### **Basic Drawing (ONLINE)**

**Teacher: Mr. Thomas Marsh**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i><b>\$315</b></i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-2hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

**Basic Drawing is an online course. It will meet on Wednesday morning from 10:10-11:05.**

Basic Drawing (online) will focus on drawing as an artistic skill, a foundation for creating works of art. The approach is classical, honoring such enduring aesthetic values as beauty, form, harmony, and proportion. Many examples from art history will be used to illustrate these concepts.

Initially, with the traditional basic drawing materials of charcoal and pencil, and using simple geometric forms as subject matter; the drawing principles of proportion, perspective, light and shadow, and composition will be studied and developed. Color will be introduced in projects using colored pencils. As the academic year progresses, projects will grow in complexity, starting with still lifes, perspective drawing, drapery studies, and then basic human figure proportions, leading up to the major project of illustrating a Biblical scene or verse. The class will conclude with two portrait projects.

The educational emphasis will be on artistic discipline (hard work and practice), and individual improvement in drawing skills. Students are not graded in relation to other students; rather, they are guided to grow significantly beyond their initial skill levels which are brought to the class.

Required Materials (to be provided by the student):

- 18" x 24" drawing pad (drawing paper, not newsprint)
- Drawing board with clips (or an equivalent rigid board) to hold the 18" x 24" pad
- Kneaded eraser
- 1 package of medium vine charcoal (several sticks)
- 1 black 2B Conte Crayon
- 1 medium charcoal pencil
- Soft graphite pencil (Ebony or graphite stick)
- 1 #2 traditional graphite pencil
- 4 Prismacolor (or equivalent) colored pencils: red, blue, yellow, and black.
- Sketchbook (approx. 9" x 12")

Materials can be purchased at Michaels in the Barracks Road Shopping Center. Depending on the student's output, additional materials may need to be purchased before the end of the academic year.

## Art

### **Ceramics I (Fall)**

**Teacher: Robin Rakow**

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$120</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>minimal</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

Explore basic clay hand-building techniques to form vessels and sculptures. Students will be encouraged to show their unique style and interests in their pieces. Emphasis will be placed on design as well as hand-building techniques: pinch, coil, and slab. Projects will be fired in a kiln twice with painting/glazing between.

Materials fee covers clay tools, supplies, clay, firing costs, and glazes.

## Art

### **Ceramics II (Spring)**

**Teacher: Robin Rakow**

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$150</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>minimal</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

Students will continue with basic clay hand-building and will complete more advanced projects using these techniques. Students will work on planning and sketching projects that are assigned, and we will also incorporate student choice projects, as well. This course is for students who have a solid understanding of all hand building techniques. Peer critiques will be offered for pieces. Projects will be fired in a kiln twice with painting/glazing between.

Materials fee covers clay, firing costs, and glazes.

## Art

### Intro to Crochet

Teacher: Lily proffitt

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$70
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	3/7
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In crochet for beginners we will cover basic stitches and terminology. Some take longer to learn the art of crochet than others but repetition and practice are key.



## Art

### Start With Art

Teacher: Emily Reiner

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

If your child is ready to jump into art and express their creativity this is a great place to start. A student may take this class for three years, as different projects/lessons are offered each year. Most sessions begin with an introduction to an art principle, artistic style, or featured artist. Artists then combine the mini lesson with their own ideas to create unique works of art.

Start with Art students will have the opportunity to do the following learning activities:

- Experience a variety of media including acrylic, watercolor, soft pastel, oil pastel, marker, pen/pencil, textiles, tile, recyclables, metal, plaster, clay, and natural materials.
- Try various art processes such as drawing, painting, sculpture, modeling, weaving, basic stitchery, printmaking, and collage.
- Incorporate art elements of line, color, shape, form, value, space, and texture.
- Explore design principles of balance, proportion, contrast, variety, emphasis, unity, rhythm, and pattern; and appreciate the art of famous artists and various cultural groups.

\*The \$50 materials fee covers all art materials, craft supplies, utensils, smocks, sketch books, and teaching aids.

\*\* No minimum age exceptions permitted. Please note that young artists need to be developmentally ready to separate from parents and participate in 30 minutes of moderately focused work.

## Art

### Watercolor

Teacher: Sarah Otis

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Watercolor is a foundational painting skills class. Students should have some background in basic drawing skills before taking this class. Students will learn classical and contemporary watercolor painting techniques, wet on wet, dry on wet, resist techniques, and brush skills. The class will spend time exploring color theory and color interaction as it applies to watercolor. Students will quickly be able to create fully finished paintings with a variety of subject matter.

Supply list:

Watercolor paper (Block or pad)

Variety of brushes

Watercolor paints (tube or pan)

Palette

Water container

Pencil and eraser

## Electives - General

### All the World's a Stage

Teacher: Jennifer (Jen) Merriman

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	1-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

#### All the World's a Stage - Elementary Drama

Were you born to perform? Do you have an idea that must be heard? If you are in 1st-5th grade then this is the course for you! The skill sets learned in a drama course are universally valuable for effective in person communication whether on stage or off.

The course goals are:

Bond as a group by establishing rules and creating trust

Develop focus and listening skills

Learn how relaxation, breath work, and warm-ups help prepare an actor for performance

Practice vocal projection

Use physical movement to portray characters

Use sensory awareness and imagination to portray characters and environment

Convey story through imagination, movement, and vocalization

Learn the basics of stage direction and terminology

Perform in front of an audience

Each class will follow the format below:

Opening ritual - Activity that brings structure to the creative environment

Physical warm -up

Vocal warm-up

Skill building activity

Performance activity

Discussion

Closing activity

## Electives - General

### **American Girls Rock!**

**Teacher: Miriam Nissley**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-7
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class will focus on the historical American Girl dolls. Unit studies may include reading, writing, art, sewing, crafts, etc. pertaining to the time period of each doll selected. There may be some homework and optional (ex. cooking) assignments to do at home. Girls do not have to own an American Girl doll to participate in the class.

Time period of historical dolls to be studied for 2024-2025:

1764 – Kaya                                      1854 – Kirsten  
1904 – Samantha/Nellie                      1963 – Melody

#### **Unit 1**

The Journey Begins - Kaya Classic 1  
Smoke on the Wind - Kaya Classic 2

#### **Unit 3**

Manners and Mischief - Samantha Classic 1  
Lost and Found – Samantha Classic 1  
Nellie’s Promise

#### **Unit 4**

No Ordinary Sound – Melody Classic 1  
Never Stop Singing – Melody Classic 2

#### **Unit 2 (Central Series)**

Meet Kirsten – Book 1  
Kirsten Learns a Lesson – Book 2  
Kirsten’s Surprise – Book 3  
Happy Birthday, Kirsten! – Book 4  
Kirsten Saves the Day! – Book 5  
Changes for Kirsten – Book 6

Note on books: We will be covering the whole series of each doll. Most of the books listed above are from the BeForever Series. Reading will be assigned for the unabridged versions. Books for retired dolls can be found used or at the library usually in the “Central Series” format. Contact Mrs. Nissley for alternate titles.

Optional: Avid readers may want to read mysteries and/or my journey books for each doll.  
Unit 4: Melody - Real Stories From My Time: The March on Washington, Scholastic AG Book

Material fees cover copying costs for handouts, teaching aids, and most of the art & crafting supplies.

#### **Supplies needed:**

**1 to 1 ½ inch three ring binder with four dividers**  
**TBA (most likely things found around the home)**

## Electives - General

**Boys Destination Imagination:  
Middle School  
Teacher: Lindsay Sauer**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/7
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

Destination Imagination is a global organization that facilitates a creativity competition each year (learn more at [www.DIVirginia.org](http://www.DIVirginia.org) or [DestinationImagination.org](http://DestinationImagination.org)). For the Team Challenge experience, a small team develops a solution to a project-based, STEAM challenge. Team Challenges are new each year and may have a specific educational focus such as: technical, scientific, or engineering. Although each Team Challenge has a specific focus, each one incorporates various elements to make them multi-disciplinary and cross-curricular (i.e., the engineering challenge will have an artistic or storytelling component).

Students in this course will be a part of one team who decide together which team challenge they will work to creatively solve throughout the year. They will work to develop their solution and present it live at the Virginia state tournament in March 2025. Teams are responsible for designing and creating 100% of their Team Challenge solution. Absolutely no interference from non-team members (no research, idea, or solution from family, friends, etc) is allowed- this is a critical component so the team can take full ownership of their solution! The teacher (i.e. Team Manager) for this course, guides the creative process and helps keep the team on track, but is not allowed to interfere with the team's solution either.

Another part of the course will be practicing and completing Instant Challenges. Instant Challenges are quick, creative and critical-thinking exercises that build teamwork and reinforce problem-solving skills like rapid ideation and implementation. Instant Challenges can be task-based, performance-based, or a combination of both. The team will practice these challenges each week and will complete one together at the tournament in March.

Both the Team Challenge and Instant Challenge components teach and develop the creative process. The team members will grow in their problem solving, critical thinking, communication, teamwork, presentation skills, perseverance and more. It is a really fun way to learn together!

This course requires a commitment to attend the DI- Virginia state tournament in March 2025. Each team will also need to provide two adult volunteers for the tournament (the Team Manager cannot be one of the volunteers). There may be optional team meetings outside of ACTS, at an alternate location, as tournament time approaches (January - March 2025) if the team feels they need more time to prepare and practice. Homework will vary throughout the course duration depending on what the team needs to do for their solution and how they choose to delegate the responsibilities.

While this course is offered as an ACTS class, ACTS cannot sponsor or be responsible for competitions, transportation, etc. for this class. The materials fee covers the upfront cost to register the team with Destination Imagination, a rulebook for the specific Team Challenge chosen by the team and provided supplies to utilize in class (paper, markers, scissors, tape, etc). The course tuition covers additional expenses related to the Team and Instant Challenges and Virginia state tournament. Families are responsible for transportation to the tournament or any additional team meetings happening outside of ACTS without any liability falling on ACTS. There are no textbooks or additional materials required. Age exceptions will not be granted for this class in order to keep the team in compliance with the competition rules.

## Electives - General

### **Business & Entrepreneurship 101**

**Teacher: Renata Miller**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$315</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1.5 hrs/wk</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

First Semester: Students will dive into the exciting world of entrepreneurship, beginning with brainstorming business ideas and crafting detailed business plans. Through hands-on experience, they will develop their product or service line, designing labels and packaging market appeal. They will also create marketing strategies to promote their product and services. In addition, they will learn how to price their product by understanding the cost of materials and labor. Finally, students will have the opportunity to showcase and sell their creations at the end-of-year ACTS Holiday Market, putting their entrepreneurial skills to the test in a real-world setting.

As the semester progresses, we'll take some time to reflect on our experiences at the holiday market. From there, we'll dive back into the nitty-gritty of developing our products or services, aiming to make them even better for the real world. We'll revisit our business plans, making any necessary tweaks and improvements, and fine-tuning our labels, packaging, and prices. To amp up our marketing game, we'll get hands-on with Canva, creating eye-catching materials like brochures, flyers, thank-you cards, and business cards. To top it all off, we'll explore the world of website design, giving each student the chance to showcase their business to the class. It's all about growth, creativity, and getting ready to take on the world of entrepreneurship!

## Electives - General

### **Crafting with Flair!**

**Teacher: Debbie Howard**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$55
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$40)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	*minimal
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-6
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Crafting with Flair! will provide a fun introduction to a variety of crafting skills and hospitality projects. We will explore entertaining and hospitality, cloth napkin folding, food, floral, needle, beading, and paper crafts, as well as seasonal/holiday projects. We will complete at least one service project each semester (to be determined).

Occasional homework may be required to practice a skill, complete a step in a progressive project, or finish a project, if realistically possible.

#### Supplies:

The supplies fee covers basic materials and tools for in-class instruction. Students will occasionally be asked to bring items from home, such as starched cloth napkins for napkin folding, or frosting or baked item(s) for cake decorating practice.

#### Students will need:

3-ring view-binder, at least 1 inch capacity

Ruler

3-ring Zipper pouch

Scissors

Pencils (for making notes)

Sewing needles (variety pack for hand sewing/embroidery)

Thimble

Calligraphy pen for home practice

\*Homework: May vary by project

## Electives - General

**Destination Imagination:**

**SkillFire**

**Teacher: Lindsay Sauer**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Destination Imagination is a global organization that exists to inspire and equip youth to imagine and innovate through the creative process. The DI SkillFire curriculum introduces and reinforces skills like: teamwork/ communication, creative thinking, dramatic play/ self-expression, resource awareness/ exploration of material properties, literary analysis/ research, technical design, goal-setting/ project management, improvisation, and rapid ideation. For this class we will focus on learning one new skill at a time. The skill will be introduced and we will do activities that reinforce understanding and build this skill. Girls and boys that participate in this class will enjoy a hands-on, active learning experience.

Once all skills are covered, we will complete some projects in small groups that will put together all they have learned into unique solutions. The projects may be a performance-based challenge, a task-based challenge or a hybrid combination of both. The projects will be completed over several weeks and all the work will be done together in class. As this course leads students through the creative process, they will have the opportunity to start building some of these life skills along the way. It will be a fun way to learn these skills together!

\*\*\* While we will get to do some projects during the second semester, there is NOT a competitive tournament component for this course.

The materials fee will cover all materials needed for the activities and projects for the entirety of this class. There are no textbooks or other materials required.



## Electives - General

### Drama 6+

Teacher: Autumn Temple

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$7.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	*1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/22
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6th-12th
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Drama students will engage in theater sharpening skills through fun and inspiring improvisational style games during class time. We will build skills and prepare for the stage as we prepare to perform in December and May at ACTS events. All students taking this course will be expected to memorize lines and perform. The nature of our performance will be to utilize Drama as a ministry tool. Through creative, meaningful, fun skits we will teach a gospel inspired message from the stage. I enjoy encouraging students to use their creativity to write dramas and foster a desire for drama ministry beyond our co-op!

## Electives - General

### First Aid/Emergency Care

Teacher: Roderick "Rod" Lehrke

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

Class will include first aid, CPR certification, and basic life-saving techniques.

\*AHA CPR Course

## Electives - General

### **From Politics to Pop Culture: Navigating Today's World Teacher: Ginny Thompson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270/315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30/35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-2 hours</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>10-12*</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>w/approv</i>

In an era where the line between politics and pop culture increasingly blurs, understanding the complexities of our modern world has never been more crucial. "From Politics to Pop Culture" is a dynamic, high school level course designed to engage students with the current events that shape our society, from the floors of Congress to the trends on social media. Through a comprehensive exploration of contemporary issues based on this country's founding and constitutional principles, this course aims not only to inform but also to empower students to critically engage with the world around them.

**\*\*Current Events Analysis\*\*:** Students will dive deep into the latest headlines, developing an understanding of the political, social, and cultural factors at play.

**\*\*Critical Thinking and Debate\*\*:** Through structured debates and discussions, students will learn the art of presenting well-reasoned arguments and considering different perspectives.

**\*\*Media Literacy\*\*:** In an age of information overload, learning to discern credible sources and understand media bias is essential. This course will equip students with the skills needed to navigate the media landscape effectively.

**\*\*Commitment to Learning\*\*:** Students are expected to demonstrate a genuine interest in understanding current events and their implications on society.

**\*\*Consistent Engagement\*\*:** Regular participation in discussions and assignments is key to developing a well-rounded perspective on the topics covered. To this end, families can choose between a regular and Honors format for this class. All students are expected to complete reading assignments, participate in class discussion, and come to class with a current event they would like to discuss. For those who wish to use the class for high school credit and are planning on attending college, there will be additional written assignments and quizzes.

One of the cornerstone principles of this course is fostering an environment where differing opinions can coexist respectfully. Students are encouraged to:

**\*\*Listen Actively\*\*:** Understand and consider viewpoints different from your own.

**\*\*Communicate Thoughtfully\*\*:** Express your opinions clearly without diminishing those of others. We will also cover the value in being "devil's advocate" as arguing the opposite side provides one with a stronger platform in which to counter various beliefs.

The goal is not to tell students what to think about the various issues discussed, but rather to equip them with the critical thinking skills necessary to form their own opinions. To this end, students will be encouraged to:

**\*\*Question Assumptions\*\*:** Challenge both personal and widely-held beliefs about the world.

**\*\*Seek Multiple Perspectives\*\*:** Look beyond mainstream narratives to understand the full scope of an issue.

**\*\*Develop Independent Thought\*\*:** Cultivate the ability to think independently, supported by evidence and reasoned argument.

"From Politics to Pop Culture" is more than just a course; it's a journey into the heart of what it means to be an informed and engaged citizen in the 21st century. Students who embark on this journey will come away with a deeper understanding of the world around them, equipped to navigate the complexities of modern society with confidence and insight. A basic understanding of this country's founding, as well as of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution, will be extremely helpful but is not required. To this end, students will receive a list of suggested textbooks and other sources in case they need extra support in understanding issues. (Please know this may also affect how long homework takes each week.) Also, depending on what is going on in the world, there will most likely be weeks that mature content is discussed. Please keep this in mind before registering your student for the class.

\*Mature 9th graders considered

## Electives - General

### Girls Bible Study

Teacher: Autumn Temple

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$12.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	*30min.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/22
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8th-12th
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Girls Bible Study class will be a time devoted to the study of God's word and discussion of how we can apply it to our daily lives. We'll use devotional study guides (tba soon) to help us to dig into scripture. The girls will be encouraged to grow in their desire and daily discipline of reading God's word. Weekly prayer together will be a part of the classroom experience. Prayer requests will be welcomed and the girls will be encouraged to remember their classmates in prayer.

Both first and second semester, we'll spend one day focused on the emphasis of foreign and indigenous missions work / missionaries.

"We are the Bibles the world is reading. We are the creeds the world is needing. We are the sermons the world is heeding." -Billy Graham

## Electives - General

### Green Thumb Gang

Teacher: Rita Erwin

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25 only if needed)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<30min
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/8
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this class we will have fun exploring plants, nature, and simple container gardening using storybooks, poetry, and the Bible as a springboard. Activities will include basic plant care, planting seeds and small plants, arts and crafts, show and tell (to practice speaking in front of a group), and making lapbooks and notebooks with an emphasis on writing, using scissors, coloring, and gluing. Students will be expected to write, cut, glue, draw, and color in class. Homework will include taking care of plant(s) at home.

The materials fee will cover copy paper, ink, file folders for lapbooks, a three-ring binder for each student to keep their notebooking pages in, crayons, markers, scissors, glue sticks, supplies such as soil and seeds for container plants, and crafts.

We will need a few small containers to be sent from home to put plants/seeds in, such as quart sized half and half containers, etc. I will also ask parents to send in a small/medium sized pumpkin for a planting activity.

## Electives - General

### High School Christian Theology

Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$360</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In his book, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A.W. Tozer well said, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” Tozer was suggesting that what a person knows and believes about God is vitally important as it will direct the spiritual course of his or her life. This is why studying theology is of paramount importance!

This course, Christian Theology, aims to help students deepen their knowledge of God, understand key doctrines found in the Bible, and build their lives on the foundation of God’s Word. Additionally, as our culture becomes more hostile toward Christian belief and biblical morality, this course will prepare students to enter the broader world with a better defense of the Christian faith based on biblical doctrine. Specifically, this course covers the doctrines of Scripture, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Creation, Man, Sin, Redemption, the Church, and the End Times.

## Electives - General

### High School Hermeneutics

Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$360</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In his book, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, A.W. Tozer well said, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” Tozer was suggesting that the way we live is primarily determined by what we think about God, his Word, and his world. With that in mind, this course, *Biblical Hermeneutics*, is being offered to provide the student with the necessary framework for interpreting the Bible accurately, that the student might accurately understand the God of the Bible.

This course is designed to help students who want to learn how to read, interpret, and apply the Bible for themselves. In *Hermeneutics*, students will learn the key tools of bible interpretation, seeking to understand the historical, literary, and theological contexts of each genre of literature in the Bible. Furthermore, this class aims to help the student interpret the Scriptures with a goal of discovering real-life application for growth in spiritual maturity.

\*Required Textbook: *How To Read The Bible For All Its Worth* by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart

## Electives - General

### Introduction to Psychology

Teacher: Jennifer Douglas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Welcome to the fascinating world of the mind! This class will touch both, the realm of science as well as philosophy.

We will explore the most intriguing part of the human body and learn about its anatomy and functions. Throughout the course, we will be confronted with human development, emotion, perception, memory, personality and so much more. We will also look into some of the more prevalent theories that seek to explain human behavior, however, we will do so through the lens of a Christian worldview. Students will learn to appreciate the marvelous wonder that our Creator endowed us with while learning to look for truth and to take our thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ.

Students will need to purchase the textbook and have a three-ring binder.

Students will be assigned occasional projects, case studies, and fun activities to broaden their understanding.

Weekly quizzes, homework and class participation will be counted toward grading.

Textbook:

Homeschool Psych 2nd Edition. Rice, Tim D.Min, LPC



## Electives - General

### **Kids Connect K-2**

**Teacher: Laura Mason**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Round out your co-op day with friendship-building play! This is a relaxed class period where children have freedom to just spend quality time together. We start with a snack and chat time. Then, we move on to free play or planned activities. Toys and games will be provided, but students sometimes also bring toys from home to share, as well as participating in show-and-tell days. The children help to brainstorm activities together, vote, plan, lead, and follow as we see how the class develops through the year. The kinds of activities we do will depend on the interests of the children involved. In the past, this has included traditional school games like 7-Up, board games, drawing, Legos, building marble tracks, playing hair salon, imaginative play, crafts, seasonal parties, bean bag bowling, obstacle courses, charades, a speed conversation game, and the list goes on. We'll also practice classroom etiquette like how to stand in a line, listen to instructions, raise hands, include others, and be polite to teachers and other students. Most importantly, students will have the opportunity to deepen relationships with the friends they are already spending time with in their more content-based classes. Many great friendships have been formed in Kids Connect that continue outside the classroom!

## Electives - General

### **Kids Connect 3-5**

**Teacher: Laura Mason**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This relaxed class period gives students a chance to spend quality time with friends! Each class starts with a snack and chat time and then moves on to an activity or free time. Games and other activities will be provided, but students sometimes also bring things from home to share, as well as participating in show-and-tell days. Kids help to brainstorm activities together, vote, plan, lead, and follow as we see how the class develops through the year. The kinds of activities we do will depend on the interests of the children involved. In the past, this has included traditional school games like 7-Up, board games, card games, imaginative storytelling games, bean bag bowling, drawing, Legos, seasonal parties, charades, a speed conversation game, and the list goes on. We'll also practice classroom etiquette like how to stand in a line, listen to instructions, raise hands, include others, and be polite to teachers and other students. Most importantly, students will have the opportunity to deepen relationships with the friends they are already spending time with in their more content-based classes. Many great friendships have been formed in Kids Connect that continue outside the classroom!

## Electives - General

### Learn to Code in Scratch

Teacher: Karen Measells

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i><b>\$315</b></i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-3</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>*6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

Students will learn the basic logic of computer coding with Scratch, a free online coding platform developed at MIT. Projects will start with coding animated characters, telling stories with coded graphics and developing simple games. The final unit will combine all of their new skills to plan, develop and share a project of their own design.

Students will need a laptop computer, Chromebook or iPad with keyboard and access to the internet. Websites will include docs.google.com and scratch.mit.edu. Additional websites will be communicated with parents before class. Students' computer use will be monitored during class, and students who access websites outside of coursework will be expelled from the class with no tuition reimbursement.

*\*Younger students must have teacher approval to take class*

## Electives - General

### MS Exploring The Bible

Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

The Bible's big story centers around God's redemptive plan and how He has been unfolding that plan through his Son, Jesus Christ. In his course, MS Exploring The Bible, students will embark on a journey from the creation account in Genesis through God's promised restoration in Revelation, discovering how Jesus is the promised Savior that can be seen and studied throughout the Scriptures. The course covers 40 key passages in the Bible that every middle school student should know and understand. The goal of each week's bible study is that students would better understand God through the study of his Word and be encouraged to live wholly devoted to Him. \*No textbook needed.

## Electives - General

### Middle School Shakespeare

Teacher: Jennifer (Jen) Merriman

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1.5 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this introductory course, we will cover ONE Shakespeare play per year. The goal is to give the students a taste of his genius so they want more.

In 2023/2024 featured work was The Tempest.

In 2024/2025 the featured work is Midsummer Night's Dream.

We will study the play through:

- Viewing animated adaptations and film adaptations
- Reading adaptations with picture books and/or graphic novels
- Listening to the play (original text) dramatized on audio while
- Following along in the Folger's Shakespeare Library
- Illustrate and analyze text
- Perform an abridged version of the play

## Electives - General

### PSAT/SAT Prep

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will prepare your student to be successful when taking the PSAT and SAT.

Through games, competitions, and instruction your student will review:

- Reading Comprehension
- Reasoning Skills
- Identifying and Correcting Grammar Errors
- Answering Evidence-Based Questions About Reading Passages
- Linear Expressions
- Linear Inequalities
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing, and Simplifying Complex Numbers
- Quadratic Equation
- Geometry Problems
- Strategy
- And much more!!

Materials Needed: 2" Binder, Pack of 5 dividers, notebook paper, pencils, red pens, graph paper, Texas Instruments TI-30X IIS Scientific Calculator

No textbook required

## Electives - General

### Route 66 Bible Study

Teacher: Bethany Hamner

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1.5-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this two-year class, we will explore all 66 books of the Bible. Year A will cover the Old Testament (Genesis through Malachi). Year B will cover the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation). While we will not cover every story in the Bible, we will cover the most popular ones. I will be teaching your students the Books of the Bible using a fast-paced, fun song that my kids learned when they were younger.

We will take a break from the Bible Study plan for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. During those special holidays, we will have a different lesson/craft.

- Class time: will consist of Bible stories, songs, games, and a craft each week.
- Homework: will consist of worksheets from the Route 66 curriculum.
- Scrapbook: will consist of a craft, which we will complete in class for each book of the Bible.
- Prayer/Praise Time: Each week I will ask if students have prayer requests or praises they would like to share with the class and we will have a special prayer for them.

Material fees will be used for Route 66 workbook, copy paper/ink, binders for the students' scrapbooks, crayons, glue sticks, and other miscellaneous craft supplies.

## Electives - General

### Sewing 101 Middle School

Teacher: Carlee Whitlock

<i><b>Yearly Course Fee:</b></i>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	30 min
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/6
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

Sewing 101 is for beginners or novice sewers. You will learn about sewing machines and practical hand sewing skills, as well as complete a few projects to inspire your creativity! The projects include a pillowcase, tote bag, apron, bed caddy, and an end-of-year project. Enjoy learning a skill and feel proud of what you've made!

## Electives - General

### Sewing 102

Teacher: Carlee Whitlock

<i><b>Yearly Course Fee:</b></i>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	30 min
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/6
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

Sewing 102 is a continuation class from sewing 101. You must have taken Sewing 101 or have worked with me previously to take this class. No exceptions. We will continue building on the skills we learned last year. The projects include pajama pants, Christmas stocking, a zippered pencil case, and how to sew darts.



**Electives - General**  
**STEM (Middle School)**  
**Teacher: Sandy Brewer**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1/2 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In this STEM course, we will spend each class using hands-on and minds-in methods to problem solve. Students will investigate, design, build, collaborate, and present in order to develop higher level thinking and prepare them to work across scientific disciplines to solve challenging problems. There will not be a textbook used for this course.

## Electives - General

### STEM 1

Teacher: Jenn Muse

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Welcome to the exciting world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)! In this course designed for third and fourth graders, students will embark on a journey to explore the wonders of the universe through hands-on activities, experiments, and interactive lessons. From discovering the mysteries of outer space to unraveling the complexities of the natural world, students will engage in fun and stimulating projects that foster critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity. Through exploration in various STEM fields, students will learn how to apply scientific principles, utilize technology tools, design engineering solutions, and master mathematical concepts. Get ready to unleash your curiosity, ignite your passion for learning, and become the innovators and problem solvers of tomorrow in this dynamic STEM adventure!

## Electives - General

### STEM 2

Teacher: Jenn Muse

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-6
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Welcome to the exciting world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)! In this course designed for fifth and sixth graders, students will embark on a journey to explore the wonders of the universe through hands-on activities, experiments, and interactive lessons. From discovering the mysteries of outer space to unraveling the complexities of the natural world, students will engage in fun and stimulating projects that foster critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity. Through exploration in various STEM fields, students will learn how to apply scientific principles, utilize technology tools, design engineering solutions, and master mathematical concepts. Get ready to unleash your curiosity, ignite your passion for learning, and become the innovators and problem solvers of tomorrow in this dynamic STEM adventure!

## Elective - General

### Storybook STEM

Teacher: Jennifer Douglas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Storybook STEM is designed to be a fun, hands-on class that will incorporate two favorite activities for students: enjoying a quality story book as well as meeting a weekly challenge using their imagination. In class, the selected story will inspire a project that students will be assigned using teamwork and cooperation. Students will plan, design, create and test their ideas while learning about the fascinating world of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Students will have no homework as all projects will be finished in class.  
No reading or writing competence needed - just a curious mind!

Material fee will cover all project costs.

## Elective - General

### Teen Book Club

Teacher: Joan Schilling

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs a week
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	*10-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

Teen Book Club is a course that will provide a relaxed environment for students to gather together for the purpose of reading and discussing quality literature without the pressure of having to complete quizzes, tests, or essays. In addition to reading core texts, students will familiarize themselves with the backgrounds of various authors. Rounding out the book club experience, “paired text” articles and essays often will be provided to offer context for specific readings.

Students enrolled in Teen Book Club will be expected to read sections of assigned texts (and possibly supplemental readings) weekly and to participate in substantive, analytical discussions of literary works. Students will practice skills of literary analysis, but they also will be encouraged to personally connect with reading selections in God-honoring and life-affirming ways.

The Teen Book Club proposed reading list includes novels, collections of short stories, one non-fiction book, and one film. Novels may be purchased (new or used) and/or borrowed; [www.bookfinder.com](http://www.bookfinder.com) is an excellent web site for comparing prices for new and used books. The course materials fee covers handouts and teacher-provided collections of short stories. Students also will need a binder or folder for keeping handouts and short story collections.

All text selections have been chosen specifically for their potential to inspire lively, meaningful, and spiritually fruitful discussions. However, some texts contain mature themes and are best suited only for emotionally and intellectually mature teens. As parents are the God-appointed primary educators of their children, it is ultimately up to each parent to examine the proposed reading list and decide if the Teen Book Club course is an appropriate fit for his or her child.

#### **Proposed reading list:**

##### **Novels/Fiction**

The Catcher in the Rye  
The Night Gardener

The Wave  
Lord of the Flies

Scythe  
The Tale of Despereaux

##### **Non-Fiction**

The Shallows 2nd Edition by Nicholas Carr (MUST BE 2nd Edition copyright 2020; ISBN 978-0393357820)

\*\*Selected short stories by authors including: Shirley Jackson, Edgar Allan Poe, Ray Bradbury, Flannery O’Conner, Kurt Vonnegut, Saki, Guy du Maupassant, and Ursula K. LeGuin

\*\*Film (if time allows): The Truman Show

\*\*\*Mature 9th graders may be permitted into the class with instructor approval\*\*\*\*

## Electives - General

### The Chess Room

Teacher: Kimberly Kim

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
Textbook:	No
Homework/Hrs a wk:	None
Min/Max Students:	8/12
Grade Level:	5th Period: 5-8 6th Period: 7-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

We will begin each class with a chess puzzle that we work together as a class to solve to help improve students' analytical skills and their ability to recognize where splits, checkmates and where the best moves are.

Additionally, some classes will include a chess teaching video that will cover topics such as openings, how to get checkmate, tricks and traps, and how to think like a professional chess player.

The second half of the class will be spent allowing students to practice their skills and knowledge by playing chess with each other. We'll have some fun variants of chess games like blitz, bug house, duck chess, king of the hill, and tournaments. Occasionally we'll have handouts of openings that students can take home to practice learning how to develop their pieces and recognize chess patterns if they would like to do so.

We will also have some exciting optional opportunities to participate in a couple chess tournaments, one being the Virginia State Chess tournament here in Charlottesville in March 2025.

Students will need a spiral notebook for taking notes and recording their games through chess notation. (They have an option of using a chess scorebook to record their games or notebook paper)

## Electives - General

### Traveling Through the Bible K-2

Teacher: Bethany Hamner

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-1.5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5-12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this two-year class, we will explore all 66 books of the Bible. Year A will cover the Old Testament (Genesis through Malachi). Year B will cover the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation). While we will not cover every story in the Bible, we will cover the most popular ones. I will be teaching your students the Books of the Bible using a fast-paced, fun song that my kids learned when they were younger.

We will take a break from the Bible Study plan for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. During those special holidays, we will have a different lesson/craft.

- Class time: will consist of Bible stories, songs, games, and a craft each week.
- Homework: will consist of mostly coloring sheets with a paragraph about the story we will cover in class. Sometimes there will be matching worksheets, mazes, trace the words, word search (age appropriate), and other worksheets.
- Scrapbook: will consist of a craft, which we will complete in class for each book of the Bible.
- Prayer/Praise Time: Each week I will ask if students have prayer requests or praises they would like to share with the class and we will have a special prayer for them.

Material fees will be used for copy paper/ink, binders for the students' scrapbooks, crayons, glue sticks, and other miscellaneous craft supplies.

## Electives - Semester

### **Brainteasers: Fun with Math and Logic**

**Teacher: Venita Richmond**

<i><b>Semester Course Fee:</b></i>	<b><i>\$150</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$45</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Critical thinking skills - the ability to examine information, manipulate ideas, and combine knowledge in different ways - are important for every child's education. They can be applied to a variety of subjects, and help improve standardized test scores. In this class, students will develop critical thinking skills while engaging in fun games and activities. Students will work together to solve brain teasers, riddles, puzzles, and more. Homework will be rare.



## Electives - Semester

### Christian Worldview Assumptions

Teacher: Dan Gritsko

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$120</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

This course has been created with the hope of supporting ACTS families who desire their son or daughter to deepen their understanding of our Christian faith. We will do this by enhancing their development of a Christian Worldview and using the new Assumptions model. Key applications from Daniel chapter 1, other verses from scripture, engaging activities, a review of contemporary worldview claims, and the “assumptions” approach to worldview, form the framework for the class.

#### Outline:

We will start and finish the course by investigating Daniel chapter 1.

We will study the “assumptions” model as an approach, and read the book, *Transparent*. We will look at key verses such as Romans 12:1-2, 1 Peter 3:15, and verses from Matthew 16.

We will examine the central event of history.

We will also apply that event as a grid for the study of history and contrast it with contemporary American worldview claims, and other worldviews.

We will also discuss the development and practical application of a Christian understanding of the world around us.

We will also reference current events and look at them from a Biblical perspective.

#### Course goals:

- To support Christian families as they impart Christian faith to their children
- For students to be equipped to better understand our Awesome God and the world that He created
- To provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of key aspects of our Christian faith. In doing so, to enable them to both understand the world around them and impact it for Jesus.

Textbook: You do not need to purchase this separately. The book, *Transparent*, by Dave Richardson will be purchased in bulk by Mr. Gritsko using the material fees. Material fees will also be used for copies and handouts.

Possible field trip to Washington D.C. (date TBD) We will likely plan to charter a motor coach and tour Washington D.C., led by Mr. Gritsko who has over 30 years of experience in educational travel. Cost and details for the trip will come in early fall. Many ACTS families have enjoyed this annual trip.

## Electives - Semester

### Economics

(Fall Semester)

Teacher: Mike Henderson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$0)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

This class gives a basic introduction to the principles of economics in an engaging and practical way. Students will learn and understand how the various aspects of the economy affect their everyday lives. We discuss the macro-economics topics of employment, inflation, money and banking, government fiscal policy, and the Federal Reserve monetary policy. Our micro-economics principles include scarcity, opportunity costs, supply and demand, and the behavior of people and companies. Course materials will be handed out in class.

## Electives - Semester

### Foundations in Personal Finance (Spring Semester)

Teacher: Mike Henderson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$125</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class will give your teen a solid foundation in personal money management. Engaging lessons cover all the big topics, such as Emergency Funds, Savings, Spending, Investing, and Generosity. We also talk about buying cars and paying for college. Of course, we even get into the deeper subjects of insurance and purchasing a house. Your student's ability to handle money both now and in the future will accelerate in a positive direction. Textbook is provided.

## Electives - Semester

### Introduction to Computer

### Literacy - MS

Teacher: Karen Measells

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$140</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

This class will prepare students for using Microsoft Office and Google/Google Drive in a school or professional setting. Classes will be taught on Google platforms because of the free, easy access. Topics will include using Google Docs for an APA style paper and for a resume; using Google Sheets for household budgeting and for displaying survey results; using Google Slides to present data and information to an audience; safely using Google for research.

The class will also include an introduction to computer science with a unit on the basics of how computers work and how to use simple coding to solve problems.

Students will be required to bring a laptop computer, Chromebook or iPad with keyboard and will need internet access for class and homework. Websites will be limited to google.com, jmrl.org, and code.org. Additional websites will be communicated with parents before class. Students' computer use will be monitored during class, and students who access websites outside of coursework will be expelled from the class with no tuition reimbursement.

## Electives - Semester

### Introduction to Computer

### Literacy - HS

Teacher: Karen Measells

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$200</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	2-4
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

This class will prepare students for using Microsoft Office and Google/Google Drive in a school or professional setting. Classes will be taught on Google platforms because of the free, easy access. Topics will include using Google Docs for an APA style paper and for a resume; using Google Sheets for household budgeting and for displaying survey results; using Google Slides to present data and information to an audience; safely using Google for research.

The class will also include an introduction to computer science with a unit on the basics of how computers work and how to use simple coding to solve problems. The high school section will also include basics of web design.

Students will be required to bring a laptop computer, Chromebook or iPad with keyboard and will need internet access for class and homework. Websites will be limited to google.com, jmrl.org, and code.org. Additional websites will be communicated with parents before class. Students' computer use will be monitored during class, and students who access websites outside of coursework will be expelled from the class with no tuition reimbursement.

**Electives - Semester**  
**Speech / Communication**  
**Teacher: Dan Gritsko**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$100</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

This course for 8th -12th graders will help students develop public speaking skills / communication skills, and motivation to use their God-given gifts to impact the world. I am excited for your son or daughter to join the class!

Overview:

- We start the class with simple speeches and build throughout the semester.
- Weekly in class participation to include prepared speeches, discussions, & speech games.
- Speech preparation, research, course reading will be 1 to 2 hours per week.
- Learning the skills of effective speech and evaluation.

The materials fee will be used for copies and handouts. The class tends to become an enjoyable place for learning, improving communication skills, and learning the ins and outs of public speaking, in the midst of a fun and welcoming environment.

**Foreign Language**  
**ASL Through Projects**  
**(American Sign Language)**  
**Teacher: Autumn Temple**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$7.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>*1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/22</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3rd-12th</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This multi-level class offers a creative approach for learning American Sign Language. The main focus in this class will be to build vocabulary skills by working on projects such as, learning to sign to music, translating poetry, stories and scripture. As we build our vocabulary skills by learning through these projects we will learn to have some classroom conversation in ASL, as well. Students will benefit from working on projects as a class and individually. The individual projects will also give students a chance to work on their “receptive language skills” as they are able to view the projects of their peers in class. Each student will need to have a research resource such as an ASL dictionary and /or access to the internet.

\*homework will vary by project

## Foreign Language

### Elementary French

Teacher: Erin Dougherty

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<1hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

An immersive experience of the French language. Students will learn French through stories, songs, play, and crafts. Pictures, realia and authentic children's literature will support the language learning. This is not a traditional language classroom with textbooks and translation/grammar study. The language will be taught in the target language (~90% of the time) in context through themes. Optional homework to be completed will help students to retain and build language studied in class.



**Foreign Language**  
**Elementary German**  
**Teacher: Karin Wilcox**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>30 min</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Willkommen! Elementary German will be an introduction to the German language. Students will learn the basic vocabulary of numbers, colors, family members, food and clothing items, etc. Each week, their expanding vocabulary will be used in a variety of ways to communicate. The class will incorporate all four components of language (writing, reading, speaking, listening). Each class will offer opportunities to engage using different language acquisition avenues such as role play, games, matching vocabulary, presentations, songs, storytelling and more. The main focus of the class will be to be able to use the language and build a solid foundation as well as a love for different languages and cultures. Besides the necessary vocabulary training, students will explore German culture, music, art and more.

Previous students will be presented with new and engaging materials and topics to built on their language skills.

Students will need a three-ring binder, pencils and colored pencils.

At the beginning of each semester, the students' interest will determine a possible participation in the ACTS Christmas and end-of-year performances.

## Foreign Language

### German 1

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$prorated)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	3-5 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/instr. approv

This is a high school level German class, upon completion you can put GERMAN 1 on your high school transcript. You should expect to spend 3-5 hours each week on homework and learning vocab.

We will use a German 1 textbook, projects, games, songs, bible verses and more to gain a basic foundation in German.

Students will learn to count, ask and answer lots of basic German questions, learn adjectives, learn how to write simple sentences, learn verbs, and lots of vocab. Students will learn about the German speaking countries, customs, and more. After taking this class students will appreciate people who speak several languages or non-native English speakers – trying to speak English.

Required: Deutsch Aktuell, level 1, 2010 student edition textbook. a three ring binder, access to the internet for vocabulary learning (I found this to be faster than students creating their own flashcards – using online ones that I have created. This allows them to do it in several ways, be tested – for themselves, and play games with specific learned vocabulary.), and time daily to practice (with a combination of Worksheets, textbook work and learning vocabulary).

## Foreign Language

**Introduction to French:**

**Middle School**

**Teacher: Erin Dougherty**

<i><b>Yearly Course Fee:</b></i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

An immersive experience of the French language. Students will learn French through songs, literature, and games.

This is not a traditional language classroom with textbooks and translation/grammar study. Aside from learning the basics (alphabet, numbers, etc) the language will be taught in context through themes.

Homework should take not more than 10-15 minutes a day and will help to reinforce weekly lessons.

**Foreign Language**  
**French I : High School**  
**Teacher: Erin Dougherty**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$315</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

You will earn high school credit for this class - French I.

This is an immersive experience of the French language. You will learn French through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Use of real French literature, art, and music will bring the language to life.

Over the course of the year, you will learn the basics (alphabet, numbers, calendar, etc), as well as verbs, adjectives, and nouns through thematic units. Throughout the year you will be practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing French. By the end of the year, you will be able to answer questions in French using simple sentence structure and you will be able to write in French a paragraph using simple sentences.

Materials needed: Three ring binder, writing utensil, home internet for homework.

## Foreign Language

### Spanish K-2

Teacher: Morgan McMahon

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Spanish K-2 introduces and reinforces conversational, real-life Spanish in an immersive, play-based environment! Activities include games, crafts, music, literature, and cultural studies. Lessons are structured thematically, and class content is carefully chosen from authentic, native sources whenever possible.

Students can take one, two, or all three years. Because repetition is so important for language acquisition, foundational topics will be reviewed each year. However, they will be presented differently and activities will change, giving returning students the opportunity to expand on prior knowledge.

There is no homework for this class, but students may receive take-home activities they can do for fun.

\$40 materials fee covers craft and game supplies, curriculum, handouts, worksheets, books, visual aids, and media.

## Foreign Language

**Spanish 3-5**

**Teacher: Mallory Artusio**

No course description submitted

## Foreign Language

### Spanish 3-5

Teacher: Morgan McMahon

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	Optional
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Spanish 3-5 reinforces conversational, real-life Spanish in a fun, immersive environment! More complex topics are introduced in Spanish 3-5, but prior Spanish language experience is not needed. Activities include games, crafts, music, literature, and cultural studies. Lessons are structured thematically, and class content is carefully chosen from authentic, native sources whenever possible.

Students can take one, two, or all three years. Because repetition is so important for language acquisition, foundational topics will be reviewed each year. However, they will be presented differently and activities will change, giving returning students the opportunity to expand on prior knowledge.

Homework for this class is optional, and take-home activities are meant to be enriching and fun for the student.

\$40 materials fee covers craft and game supplies, curriculum, handouts, worksheets, books, visual aids, and media.

## Foreign Language

**Spanish I**

**Teacher: Mallory Artusio**

No course description submitted



## Foreign Language

**Spanish II**

**Teacher: Mallory Artusio**

No course description submitted

## Foreign Language

### Spanish 5-8 Level I

Teacher: Martha Young

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this course, students will learn basic vocabulary for communication as well as simple grammar and verb forms. We will focus on an appreciation and a curiosity about the lives of Spanish speaking peoples, while integrating conversation and reading recognition. Includes fun learning activities, games, and prizes to reinforce the lesson!

Textbook: Easy Spanish Step-By –Step, approximately \$12.95, available from the teacher.

**History and Geography**  
**Hands on History: Ancient History (Year 1)**  
**Teacher: Carol Henderson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-6
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This Hands-On History course uses BiblioPlan’s Remember the Days: Ancient Days as its textbook. This class starts with the Fall of Rome and continues through the medieval era to the discovery of the New World.

Each class will begin with a review of the homework material, adding corresponding figures to Timeline Pages. The hands-on project is based on the week’s topic. These projects include creating a clay cartouche with the student’s hieroglyphic name, making reproduction Greek & Roman shields, constructing King Tut’s burial mask, and watching & analyzing the Battle of Marathon in a child-appropriate film done with video game technology.

For homework, the student must read the assigned textbook chapter(s) and fill-in a short-answer worksheet. The student will also be expected to read a book outside of the textbook 3X per year, and to share this book with the class in a brief, casual presentation on their assigned week.

Besides reading, homework may also include handouts to complete or Map Worksheets to shade, label, &/or find & circle locations. The Map Worksheets are included in the Materials Fee and do not need to be purchased separately.

On the first day, students will create their own set of Timeline Pages to be used throughout the year and kept in the back of their binders. The cost of Timeline is covered in the Materials Fee & do not need to be purchased separately.

In lieu of tests and exams, the class will have Review Games that require additional study time. The competition fosters a motivation to study, and the game is structured to reward individual achievement.

The \$30 Materials Fee covers craft supplies for the weekly projects and the photocopying of all maps, timeline figures, and handouts. Concentrated effort has been made to keep this fee low through strategic purchasing and through utilizing donated or household items as much as possible.

Required Textbook & Supplies to Purchase:

Textbook: BiblioPlan’s Remember the Days: Ancient Days (please inquire about our discount!)

Supplies: 3-ring binder and 1 set of colored pencils for map homework

**History and Geography**  
**Government and Presidential**  
**History Year B**  
**Teacher: Bethany Hamner**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Your student will gain an understanding of how our government works.

We will begin by studying the three branches of government. We will also learn about Washington DC buildings and the people that occupy them. We will also learn about the Electoral College and we have a fun game to help the students with that concept. Finally, we will learn about all our presidents during this 2-year course.

We play a game every week, whether it is Jeopardy, a presidential trivia game, or Election Night, and we always have a fun time. At the end of the year, students will pick their favorite president from that year and do a living history presentation. At the completion of the second year, your student will have a scrapbook with pictures/information on all the US Presidents.

Materials fees include: three ring binder for scrapbook, color copies, black and white copies, games, books, videos, posters, poster board, glue sticks, scissors, and other materials.

\*I will make age exceptions since this is a 2-year course.

\*2nd semester enrollment – yes, but student’s scrapbook will be incomplete

**History and Geography**  
**Influential Queens Throughout**  
**History 3-6**  
**Teacher: Kelly Gunther**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0.5</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Queens: Women In Power Through History, Queens: 3,000 Years of the Most Powerful Women In History - We will be looking at women throughout the ages and across the globe who came to be queens, either in their own right or as consort, and used that position of power to accomplish the things they found most important. More power, security and safety of their country, welfare of the citizens, or the defeat of enemies are some of the motives behind their actions.

**History and Geography**  
**Influential Queens Throughout**  
**History 6-8**  
**Teacher: Kelly Gunther**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0.5</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

We will be looking at women throughout the ages and across the globe who came to be queens, either in their own right or as consort, and used that position of power to accomplish the things they found most important. More power, security and safety of their country, welfare of the citizens, or the defeat of enemies are some of the motives behind their actions. Queens: Women In Power Through History, Queens: 3,000 Years of the Most Powerful Women In History

## History and Geography

### U.S. Government

Teacher: Dave Merriman

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

The goal of this course is for students to understand the roles and interactions of federal, state, and local governments and how they affect daily life. We will discuss the history, development, and fundamental documents of our country's governmental system. Students will be expected to complete weekly reading assignments before class in order to participate in discussion and debate.

Textbook: "American Government 3e" published by Rice University: available at [openstax.org](https://openstax.org).

## History and Geography

### Virginia History

Teacher: Bethany Pippin-Hoovler

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	*0-1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Virginia History will focus on Virginia commonwealth history, its constitution, government structure, state facts and symbolism, landmarks, industry, natural resources, border states, geographic features, Jamestown through modern day, Virginia born presidents, and much more. Students will create a binder of Virginia history, the use of games similar to Jeopardy will be utilized to reinforce information covered. Students may work together to create a state constitution or research Virginia presidents for a mock presidential debate, etc. Please note: I enjoy teaching in a manner that reaches students, thus while covering the basics of Virginia history, we may also dive deeper into areas of Virginia history that spark students interest.

\*Homework length depends on individual student



**History and Geography**  
**World Geography & Cultures K-2**  
**Teacher: Carol Henderson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In the K-2 World Geography & Cultures class, your child will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

For the 2024-2025 school year, this class will cover the following: USA Pacific NW, USA Mountain West, USA South Atlantic, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, England, France, Ireland, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Japan, Israel, Australia & the Continents. Please note that this list is subject to minor changes at the discretion of the teacher.

Class time consists of the students finding and coloring the week's country on a map; putting the appropriate flag in their Geography "Passport"; learning about the country's landmarks, people, customs, and highlights from books, photos, & video; and creating a corresponding craft. A coloring sheet on the country is offered as an optional activity.

Since each country is covered during the weekly class time, there is no additional work that students need to complete at home.

The Materials Fee covers the maps, Passports, flags, supplies for the weekly crafts & activities, and photocopying of coloring pages and all other handouts.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) Please purchase a 3-ring binder for this class.  
Students will make tabbed dividers as one of the class projects.

## History and Geography

### **World Geography & Cultures:**

**Grades 3-5**

**Teacher: Carol Henderson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

NOTE: Internet Access Required

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 3-5, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

For the 2024-2025 school year, this class will cover the following: USA Pacific NW, USA Mountain West, USA South Atlantic, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, England, France, Ireland, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Japan, Israel, Australia, the Continents, & general geography concepts. Please note that this list is subject to adjustments during the year at the discretion of the teacher.

Every week, students will find the theme country & other points of interest on the continent map. Next comes activities with the country's flag, followed by researching the country together with photos, video, and sharing information students have researched at home. Students are expected to take notes on this material, adding to their Geography Journals. Students will also add a new term to their Geography Glossary each week.

Homework includes researching countries, filling out select parts of the Journaling pages supplied by the teacher, and looking up & defining the week's geography term. Occasionally, homework may also include other activities. Homework requires INTERNET ACCESS to research information.

An atlas is recommended, but not required. If you purchase one, it must cover individual countries.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the Notebooking Set for each student (\$10); maps, flags, & misc. supplies for additional activities; paper & photocopying costs of all handouts; & binding the Journals at the end of the year. Parents may choose to purchase an optional Atlas.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) Colored Pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags.
- 3) An Atlas is optional. If you purchase one, it must cover individual countries, such as:  
DK Pub, Our World in Pictures, Countries of the World, 2020 Edition  
DK Publishing, Geography of the World, 2006 Edition

## History and Geography

### **World Geography & Cultures:**

**Grades 6-8**

**Teacher: Carol Henderson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/25
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

NOTE: Internet Access Required

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 6-8, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US. Students will use world maps, continent maps, & country maps as we explore each part of the globe together.

For the 2024-2025 school year, this class will cover the following: USA Pacific NW, USA Mountain West, USA South Atlantic, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, England, France, Ireland, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Japan, Israel, Australia, the Continents, & general geography concepts. Please note that this list is subject to adjustments during the year at the discretion of the teacher.

Each class starts with reviewing our Glossary term. Then we jump right into our theme country, with maps & flags & basic facts. This is followed by in-depth research accompanied by photos & video, & sharing information students have researched at home. Students are expected to take notes on this material, adding to their own Geography Journal.

Homework involves completing a map worksheet of the theme country, defining a weekly geography term, researching the country, & filling in attractive Journaling pages supplied by the teacher. Homework requires INTERNET ACCESS to research the country & geography term. An Atlas is recommended, but not required.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the Notebooking Set for each student (\$10); maps, flags, & misc. supplies for additional activities; paper & photocopying costs of all handouts; & binding the Journals at the end of the year. Parents may choose to purchase an optional Atlas.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) Colored Pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags.
- 3) An Atlas is optional. If you purchase one, it must cover individual countries, such as:  
DK Pub, Our World in Pictures, Countries of the World, 2020 Edition  
DK Publishing, Geography of the World, 2006 Edition

## History and Geography

### **World History Year A:**

### **Prehistory to Middle Ages**

**Teacher: Dave Merriman**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

#### World History Class Description:

- Year A: Prehistory to 1800
- Year B: 1800 to present

World History is organized as two fast paced survey courses spanning all of human history. The courses will be of necessity broad overviews, with many illustrative details woven in. While the focus is Western culture, many other areas, peoples and cultures will be presented and discussed. Students will have reading assignments each week to be completed in preparation for class discussions. Discussions are Socratic with students expected to participate. Students will also be given writing assignments.

Notes: Each year is a separate course and can be taken in any order.

Text: World History The Human Odyssey, Jackson J. Spielvogel , The Pennsylvania State University;  
West Educational Publishing

## Language Arts

### Academic Writing I

Teacher: Susan Kyner

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	5+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course is designed to prepare 7th-9th grade students for high school level writing. Students will learn the writing process, including pre-writing, drafting, and editing of informative, persuasive, descriptive, narrative, analytical, and expository compositions and research papers. They will acquire skills in locating and using reference materials, note-taking, paraphrasing, and applying proper documentation (MLA form).

As part of this course, students will read and respond to classic short stories and books, learning strategies for interacting with literature and writing essays. All literature will be taught from a Biblical perspective.

This course is writing intensive, and will include short weekly writing assignments, building to longer essays and research papers throughout the year. The course will also include mini-grammar lessons and some short grammar assignments in order to facilitate writing with accuracy.

Materials: Three-ring binder with college ruled notebook paper, pen and pencils, 3x5 and 4x6 note cards, highlighter pen, and computer access with a printer

Each student will need to acquire a copy of *Animal Farm* and *Wonder*.

## Language Arts

### Academic Writing II

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$40)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	7+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-10
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course is designed for 8–10th grade students. This class equips students to write at the high school level. It focuses on the essay: the importance of following a writing process, crafting strong thesis statements and topic sentences, and developing ideas in paragraphs. Students will learn about argumentative and other academic forms of writing; the importance of audience and purpose; and documentation of sources in MLA style. Students will learn the importance of organizing, drafting, revising, and editing their essays.

**Grammar proficiency:** Prior to enrolling, students should be able to write complete sentences and know how to avoid fused sentences (run-ons) and sentence fragments. Grammar will be addressed throughout the year as needed, especially focusing on major editing errors, such as fused sentences, comma splices, sentence fragments, apostrophe errors, pronoun-antecedent agreement errors, and subject-verb agreement errors.

**Writing:** This course is writing intensive. Students will read and respond to a variety of essays and articles to learn how writers organize their ideas and support their arguments with details, examples, and research. They will learn to transfer those techniques to writing their own essays.

Students will write five essays: the personal narrative, the comparison-contrast essay, and three argumentative essays.

**Required materials:** A notebook, at least 4 different colored highlighters, computer access with a printer, and an email address that contains the student's last name.

**Provided materials:** A booklet containing writing instructions, the articles and essays we will read, grammar/mechanics handouts, and essay topics.

## Language Arts

### Advanced Creative Writing

Teacher: Joseph Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Advanced Creative Writing Workshop is a one-year, repeatable course designed to inspire and challenge experienced student-writers by giving them more advanced writing assignments in a number of creative genres, such as fiction (stories), poetry, drama, song lyrics, and creative nonfiction.

Each semester, students will have the chance to focus on a more extended piece they develop over a number of weeks. We will develop an understanding of genres by exploring (and playing with) creative conventions and techniques. We will study historical/literary examples, sometimes imitating their effects for practice, and sometimes purposefully violate conventions to see what happens when we play with audience expectations.

A big part of the course is learning that good creative writing (and all writing) is about more than writing the first draft. It's also about revising and editing. The class will include many "workshop" (seminar-style) days, during which writers can read (or have someone else read) their ongoing work aloud, and the class will provide constructive feedback. These feedback sessions will be voluntary for the writers.

\* Textbook: The course has no formal text, although we may read up to four novels, plays, or screenplays, to be determined. Most readings are provided on the course website ([www.crosswaterarts.com](http://www.crosswaterarts.com)) and in handouts. Students will also watch web-based instructional videos on elements of creative writing.

Please note: Throughout the year, the schedule (i.e., assignments) will occasionally change. Students and parents should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. The date of the last update appears at the top of the page for reference.

## Language Arts

### Adventures in Literature

Teacher: Julie Snell

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	2-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

\*\*This is YEAR 1 of a 3-year cycle for this class which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Adventures in Literature we will enjoy exploring, discussing, and immersing ourselves in a handful of wonderful, classic (and some new) chapter books. We will learn to recognize plot, character development, themes, and lessons in our stories. We will learn new vocabulary, writing styles, and most importantly – ENJOY and love reading books! In addition to class discussions, we will delve into topics related to our books with other class readings, play games, act out scenes from our books, have class contests, make lapbooks, do some writing, and participate in other hands-on classroom activities.

Students will need a backpack and their own copies of each of our chapter books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options, especially for reluctant readers (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in the anticipated reading order (a final reading schedule will be handed out at the first day of class):

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett  
The Boxcar Children (Book 1) by Gertrude Chandler Warner  
Mr. Popper's Penguins by Florence and Richard Atwater  
The Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder  
The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden  
Charlotte's Web by E. B. White

Weekly homework will include: reading assignments (or audiobook/read aloud). Your students may also be assigned occasional video links to watch and/or optional recipes to try at home. There will be several creative projects to prepare at home for presentation in class.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, art supplies for in-class activities and projects, games, worksheets, lapbook supplies.



## Language Arts

### American Literature

Teacher: Susan Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-10
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

American Literature 8-10 is a course designed to introduce 8th- to 10th-grade students to classic works of American literature. Students will read or view selections from a variety of genres, including non-fiction, fiction, poetry, drama, and film. They will become familiar with literary principles and terms. Although the course does not have an essay-writing component, students will have an opportunity to explore their understanding of their reading by responding to short-answer questions, discussion questions, and quizzes. Students will be expected to participate in class and occasionally discuss important ideas about the works in small groups.

We will take a chronological tour of classic American literature, starting from the beginnings of American literature, where we will look at some writings of early explorers; women who were held captive by Native Americans; pioneers; and slaves, and on into modern times. Notable authors include Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, William Faulkner, and Ernest Hemingway, among others.

Shorter works of literature (poetry and short stories) will be bound in a book I will provide and which is covered by the materials fee. Novels should be purchased or borrowed. Students will need a notebook for taking notes and keeping handouts.

Novels:

- The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin
- Uncle Tom's Cabin
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- The Red Badge of Courage
- The Call of the Wild
- The Old Man and the Sea

Films:

- Our Town by Thornton Wilder
- Mr. Smith Goes to Washington

**Language Arts**  
**College Prep Writing**  
**Teacher: Susan Sigalas**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$315</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>10-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

This class is designed to prepare 10th through 12th grade students for college in two aspects: writing for entry to college and preparing for their first and second years of college-level compositions. The assigned readings are primarily a selection of non-fiction American essays, speeches, and news articles. Students will learn the basics of writing about literature with the final two essays.

Prerequisite: Students should be proficient in writing five-paragraph essays, conducting research, and documenting research.

Grammar: Parents should assess their student's proficiency in grammar to ensure that it is at a tenth-grade level prior to this course. College Prep Writing will begin with a grammar review and include periodic grammar reviews as needed.

Research and Rhetoric: Students will conduct in-depth research using scholarly sources. They will follow the writing process by writing multiple essays and participating in peer reviews.

Major assignments will include:

- A narrative essay
- A rhetorical analysis
- Written responses to current topics
- A research paper
- A poetry explication
- A literary analysis essay

Required texts: 40 Model Essays: A Portable Anthology by Jane E. Aaron. 2005 edition. (Please buy the 2005 edition.) ISBN: 978-0-312- 43829-6 and Strunk and White: The Elements of Style (any edition).

## Language Arts

### Creative Writing

Teacher: Joseph Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Creative Writing is a full-year, repeatable course designed to spark and build students' interest and confidence in writing. The point is to foster creativity through challenging but fun assignments in creative genres that include stories (fiction), graphic stories, poetry, drama, screenwriting, song lyrics, and creative non-fiction.

While using creativity to invent stories and blast through obstacles sometimes caused by fear of "doing it wrong" when it comes to writing, students will also learn how to write more effectively. They'll discover that the effects they enjoy in reading or watching movies—e.g., surprise, tension, or fondness for some characters and dislike of others—don't just "happen." Instead, they are often the result of intentional choices that students can use, too.

We will also learn that good writing, creative or otherwise, is about more than writing the first draft or avoiding mistakes. It's also about using good writing techniques (e.g., use of concrete details), effective revision—and yes, proofreading final drafts well.

In-class lessons will include plenty of writing, and many class days will include exercises, games, and other activities designed to foster and stretch creativity. Often, we will write freely from prompts and then focus on revising our pieces to make the writing more effective—e.g., to improve character development, improve the detail, or just make it funnier.

\* Textbook: The course has no formal text, although we may read up to four novels, plays, or screenplays, to be determined. Most readings are provided on the course website ([www.crosswaterarts.com](http://www.crosswaterarts.com)) and in handouts. Students will also watch web-based instructional videos on elements of creative writing.

Please note: Throughout the year, the schedule (i.e., assignments) will occasionally change. Students and parents should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. The date of the last update appears at the top of the page for reference.

Students will need the following: Internet access (supervised, please), as I will post assignments to our website and accept assignments electronically; and plenty of notebook paper, pens, and/or pencils—brought to class each time we meet.

All submitted assignments must be double spaced. Typed assignments are strongly preferred, but legible longhand (also double-spaced) is fine for in-class work, worksheets, early drafts, and so forth.

## Language Arts

### **Fantasy and Faith: The Literature of C.S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien**

**Teacher: Julie Snell**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	3+ hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien were two of the 20th century's greatest Christian writers of fantasy literature. They were also great friends who challenged each other's faith and work. The first semester will focus on the writings of Lewis, and the second semester will focus on the writings of Tolkien. We will examine both men's style, technique, and purpose. We will delve deeply into the themes and Christian messages from their works.

Students should be strong readers as this is a reading-intensive course. Students will be expected to read and respond weekly to literature through homework, quizzes, short writing assignments, and project presentations. Class participation is a required component as well.

Required books for fall semester are authored by C. S. Lewis:

The Magician's Nephew  
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe  
The Last Battle  
The Great Divorce  
Out of the Silent Planet

Required books for spring semester are authored by J. R. R. Tolkien:

The Hobbit  
The Fellowship of the Rings  
The Two Towers (we will read portions of this book)  
The Return of the King (we will read portions of this book)  
Tales from the Perilous Realm (we will read several short stories from this book)

## Language Arts

### Grammar with a Giggle

Teacher: Venita Richmond

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Good grief...it's grammar time!? If this is your student's reaction to grammar (or your own!), you are not alone. Knowledge of grammar, however, is an essential component to effective communication, including writing. This course will introduce and review the basic parts of speech, sentence structures, verbals, and modifiers. We will do fun editing activities, exercises from the textbook *Our Mother Tongue* and other sources, and sample writing from scripture and classic literature. A variety of classroom activities will be utilized to help students not only grasp the structure of language, but value and even have fun with it!

Note: This course should not be taken in place of a writing course, but it will complement a writing course nicely. Students will have about one hour of homework each week.

\*Required Textbook: "Our Mother Tongue, A Guide to English Grammar," by Nancy Wilson (2nd edition preferred, but either can be used)

## Language Arts

### Novel Adventures

Teacher: Julie Snell

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-7
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

\*\*This is YEAR 1 of a 3-year cycle for this class which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Novel Adventures we will enjoy exploring and discussing a handful of classic and newer novels of different genres. We will learn to recognize plot and character development, identify themes and lessons from the stories, recognize writing styles and literary elements, answer challenging comprehension questions, learn new vocabulary, apply stories to our own lives, and participate in lively book discussions. In addition, we will delve into topics related to our books with fun class games, drama, videos, creative writing and poetry assignments, student presentations and projects, and other activities related to our books.

Students will need a three-ring binder notebook and their own copies of each of our books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options as well, especially for reluctant readers (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in anticipated reading order (a final reading schedule will be handed out the first day of class):

The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois  
The Door in the Wall by Marguerite De Angeli  
Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt  
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George  
Island of the Blue Dolphin by Scott O'Dell  
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

Weekly homework includes reading assignments (audio or as a read aloud if you prefer) and written comprehension questions/vocabulary work. Throughout the year, students will also be assigned short writing assignments, creative projects, and presentations. Your student may also be assigned an occasional video link to watch and/or optional recipes to try at home.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, supplies for in-class activities, games, worksheets/handouts.

## Language Arts

### Phonics is Fun!

Teacher: Julie Snell

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	none
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-1
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class is for the child who has not yet started learning to read, the child who is beginning to read, or the child who is struggling with early reading skills. The class is not meant to replace your reading curriculum, but to come alongside you to reinforce early reading skills in a fun group environment.

Students will learn and review using a systematic and multisensory structured phonics approach. Through movement, games, songs, storybooks, and hands-on activities, we will cover learning letter names and their sounds, alphabet order, matching lower to upper case letters, consonants/vowels, counting syllables, blending sounds together, reading words/phrases/sentences, and handwriting. If the class is ready, we will move on to digraphs and long vowels. We will also work on other areas of literacy such as rhyming, comprehension, vocabulary, and reading fluency.

Each class session will include the following: listening skills (phonological and phonemic awareness), blending sound work, building words (with magnetic letters/writing/other manipulatives), sight words (regular and irregular), reading connected text, games, and teacher read-alouds.

Students will need a backpack to carry home any class worksheets. All art and class supplies will be provided in class. There is no homework for this class.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, books, art supplies, flashcards, worksheets, games, toys, and manipulatives for class activities, and weekly class rewards.

## Language Arts

### Storybook Adventures

Teacher: Julie Snell

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	none
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-1
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

\*\*This is YEAR 2 of a 2-year cycle for this class which can be taken in any order (new books each year).

In Storybook Adventures we will enjoy a wide variety of childhood favorites, classics, and recently published storybooks. Many of our book selections and activities will come from the Five in a Row (Vol 1 and 2) curriculum by Jane Claire Lambert. We will take two weeks to explore and immerse ourselves in each book – reading aloud the story, discussing themes and details, singing songs, playing games, learning new vocabulary, reading additional books on related topics, doing some writing and related worksheets, and making art/craft projects. For example, in *The Story of Ping* by Marjorie Flack, we might learn about ducks, practice using chopsticks, make a Chinese lantern, explore buoyancy, identify China on the map, and learn a few words or a song in Mandarin.

Students will need a backpack to carry home any projects. All supplies will be provided in class. There is no homework for this class. Suggested videos, recipes, or other enriching ideas may be sent home from time to time.

Materials fee covers: curriculum, all art supplies for hands-on activities and projects, class worksheets, reading journals, games, and weekly class rewards.



## Language Arts

### World Literature

Teacher: Susan Kyner

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	11-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

World Literature 11-12 is designed to help students with the following skills and ideas:

- Using annotation to interact with literature
- Identifying literary elements
- Learning to discern worldview in the books, cultures, and time periods we study, focusing on the romantic through postmodern periods
- Growing in the ability to analyze different genres of literature in various ways, including the Socratic method
- Examining common themes that authors have been writing about since Genesis

The course will sometimes include short writing assignments as well as quizzes, discussion questions, and socratic seminars.

Students will need a notebook or binder with notebook paper and sticky notes (for annotation).

The following books will need to be purchased or borrowed:

A Tale of Two Cities

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

Cry the Beloved Country

Frankenstein

The Count of Monte Cristo

If time allows, we will also include God's Smuggler, but students will be advised during the 2nd semester if they need to acquire this book.

I will provide copies of short stories and poems, including:

God Sees the Truth But Waits

The Bet

Abraham and Isaac (Biblical narrative)

## Language Arts

### Writing Workshop 1

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	Optional
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/8
<i>Grade Level:</i>	1
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class gives students an opportunity to practice handwriting, review writing concepts, and create their own illustrated journal keepsakes. Sharing journal entries with each other adds a fun social aspect to writing. We will also enjoy writing-related picture books, toys, and activities. Students are encouraged to write additional journal entries at home if they wish. Families should continue to use a language arts curriculum of their choice during the week.

## Language Arts

### Writing Workshop 2-3

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	Optional
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	2-3
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class gives students an opportunity to practice handwriting, review writing concepts, and create their own illustrated journal keepsakes. Sharing journal entries with each other adds a fun social aspect to writing. We will also enjoy writing-related picture books, toys, and activities. Students are encouraged to write additional journal entries at home if they wish. Families should continue to use a language arts curriculum of their choice during the week.

## Math

### Algebra I

Teacher: Michele Johnson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$315</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>2-4 hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/instr. approval</i>

Algebra I is one of the most basic courses needed for the rest of life and math. It is also a course that I believe everyone can learn – even if it takes longer for some. I will try to make it as fun as possible while still learning all the concepts in the Algebra I textbook with games, races and fun rewards. Some of the concepts covered include real numbers, linear equations with one and two variables, slope-intercept, factoring, linear inequalities, polynomial arithmetic and factoring, radical expressions and equations, and quadratic equations. Students will need to be able to take notes and do classwork problems during class.

Each student will have daily homework to complete at home, along with quizzes and tests, also to be completed at home.

Teacher will be available for additional help outside of class and email questions will gladly be taken.

Textbook required: Abeka Algebra I 2017 version (Sailboat on front); Abeka Algebra I Solutions Key; Abeka Algebra I Quizzes and Tests

## Math

### Algebra 2

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$prorated)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	4-5 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

\*\*\*This is a 90-minute class.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This is a high school level Algebra II course. Class time will focus on new concepts (factoring, rational expressions, coordinate geometry, variation, systems of equations, powers, roots, exponents, radicals, imaginary numbers, quadratic equations and more). We will also talk briefly about homework problems. The newest version of the textbook is long, but it has tons of daily review. We will not be going through the entire textbook, but will cover over half (some topics saved for PreCalculus).

Students will be expected to complete problem sets and tests at home, bringing corrected work to class. Take home tests will be given periodically throughout the year. Parents are responsible for ensuring that all assigned work is completed. Teacher will make notes on homework, if needed, and grade tests.

Homework: Will be about 4-5 hours a week. We will cover a lot of material and students will be expected to keep up. Teacher will be available for additional help outside of class and email questions will gladly be taken.

Required:

Abeka Algebra 2 – textbook 2016 edition (skyscraper under construction on cover)

Abeka Algebra 2 – solutions manual 2016 edition

Scientific Calculator or TI graphing calculator– not on phone!

Also needed: Notebook with lots of paper, graph paper helpful, pencils, colored pens (for graphing and checking/correcting)

## Math

### Circle Time and Math Play

Teacher: Laura Mason

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-1
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class is a great way to start out your child's co-op day! The first half of our time together will be a traditional circle time, where we will gather on the floor in a circle to play games, sing songs, have discussions, read books, and do memory work. This is a wonderful way to help kids to acclimate to a classroom setting, gain confidence and social skills, and enjoy the routine and consistency of familiar activities each week. Our themes will encompass many topics such as the calendar, weather, safety, geography, occupations, poetry, Bible, and math. The second half of class is focused on math play, using manipulatives, movement, crafts, and games. This will help students grasp these topics on a deeper level, have social experiences with math, and enjoy using math in meaningful ways. My goal is to help children to form a positive relationship with math from a young age. There will be no homework for this class, but students should follow their own math curriculum at home during the week.

## Math

### Harold Jacobs Geometry

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$prorated)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4 hours
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/instr. approv

### Prerequisite – Algebra 1

I ask all students to take a readiness test, to make sure that Algebra 1 skills are strong enough. Extra mandatory tutoring sessions may be needed to solidify skills.

This course is high school level and covers geometry and its associated logic from a Christian viewpoint. The textbook is Geometry Seeing Doing Understanding Third Edition (or 2017 version) by Harold Jacobs.

The author clearly loves geometry and passes along his enthusiasm to the reader. The text begins with a presentation of deductive reasoning and how it is essential for the study of Geometry. Jacobs Geometry then progresses through Euclidean geometry starting with points, lines, planes, angles and polygons. Further material includes area, right triangles, geometric transformations, congruency and similarity, trigonometric functions, and three-dimensional objects. The text finishes with a chapter on non-Euclidean geometry.

Logical skills are developed since proofs of geometric theorems are woven throughout the exercises. Asking “why” is emphasized, and abundant real-world applications are given. Students are expected to be current on homework problems, prepared to discuss the homework, and to have familiarized themselves with the next week’s new concepts.

Completion of this course will greatly aid any student preparing for a standardized test, as geometric concepts factor heavily in PSAT and SAT math sections.

Homework: Accountability is requested through turn in checked and corrected homework. Class time will allow for review of any difficulties students had in the previous week’s work but will focus on teaching and mastering new concepts. Mrs. King requests that parents carefully proctor closed book quizzes and tests, since there is not enough class time to test during the period. Students can anticipate 3-4 hours of homework a week.

Textbook: Geometry Seeing, Doing, Understanding, Third Edition by Harold Jacobs. ISBN 0-7167-4361-2 OR the 2017 version of the book. If you get the 2017 version, you also need to get the solutions 2017, but you do not need the teacher’s guide.

Required: Enhanced Teacher's Guide for Geometry Seeing Doing Understanding Third Edition for complete set of solutions and answer keys. ISBN 0-7167-5607-2 OR 2017 version solution guide only.

Other supplies needed: notebook, pens and pencils, calculator with sine, cosine and tangent functions (this is frequently called a scientific calculator), compass, ruler and protractor.

\*with teacher approval

## Math

### Hands-on Math

Teacher: Laura Mason

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	1-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Helping children to form a positive relationship with math at a young age is the purpose of this class. Students will play with numbers and discover new ideas through experimentation, which strengthens mathematical thinking. We will explore different foundational math concepts such as pattern, place value, addition, subtraction, measurement, graphing, money, time, multiplication, division, fractions, geometry, and more. Many of our topics will be introduced with picture books that use stories, beauty, or humor to bring math to life. Activities include a variety of manipulatives, everyday objects, movement, crafts, and games that will help students to grasp these topics on a deeper level and enjoy using math in meaningful and social ways. Throughout the year, we will build a binder of reference resources, completed worksheets, and craft pages that can be used for review and building a sense of ownership of these topics. There will be no homework for this class, but students should follow their own math curriculum at home. This class can be taken multiple years in a row for valuable review and as well as many new books and activities that are used each year.



## Math

### Math Club 3

Teacher: Michelle Porterfield

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Math can be fun! This course is designed to get students excited and proficient in math skills. Basic math skills are essential to a smooth transition into higher level math classes. Students in Math Club 3 will gain a better understanding of math concepts through manipulatives, games, crafts, hands-on activities and competitions. The class will review:

- Place Value
- Rounding Numbers
- Money
- Measurement
- Numbers and Operations
- Word Problems
- Mastering Addition & Subtraction
- Intro to Multiplication & Division
- Graphing
- Plus, much more!

This course is designed to be a supplement to your math course at home.

## Math

### Math Club 4-5

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	4-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will encourage students to think more creatively about math and help build their problem-solving skills. Through instruction, games, and competitions your student will review:

- Numerical Operations
- Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication/Division
- Measurement and Geometry
- Number lines
- Fractions
- Greater Than/Less Than
- Mixed Numbers
- Improper Fractions
- And much more!

This course is designed to be a supplement to your math course at home.

No textbook required

## Math

### Math Club 6-8

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This course will encourage students to think more creatively about math and help build their problems-solving skills. Through instruction, games, and competitions your student will review:

- The Number System
- Order of Operations
- Prime & Composite Numbers
- Divisibility Rules
- Fractions & Operations with Fractions
- Decimal Numbers
- Laws of Exponents
- Laws of Radicals
- Scientific Notation
- Algebraic Expressions
- Solving Equations & Inequalities
- Unit Rate & Percentages
- Distance & Midpoint
- Similarity Theorem
- Volume
- And much more!!

This course is designed to be a supplement to your math course at home.

No textbook required

## Math

### Pre-Algebra

Teacher: Chelsie Porterfield

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

\*\* Prerequisite – 7th Grade Math

This course will help solidify your student's math foundation and prepare them for Algebra I. Through instruction and homework your student will learn:

- Fractional Part of Number
- Equations: Answers and Solutions
- Reciprocals
- Order of Operations with Division, Fractions, Exponents, Roots
- Evaluations of Exponential Expressions and Radicals
- Ratio and Proportion
- Absolute Value
- Graphing Inequalities
- Multiplication with Scientific Notation
- Equation of a Line
- Graphing a Line
- And much more!!

Daily homework and tests will be completed at home.

Textbook: Saxon Algebra ½ 3rd Edition ISBN 1-56577-149-4

Materials

Needed: 2" Binder, Pack of 5 dividers, notebook paper, pencils, graph paper

## Math

### Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$prorated)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>4-5 hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>11+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/instr. approve</i>

#### Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry

We will spend the year getting you ready for college math and science classes. First in our agenda is to learn all the helpful uses of a graphing calculator and how it can speed up and help you in all math and science classes. The graphing calculator will be used in most classes, calculator app is not acceptable, because it cannot be used on any standardized tests.

This course is a study of higher mathematics. Pre-calculus can be thought of as a continuation of an algebra journey: Early Pre-calc is a review of Algebra 2 concepts, while late Pre-calc is a bridge to Calculus. We will learn how to use a valuable tool in math and life - the graphing calculator.

Parents and students who have struggled with math in the past can benefit from this course, where Mrs. King focuses on real-world applications of math. Students at this level have a strong need both to know why they are learning and what the goal of learning is. This course speaks to both those questions throughout the course so that math is less of an isolated subject and more of a multi-disciplinary tool to understand the world around us.

Concepts include:

- Number theory, the number line, real numbers, complex numbers
- Study of real numbers including rational and irrational
- Properties of functions including domain, range, odd, even, one-to-one, periodicity, symmetry, asymptotes, intercepts and zeros.
- Inverse and composite functions
- Families of functions (linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic)
- Graphing, shifting and stretching functions
- Understanding and interpreting functions using algebra, graphic calculators or table of values
- Modeling real world situations using functions and solving word problems
- Conic sections including parabolas, circles, ellipses and hyperbolas
- The Binomial Theorem and Pascal's Triangle
- Trigonometry

Homework: Will be turned in each week. Students can anticipate 4-5 hours of homework per week. Tests are taken at home and must be proctored by a parent, guardian or responsible adult.

Textbook and solution manual will be provided and includes: Stewart, Redlin and Watson's Pre-Calculus Fifth Edition, Mathematics for Calculus Hardback ISBN-10 0534492770 ISBN-13 978-0534492779

Also provided: Student Solutions Manual for Stewart/Redlin/Watson's Precalculus: Mathematics for Calculus, 5th by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson (Oct 7, 2005) Paperback ISBN-10: 0534492908 ISBN-13: 978-0534492908

- **Graphing Calculator TI 83+ or higher is required**

## Music

### Exploring Music K-2

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this class, various musical concepts are introduced in fun and interesting ways. The colorful "Music Mind Games" materials are used to teach music theory, such as reading rhythms and identifying parts of the grand staff, through games. Students learn to sing a song using Solfège and Curwen hand signs. Music appreciation is also included, introducing students to notable composers, musical instruments, and the stories told in opera and ballet. We often watch or listen to great pieces of music while students work in the notebooks they compile throughout the year.

## Music

### Exploring Music 3-5

Teacher: Janice Philbrick

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this class, various musical concepts are introduced in fun and interesting ways. The colorful "Music Mind Games" materials are used to teach music theory, such as reading rhythms and identifying parts of the grand staff, through games. Students learn to sing a song using Solfège and Curwen hand signs. Music appreciation is also included, introducing students to notable composers, musical instruments, and the stories told in opera and ballet. We often watch or listen to great pieces of music while students work in the notebooks they compile throughout the year.

## Music

### High School Choir

Teacher: Dale Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	0
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

ACTS High School Choir is for students in 9th-12th grades. Choral students will explore many different genres of choral literature, including classical, modern, and sacred music. Rehearsals will begin with warm-ups, focusing on healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in advanced music reading, vocal blending, three-part harmonizing, and preparing songs for the seasonal performances. Additionally, students will grow in their understanding of music theory.

**Note: All choir students will be expected to perform for the ACTS Christmas and Spring concerts.**



## Music

### **Middle School Choir**

**Teacher: Dale Fields**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$0)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/30</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS Middle School Choir is for students in 6th-8th grades. Choral students will explore many different genres of choral literature, including classical, modern, and sacred music. Rehearsals will begin with warm-ups, focusing on healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in advanced music reading, vocal blending, two-part harmonizing, and preparing songs for the seasonal performances. Additionally, students will gain a basic understanding of music theory.

**Note: All choir students will be expected to perform for the ACTS Christmas and Spring concerts.**

## Music

### Music (K-2)

Teacher: Ellen Lemire

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	15 min
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Johann Sebastian Bach said, “The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.” The goal in this class is to experience and make music with this in view! We will begin a typical class by singing a couple of songs chosen from children's songs (generally beginning with an action song!), patriotic songs, holiday songs, hymns, etc. Next, we will spend time learning music that will be performed at short concerts at Christmas time and the end of the school year. During the final portion of each class, we will focus on understanding and making music using rhythm instruments, props such as scarves and balloons, and our own bodies, and through lessons and activities that explore American music styles such as folk music, marching music, and jazz.

## Music

### Music (3-5)

Teacher: Ellen Lemire

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1/2-1 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5 grade
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

Johann Sebastian Bach said, “The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.” The goal in this class is to experience and make music with this in view! We will begin a typical class by singing a couple of songs chosen from children's songs (generally beginning with an action song!), patriotic songs, holiday songs, hymns, etc. Next, we will focus on understanding and making music using rhythm instruments, props such as scarves and balls, and our own bodies and through lessons and activities that explore American music styles such as folk music, marching music, and jazz. During the final portion of each class, we will spend time learning music that will be performed at short concerts at Christmas time and the end of the school year. We will sing at both concerts. We will also learn to play handbells during the first semester and play them in the Christmas concert, and we will learn to play recorders during the second semester and play them in the spring concert.

## PE

### Boys Team Sports

Teacher: Roderick Lehrke

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>12/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst. approv</i>

This class is designed for older students who want to enjoy team sports at the rec sports level.

Games we play include:

- flag football
- kickball
- volleyball
- waffle ball
- soccer
- basketball
- dodgeball, and
- ultimate Frisbee.

The goal is to build confidence in athletics in an atmosphere of fellowship and fun.

The materials fee covers sporting equipment not offered at the church.

## **PE**

### **PE K-3**

**Teacher: Sherri Burkholder**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$135</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/24</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-3</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students learn the basics of hand-eye and hand-foot coordination, improve motor skills, increase flexibility, and learn team cooperation. To achieve these goals, students will engage in relays and a variety of energetic games such as Battleship, Bull Dog, Helicopter, and Line Tag. The overall goal is to provide a fun environment and teach students to enjoy physical education. This class is suited for all levels of athletic ability.

## **PE**

### **Physical Education 4-7**

**Teacher: Renata Miller**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$none)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/24</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-7</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

This class focuses on fun P.E. games usually done as a team. The goal is to find activities where students are moving the entire time (sometimes adjusting a game to fit these needs). This is a very fun and laid-back class but all students are encouraged to show good sportsmanship and participate. This class is a safe space to learn new games without the pressure of already being good at something. The class begins with free play (sports equipment always provided), then a team lead activity ending with a student's choice game.

## PE

### Girls Health & PE

Teacher: Rebecca Lehrke

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$0)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

We'll discover how girls are fearfully and wonderfully made by exploring specific health needs for young women and developing greater body awareness, strength, and flexibility. Using a variety of activities such as dance, stretching, games, and creative movement, we'll use the class time to integrate motion with principles of rest, nutrition, vitality, and mental wellness. Homework includes practicing consistent daily movement and healthy living habits. Optional: Bring your own exercise/yoga mat. All other course supplies are included in the materials fee and provided by the instructor.

## Preschool

### Playful Learning with Tots

Teacher: Susan Proffitt

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	n/a
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	Pre-K, K
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

**\*\*Preschool students must be potty trained\*\***

Children learn about nature, seasons, holidays, animals, and science through story time, arts and crafts, dramatic play, activities, songs, and games. Letter and number recognition may be introduced. We also learn Bible stories and have a weekly memory verse. Large motor activities include outdoor gym equipment and outdoor games. The children will have the opportunity to learn group skills such as sharing, cooperation, listening, and following directions as well as making new friends at ACTS. Natural creativity and love of learning are encouraged. This early childhood class is a great introduction to the ACTS homeschool co-op.

Preschoolers should be 3 years old by November of the scheduling year.



## Science

### **Anatomy and Physiology**

**Teacher: Rebecca Lehrke**

<i><b>Yearly Course Fee:</b></i>	<b>\$360</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	4-6 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	No

The human body is an amazing showcase of God's incredible design and creativity. We'll explore the major body systems and discover how they work together to support life. This class fulfills a high school science requirement and incorporates dissections, 3-dimensional models, and movement for hands-on interaction with key concepts. Students will read/view assigned material at home and come prepared for interactive class exercises that integrate concepts and application to illustrate and reinforce learning. Required text: Apologia Advanced Biology: The Human Body with Test and Solutions booklet. Other class materials and lab supplies will be provided by the instructor.

Prerequisites: Biology.

## Science

### Discovering Design with Chemistry

Teacher: Sharon Shelton

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$405</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$45
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	4-5 hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	10+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	No

\*Please note: Class begins at 9:55

This is a high school level chemistry course with a laboratory taught from a Christian viewpoint. Students will work at home through the sixteen chapters of Discovering Design with Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile. Class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts. Topics of study will include: classification of matter, atomic structure, spectroscopy, chemical bonding, molecular geometry, physical change, chemical change, stoichiometry, solutions, ideal gases, acid/base chemistry, reduction/oxidation reactions, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and chemical equilibria.

Students will perform various chemical experiments relating to the topics of study utilizing the scientific method while observing safe laboratory technique. Lab worksheets or lab reports will accompany each experiment.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Homework: Students will be expected to read the chapters, answer "Comprehension Check" questions and chapter reviews at home, as well as prepare lab reports or complete lab worksheets.

Grading: Chapter tests will be administered at home by parent but turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports and lab worksheets.

Books to purchase:

- Discovering Design in Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile
- Discovering Design in Chemistry Answer Key and Tests Book

Other supplies needed:

- Calculator (Must have EE or exp key for entering numbers in scientific notation)
- 3 ring binder
- Lab notebook
- Pencils, blue or black ink pen

## Science

### **Exploring Creation with Biology** **Teacher: Jennifer (Jen) Merriman**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$60)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-5 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/inst. approv

\*Please note: Class begins at 9:55

Textbook: Exploring Creation with Biology Apologia Edition 3  
Student Notebook Exploring Creation with Biology Apologia Edition

This is a high school level biology course with a laboratory taught from a Christian perspective. Students will read and study the sixteen learning modules at home, and class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts.

Topics of study include: life processes, biological classification, (Archaea, Bacteria, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, Animalia) ecosystems and cycles, origins of life (creation vs. evolution), biochemistry, cell structure/reproduction, and genetics.

Students will frequently utilize a microscope, and they will dissect a crayfish, frog, perch, and rat.

Homework: Students will be expected to read modules, answer “On Your Own Questions”, complete the study guide, compose lab reports, and complete tests at home. Teacher will grade module tests, lab reports, and will hold students responsible for completing assignments as instructed. There will be occasional special projects throughout the year.

Materials fee covers the microscope rent for the year, slides, dissection kits, and general supplies for weekly labs.

## Science

### Exploring Creation with Physical Science

Teacher: Sharon Shelton

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	W/instr. approval

This is a middle school level physical science class taught from a Christian viewpoint. (Recommended for Grade 8 – Students should either be in pre-algebra while taking this course or have finished it before this course.) The course covers such topics as the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, weather, structure of the earth, environmentalism, physics of motion, Newton's Laws, gravity, and astrophysics.

Class time will be used for discussion of key concepts and for experiments. Students will learn how to prepare a basic lab report.

Homework: Students will read modules, answer "On Your Own" questions, prepare lab reports and complete study guides at home.

Grading: Tests will be administered by parents at home and then turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports.

Books to Purchase:

- Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed. Please note that this is not the newest Apologia edition but one that should be readily available from a source selling used books.
- Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed. Solutions Manual

Other supplies needed:

- 3-ring binder
- lab notebook
- pencils
- calculator

## Science

### **K-2 Science Year A**

**Teacher: Jennifer (Jen) Merriman**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$60
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	occasional
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	K-2
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This action-packed class will feature 'hands on' learning experiences for K-2 students. Through demonstrations, model making, and experimentation, students will grasp scientific principles as the teacher highlights important concepts. Scientific skills of observing, sequencing, classifying, measuring, questioning, predicting, and experimenting will be emphasized. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video that goes with the topic may be shown.

An occasional report will be assigned (approximately two to three per year).

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no prerequisites for enrolling in either Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (K-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B – Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

Homework: Students will need to read (or have a parent read to them) pertinent library books prior to class time. This preparation will help to maximize the learning experience. When homework pages are given, these should be completed as well.

Guest Speakers will occasionally be invited to teach in their area of expertise to enhance learning.

Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. The \$60 covers both semesters. Occasionally, to avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home.

Additional items to purchase: A 3-ring binder with dividers for each topic (order as listed above) to be brought each week.

\*Students may use books from the library and an optional text

\*\*No minimum age exceptions

## Science

### Life Science 7

Teacher: Sandy Brewer

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In this 7th grade Life Science class, students will gain a deeper understanding of patterns, characteristics, organization, and relationships in God's living world. Students will build on basic principles related to these concepts by exploring the following major units of study: Understanding Scientific Practices; Cells; Genetics; Change in Nature; Plants; Animals; Bacteria, Fungi, and Protists; Human Body Systems; and Ecosystems. In studying these units, students will conduct many scientific investigations and other hands-on activities, developing the skills that allow them to think like scientists as they explore God's world.

I will use the BJU Life science Textbook, 5th Edition as a guide for the curriculum. Students may purchase the BJU Life Science Student Text, 5th edition but it is not a requirement.

Homework will consist of reading and Q&A designed to reinforce the concepts learned in the previous class(es).

## Science

### Physics

Teacher: Michele Johnson

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b><i>\$360</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>2-4</i> <i>hours</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>10-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>W/inst.</i> <i>approv</i>

Exploring Creation with Physics 2nd Edition (Wile); Exploring Creation with Physics Tests 2nd Edition

Great job that you are interested in this awesome subject! It is the class most representing many of the real-world problems of today. It is also a preparation for future engineering classes. Algebra I is a prerequisite for this class. Algebra II is also a prerequisite but can be taken concurrently. We will be studying and doing real-world problems in relation to distance and displacement, speed, velocity, acceleration, terminal velocity, vector addition, Newton's Laws, Uniform Motion and Gravity, Work and Energy, Momentum, Periodic Motion, and Waves. We will also be doing Geometric Optics, Coulomb's Law and Electric Field, Electric Potential, Electric Currents and Magnetism. Much of our work will involve experiments.

## Science

### Science Exploration 3rd-4th

(Year A)

Teacher: Kristin Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hour
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Science Exploration class 3-4 will be using Abeka Science textbooks to guide us through the topics covered in Year A. We will use class time for brief guided instruction, yet most of the class time will be spent on demonstrations, experiments, group projects, and examining physical examples.

Guest speakers will be invited to share their insight throughout the year. Students will also be assigned 2-3 at home reports or projects to enhance understanding. Most topics will be taught over 4-5 weeks.

Science Exploration follows a three-year cycle in order that K-6 students may acquire a well-rounded understanding of science. A student may join this rotation at any point. There are no prerequisites for enrollment in the science classes.

Regardless of grade level, topics covered in each K-6 class will be the same. This is helpful if you have science students of various ages at home. The hands-on nature, varying experiments, and reading level along with the depth of material in the textbooks will vary according to grade level. This ensures that students will build upon their previous knowledge while digging deeper into the topic at hand.

Topics:

Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter & Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians

Year B – Motion & Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism & Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/

First Aid, Plants

Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound & Light, Birds

Textbooks:

Abeka Science Grade 3 Exploring God's World

Abeka Science Grade 4 Understanding God's World

Homework:

Students will be responsible for reading and completing weekly homework assignments from the textbook. The following week students will be rewarded for returning homework to class for review. Occasionally, websites and field trips will be suggested for enrichment purposes.



## Science

### Science Exploration 5th-6th

(Year A)

Teacher: Kristin Fields

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1.5 hours
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	4/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-6
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Science Exploration class 5-6 will be using Abeka Science textbooks to guide us through the topics covered in Year A. We will use class time for brief guided instruction, yet class will be mostly creating topical lapbooks, demonstrations, experiments, and examining physical examples.

Occasional guest speakers will share their insight throughout the year. Students will also complete 2-3 at home reports or projects to enhance understanding.

Science Exploration follows a three-year cycle in order that K-6 students may acquire a well-rounded understanding of science. A student may join this rotation at any point. There are no prerequisites for enrollment in the science classes.

Regardless of grade level, topics covered in each K-6 class will be the same. This is helpful if you have multiple science students of different ages at home. The hands-on nature, varying experiments, and reading level along with the depth of material in the textbooks will vary according to grade level. This ensures that students build upon their previous knowledge while digging deeper into the topic at hand.

Topics:

Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter & Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians

Year B – Motion & Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism & Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/

First Aid, Plants

Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Light & Sound, Birds

Textbooks:

Abeka Science Grade 5 Investigating God's World

Abeka Science Grade 6 Observing God's World

Abeka Science Grade 7 Science: Order & Design

Homework:

Students will be responsible for reading and completing weekly homework assignments in the texts.

The following week students will be rewarded for returning homework to class for review.

Occasionally, websites and field trips will be suggested for enrichment purposes. There are no tests nor grades.

## Study Hall

### Study Hall

#### Teacher:

1st-4th period: **Cindy McCready**

5th-6th period: **Michelle Porterfield**

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<b>\$40 Fall, \$50 Spring</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$40 in the fall \$50 in the spring
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$0
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

**\*Tuition will be paid in one payment for the fall and spring semester. Fall semester payment will be \$40 and spring semester payment will be \$50.**

**Tuition for Study Hall may NOT be paid in monthly installments.**

Attendance in the Study Hall is scheduled through Homeschool Life when other class scheduling takes place. This enables ACTS, Study Hall Supervisors, and service parents to ensure the safety of students in study hall.

Study Hall attendance should be scheduled **by semester** – for example, a student who will be in Study Hall during third period for the entire year should schedule both the fall and spring semesters of Study Hall for third period.

Students who have not scheduled to be in the Study Hall in Homeschool Life will not be permitted to be in Study Hall.

Students enrolled in Study Hall should arrive at the start of the period in which they are enrolled (not early or late) and shall remain in Study Hall for the entire period – not leaving early.

(Study Hall is only for students who are enrolled in other ACTS classes.)

Enrollment in Study Hall is limited to two (combined) periods.

Officer approval is needed for enrollment in additional periods. Fees for Study Hall are to fund Study Hall supervisory positions and are non-refundable.

Students utilizing Study Hall must understand that Study Hall is meant for quiet study. Therefore, talking/visiting with friends is not permitted in Study Hall.

Laptops are allowed.

## Meet the Teachers

### **Mallory Artusio**

Mallory is a joyful mom to two wonderful kids (David and Sarah). She received a Bachelor of Arts from UVA in Spanish and Government, and she currently serves as a Program Coordinator at the University. Mallory has been teaching Spanish as a private tutor for 10 years, and she has traveled to Argentina, Portugal, and Spain for study and service. Mallory enjoys teaching fitness, being outside, and creativity.

### **Michelle Bentzen**

Michelle Bentzen has loved art from the first coloring contest she won at the local drug store. Her favorite class was Art, and she can still remember the names of those special teachers that inspired her career.

Michelle studied Interior Design and Art History at the University of Alabama. She then attended SCAD, Savannah College of Art and Design, for graduate work in Product Design. She has practiced Commercial Interior Design in the Atlanta and DC Metro area, with hospitality projects up and down the east coast. Michelle's projects now focus on Sustainability and Historic Preservation.

Michelle has two children that attend ACTS. You'll find their family on the softball/baseball field, practicing violin, or at the Kung Fu kwoon. She looks forward to being creative and exploring our beautiful world through art.

### **Sandy Brewer**

Sandy is wife to Seth and mom to 3 awesome children, one girl and twin boys. She has a Bachelors degree in Biology from Virginia Tech and a Masters degree in Secondary Science Education/Curriculum and Instruction. She was a classroom teacher for 7 years, where she taught all grades of middle school science as well as high school Chemistry and Biology. Sandy finds so much joy in exploring the exciting world of science and sharing in a love of God's creation with her students!

### **Sherri Burkholder**

Mrs. Burkholder and her husband, Stacey have three children and one fur baby. She homeschooled for over 12 years. Before beginning her homeschool career she worked at Afton Christian School for 4 years where she was responsible for grades 4-8th in various subjects. She is currently a lead teacher at Hillsboro Christian Preschool. Her family currently lives in Waynesboro, VA. They are very active in their church where her husband is the associate pastor. She has taught PE K-3 at ACTS for 14 years and enjoys making physical education fun.

### **Erin Dougherty**

Erin has been a francophile since her first French class in middle school. She has taught French in a variety of settings - in public schools, at home with her children, and at the Governor's French Academy. She has interned with the French Film Festival in Richmond, and studied fashion abroad in Paris one metro stop from la Tour Eiffel. She loves sharing the French language as well as the Culture, too. She has been an ACTS member since 2022.

### **Jenny Douglas**

Mrs. Douglas studied Psychology and Social Work in Germany before moving to the USA. She added her BS in Linguistics from Liberty University in 2020. Jennifer has homeschooled her three children since 2012 and loves to engage her students in interactive and thought-provoking academic studies.

### **Rita Erwin**

I received my Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Reading from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1995. I have taught in a variety of settings including public and private schools, children's church ministries, homeschool co-ops, and I've also homeschooled my three children since 2001. I have been an imperfect Christian since I was seven years old, and I am a member of Hillsboro Baptist Church in Crozet, VA, where I attend with my husband, Chris, and my daughter, Sophia. I enjoy visiting with my family and friends, reading historical fiction, baking, singing, taking walks, and playing with my two precious granddaughters, but my most favorite activity is having a nice, steaming cup of coffee while doing my morning Bible study.

### **Dale Fields**

Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, Dale moved to Charlottesville in 2017 to join the staff at First Baptist Park Street. He currently serves as the Associate Pastor at First Baptist and has served in pastoral ministry since 2001. Dale has been married to his wife Hannah for 20 years and has four children: Grace (18), Micah (16), Sam (15), and Annie (13). He holds a Bachelor of Science in Religion from Liberty University and a Masters in Christian Education from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dale has been a guest speaker at multiple events held by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia. Additionally, he has taught various bible and music courses in private Christian schools both in Kentucky and Virginia. In his free time, Dale enjoys spending time with family, playing the piano, reading a variety of books, and cheering on the Kentucky Wildcats.

### **Kristin Fields**

Kristin Fields has been a homeschool mom as well as part of the ACTS community with her three children since 2012. After attending VA Tech and Radford University Kristin taught at Central Elementary School for eight years. Along with homeschooling, Kristin is a devotional blog writer for The Point Church and has served there in numerous capacities. Traveling, reading, and new adventures with her family are Kristin's favorite ways to spend a day. She also loves to learn alongside her students and counts teaching children as one of the greatest privileges of her life.

### **Dan Gritsko**

Dan's focus is working with middle school and high school groups, coordinating Christian history tours of Washington, D.C and other historical East Coast cities. He has been a member of Toastmasters International, an organization that provides opportunities for those involved to become better communicators. Dan also has a passion for helping young people to understand history and confidently address current issues from a Biblical perspective. He is the director of the Christian Discoveries division of Worldstrides. He has taught at ACTS since 2005. Dan has a B.A. from WVU in Political Science and International Studies as well as an M.A. in Public Administration. He is currently on the town council of Scottsville. He and his wife, Sunny, have six grown children and eight grandchildren. They began homeschooling in 1994.

### **Sunny Gritsko**

Sunny believes in home schooling because it helps parents to nurture God's call on the lives of their kids. Some of her best and most enjoyable homeschooling experiences have been co-opping with other families. She has a bachelor's degree in graphic design from WVU and has experience in commercial art. She has been teaching art since 1997. She and her husband Dan have six grown children: Daniel, Hannah, Caleb, Esther, Rachel, and John. They began homeschooling in 1994 and are currently empty nesters enjoying their eight grandchildren, as well as continuing to be involved in the homeschool community.

### **Kelly Gunther**

I'm a mom of 6 who spent 5 years as a nurse before staying at home with my kids and accidentally stumbled into homeschooling. 8 years later, still homeschooling although some have transitioned to public school. I love history, and read biographies and historical books for fun, as well as knit. When I'm not driving my kids to all their activities.

### **Bethany Hamner**

Bethany and her family have been part of ACTS since 2013. She has home-schooled her two children, MariKaye and Will for 10 years. During her time at ACTS, she has loved serving as an assistant in many classrooms. She attended Piedmont Virginia Community College, where she took accounting and business courses. In addition to home-schooling, she works part-time at the public library in Fluvanna. She loves teaching children and is looking forward to teaching at ACTS this year.

### **Carol Henderson**

Carol taught her 5 now-grown children for over 25 years as a homeschooling mom. She still loves to teach and is thankful for the opportunity to continue sharing her love of learning with the children at ACTS. During her homeschooling years, she began the website ABookInTime.com as a resource for good history reading books and crafts, and currently maintains a geography website at LetsGoGeography.com. She has a B.S. from Liberty University, and loves to create geography & history projects for kids. She also enjoys being outdoors, gardening, raising chickens, hiking, and spending time with her family.

### **Mike Henderson**

Mike Henderson has a B.A., an M.A., and an M.Div. and has taken multiple classes in Taxation, Economics, Business, and Business Law. He pastored for 32 years and is currently serving as an Interim Pastor at a local church. He is a Dave Ramsey Certified Financial Coach and has led multiple financial seminars.

### **Debbie Howard**

Debbie Howard and her husband enjoyed homeschooling their three children and learning alongside them for 20 years, including many wonderful years at ACTS. Following their graduation, Mrs. Howard taught at Redeemer Classical School and Community Christian Academy. She is delighted to be returning to offer Crafting with Flair! this year!

### **Michele Johnson**

Michele Johnson graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in Physics and Math. At the same time, she was in Navy ROTC at the University of Michigan earning a minor in Military science. She also earned a Masters in Information Systems and Telecommunications from Johns Hopkins University. After spending 8 years active duty Navy and 5 in the Naval Reserves, she decided to hang up her military career for raising her children and homeschooling. Her oldest graduated from UVA in Accounting and currently holds a CPA. Her second is graduating from VCU in May. Her third is at PVCC majoring in Engineering and her fourth will be a senior. Mrs. Johnson hopes students will truly discover how joyful it is to learn Physics and Math and especially as they see the concepts come alive when they discover how incredible God designed it all.

### **Kimberly Kim**

Kimberly is a wife to Tom, and mother of 4 wonderful boys who all love chess and enjoy competing in tournaments. She has a BA in Christian Education and Ministry and in Intercultural Psychology. Kimberly has worked in various social work roles before becoming a mother and also worked as the Director of Children's Ministry for 5 years in Charlottesville. She's enjoyed homeschooling for the past 10 years and being a part of the ACTS community for most of those years.

### **Wendy King**

Mrs. King is a married, homeschooling mom. She and her husband, Jack, knew from the beginning they wanted to homeschool their daughters (Gretl, Grace, Hope, and Faith). Mrs. King has a BS in Mathematics and German from Mary Washington College (now the University of Mary Washington). She has taught high school German and high school mathematics in the public school. She loves math and she has always loved helping people understand math. She has studied German, attended school in Germany, and lived in Germany. She enjoys reading and speaking German. She looks forward with great expectation to teaching German, Algebra Made Simple, Algebra 2, Geometry and Pre-Calculus, and she welcomes the opportunity to help students love math.

### **Susan Kyner**

Susan Kyner is a wife and mom of 6 (mostly grown) kids, and she home-schooled for 15 years. She has a BA in education from Grove City College and a masters degree in special education from UVA. Susan is passionate about teaching, particularly teaching writing/English/literature, and has taught in public school in Virginia and Colorado as well as having taught various English courses for several years at ACTS. Teaching at ACTS, in an environment where Christ can be central, has been her favorite teaching experience.

### **Rod Lehrke**

Rod is a homeschool dad that enjoys teaching and spending time with his children. He recently left an instructing position on a government contract after 12 years. He has lived an active life and thrives sharing his enjoyment of activity with others. He believes exercise and activity is for everyone. God gave us minds and bodies and both need to be developed to fulfill His purpose for our lives. My wife and I have been in homeschooling a long time. Alyse, grew up being homeschooled; my two younger siblings were homeschooled. I spent 17 years as a Special Forces Medic in the US Army National Guard. I enjoyed medicine and teaching other military and foreign nationals first aid techniques while I was performing my duties. I enjoy teaching. I previously taught a first aid class in a Winchester, VA homeschool co-op as well.

### **Ellen Lemire**

Ellen Lemire majored in elementary education and minored in music at West Virginia Wesleyan College, with a focus in piano, also singing in choirs and playing brass instruments in bands. Before having her own children, Ellen primarily taught preschool and music, both group and private lessons to students from elementary age through adult. She now enjoys homeschooling her own children and is thankful for the opportunity to teach them about God and His kingdom. Samuel is now in college, and Anna, Chloe, Abigail, and Daniel continue to homeschool. She is happy to also have the opportunity to work with the children in ACTS music classes and to share her love of God's gift of music!

### **Cindy McCready**

I am facilitating study hall, the first 4 periods, this year. My husband, Chris and I have been home schooling our 4 kids since 2002. We've been at ACTS since 2017. ACTS has been a great blessing to our family and I'm happy to be able to help the homeschool community. All glory to God.

### **Morgan McMahan**

Morgan McMahan is a current ACTS parent, and a Seton Home Study School graduate. She received a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Franciscan University of Steubenville, and spent her junior year studying abroad at the University of Salamanca, Spain. Morgan has also traveled to Honduras and Guatemala. Before having children, Morgan worked for social services in Fairfax, Loudoun, and Albemarle Counties, serving Spanish-speaking families on a daily basis. Morgan is a lifelong pianist, and also enjoys working out, painting, sewing, and gardening.

### **Thomas Marsh**

Thomas Marsh is a classical sculptor ([www.thomasmarshsculptor.net](http://www.thomasmarshsculptor.net)) who has created many public monuments, and has works in collections throughout the United States and in Europe. Noted works include the statue in the Santa Cruz, CA surfing monument, John the Baptist at Mission San Juan Bautista, CA, The portal sculpture of the high rise at 235 Pine Street in San Francisco, the “Goddess of Democracy” in San Francisco’s Chinatown, and, as concept designer and sculptor, the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, DC. In recent years he has focused on religious sculptures, with works in churches in Virginia, Florida, Texas, and New York City. In May, 2022, Thomas Marsh received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters title from San Francisco’s Academy of Art University. Dr. Marsh has been teaching at ACTS since 2012.

### **Laura Mason**

Laura Mason is the mother of seven children, some of whom she homeschools. She has worked as an editor, researcher, and flute teacher. Teaching in the homeschool community for over 10 years, she has enjoyed assisting in the education of many children in North Carolina, Richmond, Fluvanna, and Charlottesville. Her classes have included preschool, kindergarten, art, writing, math, and Kids Connect. Laura lives on the beginnings of a little farm in Fluvanna county and loves helping out at her neighbor's pottery.

### **Karen Measells**

Karen Measells is an industrial engineer who recently completed a master's degree in data analytics from GA Tech. She started homeschooling her daughter, Molly, in 2023 for 9th grade and has loved the time teaching and supporting her education. Karen believes that computer science can be intimidating for many students and is excited to help more kids understand how computers work and how they can help us solve problems. Karen and her family attend The Point Church, where her husband serves as the executive director. Molly has two younger siblings, Grace in 9th grade and Reed in 6th.



**Dave Merriman**

David Merriman was selected as a NC Teaching Fellow scholarship recipient in 1987. He earned a BA in Political Science Teaching Option from NC State in 1991. During his 6 years of teaching in Durham Public schools, he helped organize a school within a school for at risk students and was elected Teacher of the Year 1996 at Chewning Middle School. For the past 25 years in the business world he has trained new employees and served as a continuing education instructor for insurance licensure. David enjoys helping students see history and government through different lights; especially in the light of God's master plan.

## **Jennifer Merriman**

Jen Merriman earned her BS in Biology from UNC-Chapel Hill. At the US EPA, she worked on the Biologically Based Dose Response Team creating mathematical models to assess risk and purification of cardiac proteins, mono and polyclonal antibodies for Fortron Bio Science. Jen and Dave Merriman (history and government teacher at ACTS) have been performing together since 1991. They have two children, Sarah Lindsay (a home school high school graduate currently a theater and vocal performance major at Radford University), and Hudson, who is enrolled at ACTS.

As a home educator, Mrs. Merriman has led Foundations or Essentials classes for the Classical Conversations Community of Charlottesville since 2012. Additionally, Mrs. Merriman has led worship for VBS and directed children's musicals at Effort Baptist Church in Palmyra. She currently serves as the children's ministry director at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. In 2020, Mrs. Merriman joined the ACTS Science team teaching Biology and K-2 Science. In 2023, Shakespeare for Middle School and Elementary Drama round out her academic offerings.

## **Renata Miller**

I believe in our relationship with God by praying daily and reflecting on Jesus' teaching so we can live as Jesus showed us, treating all with love and kindness, she refrains from judgment, believing we are all God's children. Renata's teaching experience ranges from leading Girl Scouts, yoga classes, homeschooling co-op classes, and helping as a substitute teacher at various classes while homeschooling her daughters since 2015. Since 2022, Renata has embarked on her entrepreneurial journey, navigating the business world with determination and resilience. Now, she seeks to share her experiences and insights, guiding others in realizing their own business dreams.

## **Jenn Muse**

Jenn Muse believes that learning should spark your imagination and give your dreams wings to fly. She has loved learning ever since her own homeschool journey began. She has homeschooled her own daughter since kindergarten and has loved every minute of it. Along with being an avid asker of questions she loves Jesus with all her heart and enjoys seeing her Creator's fingerprints all over nature. She lives happily ever after with her husband & daughter in a beautiful home at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains.

## **Miriam Nissley**

Mrs. Nissley and her husband, Tim, have five children (Matt, Ben, David, Maria, & Anna) and home-schooled from 1990-2014. They also are the proud grandparents of five grandchildren. Mrs. Nissley has taught at ACTS since 2003, and has experience teaching in children's church, Sunday School, in-home daycare & pre-school settings. In 2015, Mrs. Nissley introduced the "American Girls Rock!" course (combination of history & crafts) which allows girls to explore the time periods of the AG historical dolls. She has a passion for teaching, supporting home-school families and praying for her students.

### **Sarah Otis**

Raising and homeschooling my four children has been one of my greatest joys! My oldest is married, two are in college and one is being home-schooled. I love all things creative and finding beauty in daily life. My girls and I have enjoyed many spontaneous painting parties around the kitchen table. We also love bringing our art supplies along on picnics so we can capture the beauty around us. I am excited to teach my students to enjoy painting and being creative. I am so thankful to God for the opportunity of homeschooling and being at ACTS.

### **Janice Philbrick**

Janice enjoyed homeschooling with her four (now grown) children and serving as an administrator of a homeschool tutorial program in Durham, NC. She earned her BA in Sociology from Gordon College and has also completed piano teacher training with the Suzuki Association of the Americas for all levels. She is a certified Music Mind Games instructor and a certified reading tutor through the Augustine Literacy Project of the Triangle. Janice teaches piano both online with her former NC students and also now at Stevens School of Music in Fluvanna County. She and her husband love living in central Virginia near some of their family, including seven grandchildren.

### **Bethany Pippin-Hoovler**

Bethany Pippin-Hoovler has enjoyed learning historical facts from an early age. Homeschooled for a majority of her school years, she earned her Bachelors of Arts in History and Political Science from Bridgewater College. And a Masters from Virginia Commonwealth University in a totally unrelated field, because you never stop learning! Bethany has been homeschooling her children, alongside her husband, since 2018. She is looking forward to working in the classroom sharing random historical facts to help prompt ACTS students to ask "Why?" and encourage them to become life long learners.

### **Chelsie Porterfield**

Chelsie is a homeschooling mom to her daughter, Grace. Since discovering her love for Algebra in high school, math has been her passion. She previously taught Middle School Math and Algebra I at Southside Homeschool Co-op in Powhatan. She has a certificate in bookkeeping and will be graduating from Mary Baldwin University with a B.A. in Education this year.

### **Lily Proffitt**

I'm a mom of three. We live on a small farm. I love learning new crafts and being able to share them with others.

### **Susan Proffitt**

Susan graduated from Piedmont Virginia Community College with an A.S. in Education and Mary Baldwin College with a B.A. in English and a teaching certificate in elementary education. She taught 3rd- 5th grades at Northside Christian School in Charlottesville for nine years and then was a home daycare provider for nine years. Susan and her husband, David, began homeschooling in 2003, and the youngest of their three children graduated in 2021. Susan looks forward to helping with her grandchildren in their homeschooling journey.

### **Robin Rakow**

Robin Rakow graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelors of Arts in English Literature and Interdisciplinary Studies, as well as a Masters in Elementary Education. Robin taught in Madison County for nearly 10 years before “retiring” to be a stay-at-home mom. She’s homeschooled since 2013 and enjoys spending time with her family (including her Math teacher hubby, Ryan), gardening, a good cup of coffee or tea, time with friends, cooking, art, writing, and serving her community.

### **Emily Reiner**

Emily Reiner is a Music and Arts teacher with over 30 years of teaching experience to students of all ages. She holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from La Sierra University and has home schooled all three of her children.

### **Venita Richmond**

Teaching is Venita’s passion. She has a M.Ed. in education from The Ohio State University and believes that learning should never be boring. She has homeschooled four children and enjoys helping others in their homeschool journey. In addition to teaching at ACTS, Venita tutors math and reading, and runs an afterschool tutoring program with Abundant Life.

### **Lindsay Sauer**

Lindsay Sauer never thought she’d be homeschooling, but has found it to be one of the greatest joys of her life to leave the professional world and learn alongside her two sons. One of her favorite parts of homeschooling is creating an environment where her children are able to independently explore God’s creation. She has been a team manager for her boys' Destination Imagination teams for three seasons previously where she witnessed the greatness that can come out of a group of energetic guys stuck in a room together with a bunch of problems. She is so excited to offer the Destination Imagination courses to the ACTS community.

### **Sharon Shelton**

Sharon Shelton has an M.S. degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from Mississippi State University and worked for several years at the Diagnostic DNA lab of UVA hospital. Sharon and her husband, Brian, have homeschooled their 4 children, Mary, Abigail, Robert, and John. Sharon has been teaching science classes for homeschoolers for 15 years and especially enjoys high school level courses. She also has fun leading science activities at CHESSIE summer science camps.

### **Joan Schilling**

Joan and her husband, Rob, relocated from their native southern California to central Virginia over twenty years ago. Along with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Film Production (UCLA), she has earned an M.Ed. and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Virginia. Joan has been homeschooling for about sixteen years; her son, Gabriel, graduated in 2022, and she currently enjoys homeschooling her two daughters—Caroline aged fifteen and Hannah Grace aged thirteen. In addition to homeschooling her children, Joan serves as a member of the school board for Community Christian Academy and works as a high school parent mentor for the Homeschool Education Association of Virginia (HEAV). In her free time, Joan enjoys being with family and friends, reading, crocheting, and writing.

### **Joseph Sigalas**

Joseph Sigalas, PhD, has been teaching at ACTS for more than 5 years. Previously, he was a professor at Truett-McConnell University and has taught at the University of Georgia and Gainesville College. He has studied at the University of Georgia, the University of Oxford, the University of Virginia, and Chapman University. Aside from teaching at ACTS, he is a proposal writing professional.

### **Susan Sigalas**

Susan Sigalas has a PhD in English from the University of Georgia and has been teaching writing and literature to college students for over twenty years. She has also worked as an editor for CreateSpace, an independent publishing company. Susan and her husband, Joseph, have been homeschooling their children, Ginny, Meg, and Gwen, since they started school and have been members of ACTS since 2007.

### **Julie Snell**

Julie Snell and her husband John have been homeschooling their seven children for 23 years and have been members of ACTS for nearly all those years. Julie holds BS degrees in Special Education (Miami U) and Nursing (UVA), and a M.Ed. in Speech-Language Pathology (UVA) – and has worked with children in all three fields. She has special interests in children's literature, the reading process, and helping struggling and dyslexic readers. She enjoys hiking, camping, traveling, knitting, reading, and spending time with her large family.

## **Autumn Temple**

Autumn began teaching at ACTS in 2005. As a homeschool graduate, she felt especially blessed to begin a second-generation journey of homeschooling with her own children in 2005. Autumn & her husband have recently become ordained ministers. Serving Jesus and loving people is truly a calling and joy.

Autumn has been teaching American Sign Language, Drama and Bible study at ACTS for many years. It's a joy to share creativity and the love of Jesus through teaching some of her favorite subjects.

## **Ginny Thompson**

Ginny Thompson has been homeschooling her children since 2012. Prior to that, she taught at two universities, was a guest speaker for a private high school, and taught US Government at ACTS. When she isn't homeschooling or on adventures with her family, you can most likely find her gardening while soaking up sun, reading (both fictional and nonfictional history), listening to local and/or political podcasts, and hanging with dear friends.

## **Carlee Whitlock**

My name is Carlee Whitlock. I am an ACTS alumna, graduating in 2016. Since then, I've been working on my degree from Piedmont Virginia Community College, saving money for a cross-country road trip, and of course, sewing. This will be my third year teaching at ACTS; however, I have been sewing for nine years, learning from teachers and through trial and error.

## **Karin Wilcox**

Karin Wilcox grew up in Germany where she studied Early Childhood Development and Psychology. After immigrating to the USA, she decided to homeschool her three children during her husband's military service years. She taught German in a German immersion school in Washington State and offered tutoring for many years. The Wilcox family settled in Charlottesville, VA in 2020, and has enjoyed being part of the local homeschool community ever since.

## **Martha Young**

Mrs. Young was born and raised in Colombia, South America. She speaks Spanish and English fluently, as she has lived in the United States since 1993. She is married to Jim, and has two children, Christopher, and Katherine.