



# Kindergarten Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Kindergarten classroom and curriculum focuses on helping each child become the best person he or she can be. Students are not only taught the academic standards that have been set for Kindergarten, but they are also guided in establishing important habits and attitudes that will benefit them in their future years in school and for the rest of their lives.

## BIBLE

Kindergarteners focus their learning on familiar Bible truths that emphasize God's loving care using a combination of the ACSI Kindergarten Bible textbook in combination with the help of the engaging videos in the Superbook video series, featuring captivating, Bible-based adventures of two time-traveling children and their robot friend. By learning the lessons, watching the videos, engaging in discussion with their teacher, and being reminded throughout their week to apply the lessons they are learning, these students continue to add to the Biblical worldview foundation that they have already begun to develop at home.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

The Superkids Reading Program by Zaner Bloser introduces fascinating stories and characters to ensure reading success in every student. The program focuses on establishing a familiar routine with each letter sound – “hear it, see it, say it, write it.” Rigorous instruction in grade 1 ensures students master the foundational skills they need to become lifelong readers and writers, focusing on the following:

Word work: Phonemic awareness • Phonics • Blending • Decoding • Structural analysis • Fluency Language Skills • Handwriting • Encoding • Spelling • Grammar • Vocabulary

Reading: Decoding • Fluency Speaking & Listening Skills • Oral language • Collaborative discussion Reading Skills • Listening comprehension • Reading comprehension: literary and informational text • Close reading • Content knowledge • Vocabulary

Writing Skills: Writing process • Narrative writing • Opinion writing • Informative/ explanatory writing  
Language Skills • Grammar, usage, and mechanics • Speaking and listening

## MATHEMATICS

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today's learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

Kindergarteners learn to count and write 0 to 20 and beyond; to compare numbers 0 to 10; to add and subtract, to identify 2- and 3-D shapes, and different measurements; and to sort and group.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The Kindergarten students' education continues with reading and discovery through Scholastic's Let's Find Out magazine developed just for Kindergarten students. This program continues to support beginning readers with sight words, pattern text, rhymes, songs, and vocabulary builders while also covering the Ohio learning standards of "Families Now and Long Ago, Near and Far." The first-grade year builds on the concepts developed in kindergarten by focusing on the individual as a member of a family. Students begin to understand how families lived long ago and how they live in other cultures. They develop concepts about how the world is organized spatially through beginning map skills. They build the foundation for understanding principles of government and their roles as citizens. Through the guidance of their teacher, they explore culture, heritage, and democratic principles, through the lens of Biblical truth.

## **SCIENCE**

From the mystery that is introduced in every lesson to the unforgettable story told with engaging images and videos, Mystery Science helps kids stay curious by creating better explanations. As a child's curiosity peaks in the first ten years of life, these are the years when children not only form habits that will stay with them through their lifetimes, but also further develop their view of the world and how it connects to Biblical Truths. "This is the opportunity to nurture each child's burning curiosity, guide them as they explore their world, and ensure they develop the most important skill of all: the ability to figure things out for themselves."



# First Grade Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our First Grade classroom and curriculum focuses on helping each child as they transition to developing more academic skills, leaving behind the play of preschool and Kindergarten. This year, these students experience a significant transition to more extensive learning that exceeds the academic standards for this year. Most importantly, First Grade students continue to build upon the habits and attitudes they began to establish in Kindergarten, growing and establishing their view of the world through a Biblical lens.

## BIBLE

First Graders focus their learning on familiar Bible truths that emphasize God's relationship with people using a combination of the ACSI Kindergarten Bible textbook in combination with the help of the engaging videos in the Superbook video series, featuring captivating, Bible-based adventures of two time-traveling children and their robot friend. By learning the lessons, watching the videos, engaging in discussion with their teacher, and being reminded throughout their week to apply the lessons they are learning, these students begin to add to the world view foundation that they have already begun to develop at home.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

The Superkids Reading Program by Zaner Bloser introduces fascinating stories and characters to ensure reading success in every student. The program focuses on establishing a familiar routine with each letter sound – “hear it, see it, say it, write it,” and builds Foundational skills in the following areas:

Word work: Phonemic awareness • Phonics • Blending • Decoding • Structural analysis • Fluency Language Skills • Handwriting • Encoding • Spelling • Grammar • Vocabulary

Reading: Decoding • Fluency Speaking & Listening Skills • Oral language • Collaborative discussion Reading Skills • Listening comprehension • Reading comprehension: literary and informational text • Close reading • Content knowledge • Vocabulary

Writing Skills: Writing process • Narrative writing • Opinion writing • Informative/ explanatory writing  
Language Skills • Grammar, usage, and mechanics • Speaking and listening

## MATHEMATICS

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today's learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

First Grade students build on the foundation established in Kindergarten. They learn to add and subtract including 2-digit numbers; to use addition and subtraction strategies; to count, model, and compare numbers; to determine length and time; to use graphs and charts; and to identify 2- and 3-D geometry. Students also engage daily with fact fluency programs to meet the state standard of fact mastery in three seconds or less, which allows students to succeed in higher level skills.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The First Grade students' education continues with myWorld Social Studies™ from Savvas Learning Company where students are engaged to become thoughtful, literate citizens. Lessons apply inquiry processes, practice reading and writing, and involve collaboration and communication skills while also covering the Ohio learning standards of "Families Now and Long Ago, Near and Far." This year builds on the concepts developed in Kindergarten by focusing on the individual as a member of a family, identifying how families lived long ago in various cultures. They also begin to get a deeper understanding of the world that God has created through beginning map skills. Finally, they build the foundation for understanding the principles of government and their roles as citizens, all through the lens of Biblical truth.

## **SCIENCE**

Purposeful Design Science 1 from ACSI provides "students the opportunity to marvel at the wonders of Creation both as inhabitants and caretakers as they study, explore, and discover the world God has created." These inquiry-based lessons provide a hands-on approach that develops critical thinking skills. Students learn the processes and language of science through a text that is integrated with a biblical worldview.

First Grade students are introduced to the foundational concepts of Life Science as they learn about vertebrates and invertebrates, Ecosystems and habitats, and the basic characteristics of classification. In the Physical Science Unit, students study sound energy, work and motion, matter, force and simple machines. Earth and Space opens up the world of the hydrosphere, the atmosphere, and the basics of astronomy. Finally, students begin to see the amazing intricacies of the Human Body as they are introduced to the different systems of the body, basic health, and proper use of technology.



# Second Grade Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Second Grade classroom and curriculum focuses on making considerable growth in math, writing, and reading skills, including learning and using new vocabulary, orally and in writing. By the end of the year, Second Grade students are reading fluently. As work becomes more challenging, the amount of homework may increase. Most importantly, Second Grade students continue to build upon the habits and attitudes they have been developing, growing and establishing their view of the world through a Biblical lens.

## BIBLE

Second Grade students focus their learning on truths that focus on character traits of various people in the Bible with application to the students' life. The goal is for every student to develop a Christian worldview that includes the truth that the primary reason for each person's existence is to love and serve God. Not only do the students learn about the Bible, they are also taught to apply the truths to their daily lives as they learn the lessons, memorize Scripture weekly with emphasis on being able to recall and apply those Scriptures as they face life situations, engage in discussion with their teacher, and are reminded throughout their week to apply the truths they are learning.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Our Second Grade students complete their Language Arts requirements through the comprehensive Reading Street program by Savvas Learning. This program introduces engaging literature organized around these unit concepts: Envision It! – Use visuals to access understanding; Big Ideas – Consider related big questions; Team Talk – Build a learning community for social cognition; Vocabulary – Learn and use a wealth of words; Science and Social Studies – Transfer understanding to content areas; Text Sets – Read connected texts for content equity; Writing – Write daily to build fluency.

Through instruction that is systematic, explicit, and focused on priority skills, these students are able to exceed the expectations for Language Arts skills. Second Grade Language Arts builds skills in the following areas: Concepts about Print; Phonological and Phonemic Awareness; Decoding and Word Recognition through phonics, word structure, decoding strategies, and fluency; Vocabulary and Concept Development through word learning strategies, extending concepts and word knowledge; Reading Comprehension through comprehension strategies, comprehension skills, and higher order thinking skills; Literary Response and Analysis through learning about genre and its characteristics, literary elements and story structure, literary devices, author's and illustrator's craft, literary response, literary appreciation/motivation, and cultural awareness; Writing through concepts about print for writing, traits of writing, the writing process, writing genres, writing habits and practices, and penmanship; Written and Oral English Language Conventions through grammar and usage in speaking and writing, mechanics in writing, and spelling; Listening and Speaking through listening skills and strategies, and speaking skills and strategies; Viewing and Media; and Research Skills through understanding and using graphic and reference sources, study skills and strategies, test-taking skills and strategies, new technology literacies, and the research process.

In addition to their collective reading, Second Grade students strive to meet their personal reading goals through the use of the Accelerated Reader program. Students are placed in data-driven groups and work daily on texts that are reading-level appropriate to foster reading growth and challenge them as part of a guided reading program.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today’s learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

Second Grade students learn numbers to 1,000; 2- and 3- digit addition and subtraction; money and time; length in inches and feet and metric units; data and graphs, and geometry and fractions. Students also engage daily with fact fluency programs to meet the state standard of fact mastery in three seconds or less, which allows students to succeed in higher level skills.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The Second Grade students’ education continues with myWorld Social Studies™ from Savvas Learning Company where students are engaged to become thoughtful, literate citizens. Lessons apply inquiry processes, practice reading and writing, and involve collaboration and communication skills while also covering the Ohio learning standards of “People Working Together.” During this year, work serves as an organizing theme. Students learn about current jobs as well as those from long ago. They increase their close reading skills by using biographies, primary sources, and artifacts to discover clues to the past. Finally, they deepen their knowledge of diverse cultures and their roles as citizens, all through the lens of Biblical truth.

## **SCIENCE**

Purposeful Design Science 2 from ACSI provides “students the opportunity to marvel at the wonders of Creation both as inhabitants and caretakers as they study, explore, and discover the world God has created.” These inquiry-based lessons provide a hands-on approach that develops critical thinking skills. Students learn the processes and language of science through a text that is integrated with a biblical worldview.

Second Grade students expand their foundational knowledge of Life Science as they learn about vertebrates and invertebrates, ecosystems and habitats, plants, and the basic characteristics of classification. In the Physical Science Unit, students study the different types of energy, matter, and electrical forces. Earth and Space expands the world of the hydrosphere, and delves more deeply into the atmosphere. Finally, students continue to see the amazing intricacies of the Human Body as they focus on the nervous and digestive systems of the body, learn more about basic health, diseases and disorders, and proper use of technology while also being introduced to the basics of the skin. Students are equipped to exceed state standards with an emphasis on discussion, discovery, and experimental- based learning.



# Third Grade Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Third Grade classroom and curriculum focuses on developing more independence and responsibility while moving beyond “learning to read” to “reading to learn,” and these students will start reading more for pleasure in chapter books. Students begin to apply what they are learning, demonstrating their understanding through more than just repeating memorized facts. The Third Grade day includes more independent work time, with an increased expectation of personal accountability. In addition, this year, students will begin to develop personal study skills, exploring and adopting specific strategies. Most importantly, Third Grade students continue to build upon the habits and attitudes they have been developing, growing and establishing their view of the world through a Biblical lens.

## BIBLE

Third Grade students focus their learning on studies in the life of Christ, the early Church, and missions from the time of Paul until now. The goal is for every student to develop a Christian worldview that includes the truth that the primary reason for each person’s existence is to love and serve God. Not only do the students learn about the Bible, they are also taught to apply the truths to their daily lives as they learn the lessons, engage in discussion with their teacher, and are reminded throughout their week to apply the truths they are learning.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Reading/Composition/Spelling

Our Third Grade students complete their Language Arts requirements through the comprehensive Reading Street program by Savvas Learning. This program introduces engaging literature organized around these unit concepts: Envision It! – Use visuals to access understanding; Big Ideas – Consider related big questions; Team Talk – Build a learning community for social cognition; Vocabulary – Learn and use a wealth of words; Science and Social Studies – Transfer understanding to content areas; Text Sets – Read connected texts for content equity; Writing – Write daily to build fluency.

Through instruction that is systematic, explicit, and focused on priority skills, these students are able to exceed the expectations for Language Arts skills. Third Grade Language Arts builds skills in the following areas: Decoding and Word Recognition through phonics, word structure, decoding strategies, and fluency; Vocabulary and Concept Development through word learning strategies, extending concepts and word knowledge; Reading Comprehension through comprehension strategies, comprehension skills, and higher order thinking skills; Literary Response and Analysis through learning about genre and its characteristics, literary elements and story structure, literary devices, author’s and illustrator’s craft, literary response, literary appreciation/motivation, and cultural awareness; Writing through traits of writing, the writing process, writing genres, writing habits and practices, and penmanship; Written and Oral English Language Conventions through grammar and usage in speaking and writing, mechanics in writing, and spelling; Listening and Speaking through listening skills and strategies, and speaking skills and strategies; Viewing and Media; and Research Skills through understanding and using graphic and reference sources, study skills and strategies, test-taking skills and strategies, new technology literacies, and the research process.

In addition to their collective reading, Third Grade students strive to meet their personal reading goals through the use of the Accelerated Reader program.

## Penmanship

Students begin their journey of mastering cursive writing with the *A Reason For Handwriting: Cursive C* textbook. This text introduces current cursive writing with lessons that review both upper and lower-case cursive letters and provide opportunities to practice individual words and sentences during the rest of the year. Correct alignment, slant, size, shape and spacing are emphasized.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today’s learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

Third Grade students learn 3-digit addition and subtraction; tables and graphs; to understand multiplication by multiplying with numbers 2 to 10; to use multiplication; to understand division by dividing with numbers 2 to 10s; to understand and compare fractions; time, length, volume, and mass; perimeter and area; and 2-D shapes. Students also engage daily with fact fluency programs to meet the state standard of fact mastery in three seconds or less, which allows students to succeed in higher level skills.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The Third Grade students’ education continues with myWorld Social Studies™ from Savvas Learning Company where students are engaged to become thoughtful, literate citizens. Lessons apply inquiry processes, practice reading and writing, and involve collaboration and communication skills while also covering the Ohio learning standards of “Communities: Past and Present, Near and Far.” During this year, the local community serves as the focal point as students begin to understand how their own communities have changed over time while they learn to make comparisons with communities in other places. Their study of local history comes alive through the use of artifacts and documents, and they learn how communities are governed and how the local economy is organized, all through the lens of Biblical truth. Included with the text are projects that help to bring the subject matter to life for the students including a Living Wax Museum where students research a historical figure, prepare a speech, and present in full costume to parents, peers, and other visitors.

## **SCIENCE**

Purposeful Design Science 3 from ACSI provides “students the opportunity to marvel at the wonders of Creation both as inhabitants and caretakers as they study, explore, and discover the world God has created.” These inquiry-based lessons provide a hands-on approach that develops critical thinking skills. Students learn the processes and language of science through a text that is integrated with a biblical worldview.

Third Grade students expand their foundational knowledge of Life Science as they learn about vertebrates and invertebrates, ecosystems and habitats, the characteristics of classification, and cells. In the Physical Science Unit, students focus on kinetic energy, work, motion, matter, force, and machines. Earth and Space expands the world of the lithosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere while delving more deeply into astronomy. Finally, students continue to see the amazing intricacies of the Human Body as they focus on the nervous and musculoskeletal systems of the body, learn more about basic health, study diseases and disorders, and proper use of technology.



# Fourth Grade Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Fourth Grade classroom and curriculum focuses on solidifying reading and comprehension skills. These students truly become that – students who have homework writing assignments and are continuing to demonstrate their knowledge through application in their assessments. The Fourth Grade day includes more independent work time, with an increased expectation of personal accountability as they continue to develop the skills necessary for independent work in middle school. Likewise, students will continue to develop personal study skills, exploring and adopting specific strategies. Most importantly, Fourth Grade students continue to build upon the habits and attitudes they have been developing, growing and establishing their view of the world through a Biblical lens.

## BIBLE

Fourth Grade students focus their learning on a study of basic doctrines of Christianity, such as the Trinity, salvation, sin nature, and eternity. The goal is for every student to develop a Christian worldview that includes the truth that the primary reason for each person's existence is to love and serve God. Not only do the students learn about the Bible, they are also taught to apply the truths to their daily lives as they learn the lessons, engage in discussion with their teacher, and are reminded throughout their week to apply the truths they are learning.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Reading

Our Fourth Grade students read at least one novel per quarter together as a class. These unit studies include comprehension activities, close reading skills and practice, learning and identifying literary devices, identifying and understanding themes, genre studies, author biographies, writing assignments, and more. Fourth Graders enjoy the escapades of Wally in *My Life as a Smashed Burrito* by Bill Meyers, Charlotte and Wilbur in *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, Dewey and Grandma in *Trouble River* by Betsy Byars, and Peter as they travel into Narnia in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. They also experience the difficulties of slavery through *If You Traveled on the Underground Railroad* by Ellen Levine.

In addition to their collective reading, Fourth Grade students strive to meet their personal reading goals through the use of the Accelerated Reader program.

### Grammar

Junior Analytical Grammar is the program used to introduce the ideas of English grammar to our Fourth Grade students. The program is divided into 11 units, each building on the one before, so students use what they've already learned to master the next concept. These students begin learning the grammar skills necessary to become successful writers in the upper grades.

### Spelling

Students word lists from K-12 Reader cover sight words, academic words, and 4th grade level appropriate patterns for words, focusing on word families, prefixes/suffixes, homophones, compound words, word roots/origins and more.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today's learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

Fourth Grade students learn to add and subtract to 1 million; multiply by 1- and 2- digit numbers; divide by 1-digit numbers; factors, multiples, and patterns; adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions while comparing them and understanding the correlation between fractions and decimals, 2-D figures, angles, measurement, and perimeter and area. Students also engage daily with fact fluency programs to meet the state standard of fact mastery in three seconds or less, which allows students to succeed in higher level skills.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The Fourth Grade students' education focuses on Ohio history with the help of Ohio in the United States from Gallopade Curriculum. Students are engaged through an interactive learning experience, while addressing civic literacy, financial and economic literacy, and global awareness. Activities include reading for information, cause and effect, classifying information, predicting possible outcomes, primary source analysis, inference, point of view, problem-solutions, order of events, compare and contrast, analyzing charts and graphs, critical thinking, timelines and sequencing, map skills, fact or opinion, data analysis, and more. Students also research and give a presentation on an Ohio Native American tribe. Most importantly, these students learn the ins and outs of Ohio's history through the lens of Biblical truth.

## **SCIENCE**

ScienceFusion® Grade 4 from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt combines the interactive digital engagement today's students expect, and the learning support they need, to advance in science with in-depth understanding to prepare these students for the new STEM career opportunities that will likely be available when they reach adulthood. This program includes award-winning digital lessons and virtual labs, enhanced by more than 3,000 videos, animations, and simulations, that creates learning that lasts.

Fourth Grade students learn the nature of scientific study; the engineering process; Life Science covering plants and animals and energy and ecosystems; Earth Science covering the weather and earth and space; and Physical Science covering the properties of matter, changes in matter, energy, electricity, and motion.



# Fifth Grade Curriculum Description

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Fifth Grade classroom and curriculum focuses on reading complex texts fluently with good comprehension, classifying and organizing information, objects, and ideas. Students will be encouraged to develop the skills of reading and concentrating for longer periods of time. They will see an increase in homework and writing assignments and will continue to demonstrate their knowledge through application in their assessments. The Fifth Grade year is the final year where students develop the skills necessary for the independence needed in order to succeed in middle school. As a result, students will continue to develop personal study skills, exploring and adopting specific strategies. Most importantly, Fifth Grade students continue to build upon the habits and attitudes they have been developing, growing and establishing their view of the world through a Biblical lens.

## BIBLE

Fifth Grade students focus their learning on an Old Testament survey, presenting major Bible concepts from the Old Testament. The goal is for every student to develop a Christian worldview that includes the truth that the primary reason for each person's existence is to love and serve God. Not only do the students learn about the Bible, they are also taught to apply the truths to their daily lives as they learn the lessons, engage in discussion with their teacher, and are reminded throughout their week to apply the truths they are learning.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Reading

Our Fifth Grade students read at least one novel per quarter together as a class. These unit studies include comprehension activities, close reading skills and practice, learning and identifying literary devices, identifying and understanding themes, genre studies, author biographies, writing assignments, and more. Fifth Graders enjoy the escapades of Jack and his sister Penny in *Derwood, Inc.* by Jeri Massi, *Matt in The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare, *Amos in Amos Fortune*, *Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates.

In addition to their collective reading, Fifth Grade students strive to meet their personal reading goals through the use of the Accelerated Reader program.

### Grammar & Mechanics

Junior Analytical Grammar: Mechanics is the program used to introduce the ideas of English grammar & Mechanics to our Fifth Grade students. The program is divided into 11 units, each building on the one before, so students use what they've already learned to master the next concept. These students review the grammar concepts in Fourth Grade and learn the mechanics skills necessary to become successful writers in the upper grades.

### Spelling

Students word lists from K-12 Reader cover sight words, academic words, and 5th grade level appropriate patterns for words, focusing on word families, prefixes/suffixes, homophones, compound words, word roots/origins and more.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Go Math (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) uses the 5E instructional model—Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate—that transforms planning and teaching and develops mathematical understanding in students. Even in the early ages, STEM content connects with today’s learners. By including Math in Careers challenges, students begin to envision the role math can play in the world around them.

Fifth Grade students learn operations and expressions; dividing whole numbers; adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals; comparing, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions; patterns and graphing; converting units of measure; and geometry and volume. Students also engage daily with fact fluency programs to meet the state standard of fact mastery in three seconds or less, which allows students to succeed in higher level skills.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

The Fifth Grade students’ education continues with myWorld Social Studies™ from Savvas Learning Company where students are engaged to become thoughtful, literate citizens. Lessons apply inquiry processes, practice reading and writing, and involve collaboration and communication skills while also covering the Ohio learning standards of “Regions and People of the Western Hemisphere.” During this year, students study the Western Hemisphere (North and South America), its geographic features, early history, cultural development and economic change. Students learn about the early inhabitants of the Americas and the impact of European exploration and colonization. The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products and ideas, and cultural diversity and they develop their understanding of the relationship between markets and available resources, all through the lens of Biblical truth. Finally, students enjoy hands-on activities such as completing a proposal identifying which of the three colonial regions is best for a particular colonist to settle based on that individual’s needs, writing blogs about life in the colonies from different perspectives, and comparing and contrasting the world views of the early Native Americans with a Christian Biblical worldview.

## **SCIENCE**

ScienceFusion® Grade 5 from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt combines the interactive digital engagement today’s students expect, and the learning support they need, to advance in science with in-depth understanding to prepare these students for the new STEM career opportunities that will likely be available when they reach adulthood. This program includes award-winning digital lessons and virtual labs, enhanced by more than 3,000 videos, animations, and simulations, that creates learning that lasts. In conjunction with the text, students also enjoy hands-on activities such as building a Solar System model, making and experimenting with a sundial clock, creating a make believe pond ecosystem, and researching famous scientists.

Fifth Grade students learn how scientists work; the engineering process, Life Science covering living things grow and reproduce, ecosystems, energy and ecosystems, and natural resources; Earth Science covering changes to earth’s surface, the rock cycle, fossil, earth’s oceans, and the solar system and the universe; and Physical Science covering matter, light and sound, and forces and motion.