

3rd – 6th Grade Class Descriptions

CORE CLASSES

Core curriculum includes history, geography, writing, literature, fine arts, Latin roots, and logic. Each student should **choose one** of the history time periods listed below.

HISTORY – THE MIDDLE AGES

Instructors: Sandy Phelps and Christy Kennard
3rd grade writing instructor: Kelly Demel

Time: All year 9:00 – 12:00

Grade level: 3rd & 4th Grade

Homework: Students will have daily homework assigned from this class.

Textbook/Required supplies:

FALL SEMESTER:

- *Mystery of History Vol. II: The Early Church and the Middle Ages*
- 3rd grade only: *Fables, Myths, and Fairy Tales* (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- 4th grade only: *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons*, 2nd Edition (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- *You Wouldn't Want to be a Roman Soldier!* by David Stewart (optional...read at home)
- *You Wouldn't Want to be a Roman Gladiator!* by John Malam (optional...read at home)
- *Pompeii...Buried Alive!* by Edith Davis (Step Into Reading, Step 4)
- *The Making of a Knight: How Sir James Earned His Armor* by Patrick O'Brien
- *The Story of King Arthur and His Knights* (Classic Starts series)
- *The Minstrel in the Tower* by Gloria Skurzynski (A Stepping Stone Book)
- *Stories of Beowulf* (free online)--optional
- *Arabian Nights* (A Classic Starts series) - Retold from the original by Martin Woodside

SPRING SEMESTER:

- *Castle Diary: The Journal of Tobias Burgess* by Richard Platt
- *MacBeth: For Kids* by Lois Burdett (Shakespeare Can be Fun series)
- *The Apple and the Arrow* by Mary and Conrad Buff
- *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (A Classic Starts series) Retold from the original by Howard Pyle
- *Ink on His Fingers* by Louise Vernon

Class Fee: \$30 per semester

Class Description:

- Using *Mystery of History Vol. II: The Early Church and the Middle Ages* as the spine for this course, students begin where Vol. I left off at the resurrection of Christ. The history of the early church really begins. Students explore the fall of the Roman Empire and the Dark Ages that followed. This text delves into the chivalry of knights and damsels, kings and queens, and the peasants who faithfully served them. Students visit Vikings and villains; castles and crusades and the poetry of Dante and Chaucer.
- 3rd grade students will use *Fables, Myths and Fairy Tales* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing. These lessons infuse the acclaimed *Teaching Writing: Structure and Style* method with classic children's literature. Characters and adventures will capture your students' imaginations and provide rich writing content. Students learn how to take notes, summarize narrative stories, summarize references, write from pictures and compose their own fables, myths and fairy tales.

- 4th grade students will use *Medieval-Based Writing Lessons* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing where major figures and events come alive as students write, using IEW's stylistic techniques. These lessons acquaint young learners with Charlemagne, the Vikings, William the Conqueror, Knighthood, geniuses of the Renaissance, and more with distinctive Christian content.
- Through literature depicting life in the Middle Ages, history will come alive.
- Students are exposed to logic through *Mind Benders* and *Building Thinking Skills* which will be used in class only with no homework.
- Students explore art, music, architecture and drama from this period in history making the culture come to life.

Expectations/Notes:

- Students will be assigned daily work Tuesday through Friday.
- In class on Mondays the teacher will answer questions about the previous week's work and reinforce what the students have learned through hands on activities.
- Students are expected to keep up with assignments and to turn in written assignments on time.

Grading: Students will be graded on their paragraphs or essays, homework assignments, and class participation.

HISTORY – THE MIDDLE AGES

Instructors: Becky Soliz and Kelly Charbula

Time: All year 9:00 – 12:00

Grade level: 5th – 6th Grade

Homework: Students will have daily homework assigned from this class.

Textbook/Required supplies:

FALL SEMESTER:

- *Mystery of History Vol. II: The Early Church and the Middle Ages*
- *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons*, 2nd Edition (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- *Twice Freed* by Patricia St. John
- *Beyond the Desert Gate* by Mary Ray
- *King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table* by Roger Green (Puffin Classics)
- *Stories of Beowulf* (free online)--optional
- *One Thousand and One Arabian Nights* by Geraldine McCaughrean

SPRING SEMESTER:

- *Beorn the Proud* by Madeline Pollard
- *MacBeth: For Kids* by Lois Burdett (Shakespeare Can be Fun series)
- *The Apple and the Arrow* by Mary and Conrad Buff
- *The Adventures of Robin Hood* by Roger Green (Puffin Classics)
- *Ink on His Fingers* by Louise Vernon

Class Fee: \$30 per semester

Class Description:

- Using *Mystery of History Vol. II: The Early Church and the Middle Ages* as the spine for this course, students begin where Vol. I left off at the resurrection of Christ. The history of the early church really begins. Students explore the fall of the Roman Empire and the Dark Ages that followed. This text delves into the chivalry of knights and damsels, kings and queens, and the peasants who faithfully served them. Students visit Vikings and villains; castles and crusades; and the poetry of Dante and Chaucer.
- Students will use *Medieval-Based Writing Lessons* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing where major figures and events come alive as students write, using IEW's stylistic techniques. These lessons acquaint young learners with Charlemagne, the Vikings, William the Conqueror, Knighthood, geniuses of the Renaissance, and more with distinctive Christian content.
- Through literature depicting life in the Middle Ages, history will come alive.

- Students are exposed to logic through *Mind Twisters* which will be used in class only with no homework.
- Students explore art, music, architecture and drama from this period in history making the culture come to life.

Expectations/Notes:

- Students will be assigned daily work Tuesday through Friday.
- In class on Mondays the teacher will answer questions about the previous week's work and reinforce what the students have learned through hands on activities.
- Students are expected to keep up with assignments and to turn in written assignments on time.

Grading: Students will be graded on their paragraphs or essays, homework assignments, and class participation.

HISTORY – THE RENAISSANCE, REFORMATION, AND GROWTH OF NATIONS

Instructors: Traci Winkler and Jennifer Rampy
3rd grade writing instructor: Kelly Demel

Time: All year 9:00 – 12:00

Grade level: 3rd & 4th Grade

Homework: Students will have daily homework assigned from this class.

Textbook/Required supplies:

FALL SEMESTER:

- *Mystery of History Vol. III: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Growth of Nations* (you only need to purchase the reader – NOT the activity guide)
- 3rd grade only: *Fables, Myths and Fairy Tales* (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- 4th grade only: *U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons, Vol. 1: Explorers to the Gold Rush, 2nd edition* (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- *Isabela Saves the Prince* (Ready to Read) ISBN-10: 9780689871979
- *Christopher Columbus* (Step Into Reading) by Stephen Krensky ISBN-10: 0-679-80369-6
- *Leonardo da Vinci* by Diane Stanley ISBN-10: 0688161553
- *Martin Luther: A Man Who Changed the World* by Paul L. Maier ISBN-10: 9780758606266
- *Secret Church* by Louise A. Vernon ISBN-10: 0836117832
- *Nicolaus Copernicus: The Earth is a Planet* by Dennis B. Fradin (Optional) ISBN-10: 1593360061
- *The Lost Colony of Roanoke* by Jean Fritz (Optional) ISBN-10: 0399240276

SPRING SEMESTER:

- *Robinson Crusoe* (A Classic Starts series) ISBN-10: 9781402726644
- *Squanto, Friend of the Pilgrims* by Clyde Robert Bulla ISBN-10: 0-590-44055-1
- *Man in the Iron Mask* (A Classic Starts series) ISBN-10: 9781402745799
- *The Courage of Sarah Noble* by Alice Dalgliesh ISBN-10: 0-689-71540-4

Class Fee: \$30 per semester

Class Description:

- Using *Mystery of History Vol. III: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Growth of Nations* as the spine for this course, students begin where Vol. II left off at the invention of the printing press. Spanning the Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration, and some early American history, this volume explores the backdrop to and the significance surrounding the time-honored contributions found in art, music, literature, science, and philosophy of this rich era.
- 3rd grade students will use *Fables, Myths and Fairy Tales* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing. These lessons infuse the acclaimed *Teaching Writing: Structure and Style* method with classic children's literature. Characters and adventures will capture your students' imaginations and provide rich writing content. Students learn how to take notes, summarize narrative stories, summarize references, write from pictures and compose their own fables, myths and fairy tales.

- 4th grade students will use *U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons, Vol. 1: Explorers to the Gold Rush* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing where major figures and events come alive as students write using IEW's stylistic techniques. Covering the nine IEW units, this course integrates writing, grammar, and vocabulary into Early US History studies.
- Through literature depicting life in the Renaissance and Reformation, history will come alive.
- Students are exposed to logic through *Mind Benders* and *Building Thinking Skills* which will be used in class only with no homework.
- Students explore art, music, architecture and drama from this period in history making the culture come to life.

Expectations/Notes:

- Students will be assigned daily work Tuesday through Friday.
- In class on Mondays the teacher will answer questions about the previous week's work and reinforce what the students have learned through hands on activities.
- Students are expected to keep up with assignments and to turn in written assignments on time.

Grading: Students will be graded on their paragraphs or essays, homework assignments, and class participation.

HISTORY – THE RENAISSANCE, REFORMATION, & THE GROWTH OF NATIONS

Instructors: Sarah Kruse and Margaret Jones

Time: All year 9:00 – 12:00

Grade level: 5th – 6th Grade

Homework: Students will have daily homework assigned from this class.

Textbook/Required supplies:

FALL SEMESTER:

- *Mystery of History Vol. III: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Growth of Nations* (you only need to purchase the reader – NOT the activity guide)
- *U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons, Vol. 1: Explorers to the Gold Rush, 2nd edition* (can be purchased at excellenceinwriting.com)
- *Pedro's Journal* by Pam Conrad
- *Luther: A Biography of a Reformer* by Frederick Nohl
- *Tales of Persia* by William McElwee Miller
- *Plain Girl* by Virginia Sorensen

SPRING SEMESTER:

- *Along Came Galileo* by Jeanne Bendick
- *A Lion to Guard Us* by Clyde Robert Bulla
- *Squanto, Friend of the Pilgrims* by Clyde Robert Bulla ISBN-10: 0-590-44055-1
- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *The Tinker's Daughter* (Daughters of the Faith series) by Wendy Lawton

Class Fee: \$30 per semester

Class Description:

- Using *Mystery of History Vol. III: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Growth of Nations* as the spine for this course, students begin where Vol. II left off at the invention of the printing press. Spanning the Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration, and some early American history, this volume explores the backdrop to and the significance surrounding the time-honored contributions found in art, music, literature, science, and philosophy of this rich era.
- Students will use *U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons, Vol. 1: Explorers to the Gold Rush* from the Institute for Excellence in Writing where major figures and events come alive as students write using IEW's stylistic techniques. Covering the nine IEW units, this course integrates writing, grammar, and vocabulary into Early US History studies.
- Through literature depicting life in the Renaissance and Reformation, history will come alive.

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Expectations/Notes:

- Students will be assigned daily work Tuesday through Friday.
- In class on Mondays the teacher will answer questions about the previous week's work and reinforce what the students have learned through hands on activities.
- Students are expected to keep up with assignments and to turn in written assignments on time.

Grading: Students will be graded on their paragraphs or essays, homework assignments, and class participation.

SCIENCE CLASSES

ANSWERS IN GENESIS OUR PLANET EARTH & APOLOGIA BOTANY

Instructor: Lori Fontenot

Time: all year 12:30 – 1:45 and 1:45 – 3:00

Grade level: 3rd & 4th Grades at 12:30; 5th & 6th Grades at 1:45

Homework: Daily work is assigned for the 5th & 6th graders. 3rd & 4th graders will have less work and may only need to work 2-3 days per week to complete their assignments. Weekly assignments should take approximately 20 minutes per day for 3rd-4th grade and 30-40 minutes per day for 5th – 6th. The workload is designed so that you can add living books or other activities to enhance this study. The design is for you to develop the curriculum into a more classical, traditional, or other approach to learning that fits your family.

Required Curriculum/Supplies:

- Answers in Genesis *Our Planet Earth*
- Apologia *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- Apologia *Exploring Creation with Botany Notebooking Journal*
- Index cards (loose, not bound) for science games

Class Fees: \$12.50 per semester

Class Description:

- In the **fall semester**, students will learn how God designed earth as a special place for us to live in *Our Planet Earth*. Learn about rocks, volcanoes, earthquakes, and glaciers. See how the Great Flood changed the surface of the earth, and why fossils support what the Bible says. This book will help reveal God's design for our planet to students.
- In the **spring semester** students will take an in-depth journey into the world of plants through *Exploring Creation with Botany*. This book begins with a lesson on the nature of botany and the process of classifying plants. It then discusses the development of plants from seeds, the reproduction processes in plants, the way plants make their food, and how plants get their water and nutrients and distribute them throughout the body of the plant. As students study these topics, they also learn about many different kinds of plants in creation and where they belong in the plant classification system. The activities and projects use easy-to-find household items and truly make the lessons come alive! They include making a "light hut" in which to grow plants, dissection of a bean seed, growing seeds in plastic bags to watch the germination process, making a leaf skeleton, observing how plants grow towards light, measuring transpiration, forcing bulbs to grow out of season, and forcing pine cones to open and close.

APOLOGIA ZOOLOGY 2: SWIMMING CREATURES OF THE FIFTH DAY

Instructor: Jennifer Steakley

Time: all year 12:30 – 1:45 and 1:45 – 3:00

Grade level: 3rd & 4th Grades at 12:30; 5th & 6th Grades at 1:45

Homework: Work is similar to that of the Our Planet Earth/Botany class, but will move through the book at a slower pace covering one book instead of two. 5th & 6th grade students will spend 2-3 days each week, approximately 30 minutes per day, to complete their science homework. 3rd-4th grade students will spend approximately 20 minutes two times a week to complete their assignments. The workload is designed so that you can add living books or other activities to enhance this study. The design is for you to develop the curriculum into a more classical, traditional, or other approach to learning that fits your family.

Required Curriculum/Supplies:

- Apologia *Exploring Creation with Swimming Creatures of the Fifth Day*
- Apologia *Exploring Creation with Swimming Creatures of the Fifth Day Notebooking Journal*

Class Fees: \$12.50 per semester

Class Description: Students will explore the wonders of the swimming creatures made on the fifth day of creation. They begin with a big splash from the whales and dolphins, then spy on seals and meet manatees before swimming with the sea turtles, snakes, and salamanders. They will even peek in on the primeval plesiosaurus and its pals. Following a frolic with fish and sharks, they will uncover the world of crabby crustaceans, sea snails, clams, and their soft bodied friends like the octopus, squid, and nautilus. They will consort with corals, find flowers that devour plankton, see stars and feathers that walk, leap and roll, and discover dollars that disappear in the sand and sponges that clean more than you might think. From the microscopic to massive, no stone is left unturned in your student's passage through the waters of the world. The creatures your student studies will come to life as they create replicas of them and add them to an "Ocean Box" - a miniature hand-crafted aquarium. Among other experiments and projects, students will try on blubber, investigate a shark's ability to sense electrical currents, explore how whales can hear sounds that come from far away, and learn through experimentation which creatures make the best fossils.

3rd-6th Grade Elective Class Descriptions

P.E.: (taught by Su Boone and Bill Watson) Students will actively participate in various outdoor and indoor games/sports. Healthy living, exercise and good sportsmanship will be emphasized. **FEE: \$5**

Just Us Girls: (taught by Maria Inafuku) Come join one of our most popular classes for girls!! We will focus on a new skill every couple of weeks. These include painting, sewing, games, decoupage, card-making, cake-decorating, and shell angels. If you were in this class last year you can look forward to new activities as well as some more time with some of the favorites. **FEE: \$20**

Horsin' Around: (taught by Doreen Criswell) Students will learn basic knowledge of horses, including the history of man's use of the horse up to the present day. The students will be introduced to different equine sports and learn about equine husbandry as well as how to care for horses, handle horses safely, the different types of tack and how to care for them, horse colorings and markings, basic horse anatomy, and basic horse psychology (how to use it for training purposes). The class will be conducted in a relaxed manner with the overall goal to have fun, learn about horses, and gain the knowledge to be around horses safely. **FEE: \$10**

Beginning Guitar 5/6: (taught by Kathie Webster) Beginning Guitar will teach the student how to finger and play basic guitar chords as well as learn several songs. The student will refine his/her skills by the end of the semester and be able to play, strum and even finger pick using chord progression. Come and learn to play and praise the Lord on the stringed instrument. Psa. 33:3 Students will need to bring their own guitar to class each week. Practice is strongly encouraged in order to advance in playing skills. This class will be the same as prior years. **FEE: \$10**

Drama: (taught by Lindy Doehner) Students will learn how to "Act Up" without reprimand! This class prepares students for a performance as they work on bringing characters alive for an audience. Students will work on movement, voice and drama skills as they put together a presentation for the end of the school year performance. Parents will need to provide costumes for their student. **FEE: \$5**

Art: (taught by Brook Thompson)
Hands-On Art for Children in the Styles of the Great Masters. This class will briefly expose students to famous artists and styles while giving students the majority of class time to use their own creative talents to create art projects that are reflective of the famous artists' styles. **FEE: \$20**

Cooking 5/6: (taught by Sommer Emerson) Learn to make many new delicious recipes in one of the most popular elective classes offered. Safety in the kitchen will be emphasized. Please advise the teacher of any food allergies. **FEE: \$20**