



CORNERSTONE

EDUCATION WITH A FIRM FOUNDATION

2020-2021 Course Descriptions

The descriptions here give an overview of each course. Please note that some courses in the high school level have prerequisites or specific skills that must be mastered. Certain courses have separate lab or supply fees that will be used by the instructor to cover materials and expenses for the class.

Please also note that classes have a minimum and maximum number of students due to space and cost considerations. All classes are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. On occasion, classes may need to be canceled before they begin, due either to lack of adequate enrollment or teacher fulfillment. If this should occur, you will be notified immediately by e-mail and/or phone call, and money you have paid toward the class will be refunded. For other financial questions and information, please refer to our Financial Policies.

Parents of children in Elementary classes:

Please be aware that even in 1st - 6th grade it is Cornerstone's expectation that participation in these classes carry the same level of completion and diligence as in the Middle and High school classes. To that end please understand that assignments will be given on Monday by teachers. It is your responsibility to sit and work with your child on Tuesday through Friday to complete and correct the assignments as the teacher has directed. These assignments will be returned to the teacher on the next Monday for grading/review. Your child's teacher will have more instruction for each student as to organization and specific expectations. We expect that each family makes the most of each class to prepare them for future success in learning!

In addition, we are beginning a new practice this year of conducting a brief reading assessment for all new elementary students, to ensure that the class reading content will be achievable for all students within those classes. This may also apply to current elementary students by teacher recommendation.

Elementary Classes

1st-2nd Grade Classes

The 1st and 2nd grade classes will run from 8:45-12:00 and be divided into two segments with a snack break and outdoor play in between. **The in-class instruction alone does not meet the requirements for the state of Maryland, and parents are expected to work with their child to complete all the homework assignments.**

1st/2nd Language Arts, Literature and Art

Segment 1 will focus on language activities and Art. The weekly classroom lessons will introduce new skills in reading, spelling, and writing. They will also explore new art concepts based on the story of the week. The at home assignments will include reviewing phonics through songs, games, worksheets, reading, and spelling.

Instructors: Virginia Hoffman and Cath Howard

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Materials:

NOTEBOOK FEE: \$40

Sing, Spell, Read, and Write Level 1 Audio CD

1st/2nd History and Science

Using *The Story of the World*, Volume 1, students will learn about the Ancient Times (~7000BC to 400AD). They will be introduced to what history, and archeology, are in this engaging, but straightforward sweep of human history. Author Susan Wise Bauer leads readers on a fascinating journey through the cultures, conflicts, and ideas that continue to shape our world. In addition to a hands-on weekly classroom activity, assignments will include text reading, review questions, map work, timeline, and note booking pages. Throughout the course, parental support is provided in the form of weekly suggestions for supplemental literature, web links, and activities.

This hands-on life science course centers around three engaging, content-rich unit plans. Students will enjoy learning about the plant and animal kingdom, as well as the human body. Weekly classroom lessons include appealing activities and science experiments. At-home assignments will range from worksheets and writing activities, to interactive online activities. Expect at-home assignments to take students up to an average of one to two hours per week. Throughout the course, parental support is provided in the form of suggestions for supplemental literature, web-links, and additional fun activities.

Instructors: Michelle Morrison and Angela Caswell

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Materials:

NOTEBOOK FEE: \$40

The Story of the World, Volume 1: Ancient Times, Text

Optional: Audiobook

All science materials will be provided by Cornerstone

3rd-4th Grade Classes

3/4 English Complementing the 3/4 history class, this class will include literature, basic writing skills, and grammar. Students will read several novels and stories, and the writing lessons will be coordinated with these books. Writing activities will include an array of essays, story writing, and more. In addition, a grammar assignment will be given each week. Parents will be required to correct the grammar and literature homework weekly. In addition, parents will be editing writing activities as the teacher directs.

Instructor: Karen Schott

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts: *Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin* by Marguerite Henry

Toliver's Secret by Esther Wood Brady

Freedom Crossing by Margaret Goff Clark

Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Easy Grammar 4 Student Text (if purchased this last year, do not need a new copy)

Easy Grammar 4 Teacher's Edition

3/4 History During the first semester, students will learn about life in America from before the Europeans came through the late 1800s. We will be using *Our Star-Spangled Story*, Part 1 (Notgrass History). This gorgeously illustrated program presents history to students with real-life experiences from different points of view. This allows for opportunity to discuss many concepts to deepen a student's Christian worldview. The lessons incorporate literature, music, creative writing, geography, and art. In addition to lively hands-on classroom activities each week, at-home assignments will include reading, and a selection of activities that could range from map-work, music or poems, review questions, timeline, workbook pages, or fun hands-on history activities.

During second semester, students will focus on learning about community, and honing-in their map skills. We will end the school year with an exciting and engaging economics unit. Students will be creating their own business, managing budgets, and making decisions based on opportunity costs. They will then create their product or service and sell to consumers in our 'Marketplace' at the End-Of-Year Showcase! Expect at-home assignments to take students up to an average of three hours per week.

Instructor: April Prevost

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

- *Our Star-Spangled Story*, Part 1
- *Star-Spangled Rhythms and Rhymes* (book and MP3 CD)
- *A Star-Spangled Timeline*
- *My Star-Spangled Student Workbook*
- *Our Star-Spangled Story Answer Key and Literature Guide*

Continued on next page.

As of 4/13/2020

NOTE ON TEXTS: If your child is entering 3rd grade at Cornerstone in the 2020-2021 school year, please note that we will be using Our Star-Spangled Story, Part 2 for their 4th grade year (2021-2022). Notgrass sells Our Star-Spangled Story as a Curriculum Package that includes Part 1 and Part 2. It is more economical to purchase the entire curriculum package if you will need both parts (saves about \$20). However, if your child is entering their 4th grade year for 2020-2021, and you may not need part 2, it is about \$10 less expensive to purchase only the required texts a la carte. With the exception of the workbook and answer key, the texts are high-quality hardback books that are beautifully illustrated and engaging. A true treasure!

3/4 Science Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology*, will be an amazing way to study ourselves. Using the Charlotte Mason methodology, we will immerse ourselves in the study of our bodies. We are created in God's image, and he has given us minds that are meant to learn more about Him and us.

We will take some time fourth quarter to study the scientific method in a more in-depth way, and have a science fair. Students will choose and complete a project to be displayed at our end of the year showcase.

We will be using the Apologia *Exploring Creation Human Anatomy and Physiology* textbook, which families will purchase.

We will also be using the regular Notebooking Journal, which Cornerstone will be purchasing and putting into a loose-leaf notebook for ease of turning assignments in each week.

Instructor: Deb Wilhide

CLASS FEE: \$50: NOTEBOOK FEE:\$30

Required Texts:

Apologia's Young Explorer Series, *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology*, **textbook only**

OPTIONAL: There are 3 options for audiobooks to purchase that go along with this textbook. See Apologia's website for details.

As of 4/13/2020

3/4 MINI SESSIONS:

3/4 Music (Semester 1) This semester learn how to play the Ukulele! You will learn to strum chords and pick melodies on the Ukulele enough to play more than twenty different songs in our group and many more that you decide to play on your own! This class will accommodate students who either can or cannot read music. Basic music theory lessons will be included so students who can read music will initially need to be willing to adopt a slower pace as non-music-readers catch up.

Instructor: Sheralee Thomas

CLASS FEE: \$10

Required Materials:

Soprano, concert or tenor Ukulele (not baritone) in a protective case. Be sure not to purchase a toy which will not hold the tune. If in doubt, consult with the instructor.

A tuner should be purchased or a tuning app can be downloaded. Make sure the app has a ukulele setting.

A light, foldable music stand.

A folder to hold additional music and a pencil

Required Texts:

[Essential Elements for Ukulele, book 1](#)

[3-Chord Christmas Carols for Ukulele](#)

3/4 Art (Semester 2) This beginning level class will continue introducing students to various mediums and techniques. As with previous years, we will cover a variety of famous artists, old and new. Art plays an important part in history, so we'll not only discuss the backgrounds and movements of things, but also the methods behind making the art. In the learning process of creating our own masterpieces, students will delve into color theory, acrylics, pencil, pastels, watercolor, paper, clay and marker. No experience is necessary, just a desire to have fun and go crazy with art.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$50

5th-6th Grade Classes

5/6 English This class will include literature, writing, and grammar, built on the skills acquired in the lower grades. As a connection to the 5/6 history class, the student will read works of American literature from the various time periods studied. An array of writing assignments will include stories, research reports, poetry, and essays. A grammar assignment will be given each week. Parents will be required to correct the grammar and literature homework weekly. In addition, parents will be editing writing activities as the teacher directs.

Instructor: Karen Schott

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts: Literature books TBD

Easy Grammar 5 Student Text

Easy Grammar 5 Teacher's Edition

5/6 History This course will use *America the Beautiful* (Notgrass History) which is a one-year chronological survey of American history, geography, and literature. The weekly units cover subjects from native tribes in North America before European exploration and settlement to the 21st century. Each unit has five lessons covering these topics: Our American Story, An American Biography, God's Wonder, An American Landmark, and Daily Life. Coordinating literature will be read in the 5/6 English class. The curriculum includes an anthology of original sources, a map book, and a timeline, in each of which the student completes regular assignments. Students complete a variety of other assignments, including vocabulary, creative writing, and Bible study. Hands-on activities help the student connect with the history in a personal way.

Instructor: Candice Walker

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

This curriculum is currently being revised and will be released this summer. We will notify you with further details. www.history.notgrass.com

As of 4/13/2020

5/6 Science Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology*, will be an amazing way to study ourselves. Using the Charlotte Mason methodology, we will immerse ourselves in the study of our bodies. We are created in God's image, and he has given us minds that are meant to learn more about Him and us.

We will take some time fourth quarter to study the scientific method in a more in-depth way, and have a science fair. Students will choose and complete a project to be displayed at our end of the year showcase.

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We will also be using the regular Notebooking Journal, which Cornerstone will be purchasing and putting into a loose-leaf notebook for ease of turning assignments in each week.

Instructor: Deb Wilhide

CLASS FEE: \$50: NOTEBOOK FEE:\$30

Required Texts:

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OPTIONAL: There are 3 options for audiobooks to purchase that go along with this textbook. See Apologia's website for details.

5/6 MINI SESSIONS:

5/6 Art (Semester 1) Moving along from the 3/4 class, the 5/6 class will also introduce students to various artists and their techniques. Similarly, contemporary and masters will be explored, and related homework with challenges will be assigned. Art will be covered on a higher level of ability along with concepts, and students will become versed with still lifes, shading, painting techniques, portraiture and mixed media. All lessons will be framed in the context of learning the elements of art and the principles of design. No previous art knowledge needed. Come be amazed at how your very own art can show a feeling or send a message.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$50

Mini Sessions continued on the next page.

As of 4/13/2020

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Instructor: Sheralee Thomas

CLASS FEE: \$10

Required Materials:

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A tuner should be purchased or a tuning app can be downloaded. Make sure the app has a ukulele setting.

A light, foldable music stand.

A folder to hold additional music and a pencil

Required Texts:

[Essential Elements for Ukulele, book 1](#)

[First 50 Songs You Should Play on Ukulele](#)

Middle School Classes

7/8 English This course is designed to help students become more thoughtful and critical readers, as well as more deliberate and skillful writers. It is designed to coordinate with the history course *From Adam to Us*. The course is literature-based and writing-intensive. The literature will include historical fiction, short stories, poems, speeches, and some historical primary sources. Writing assignments will connect to the literature selections, and include a variety of styles and formats. We will also work on specific writing skills, such as varying sentence structure, composing unified paragraphs, and organizing the structure of our writing to effectively fit the purpose. In addition, students will receive weekly grammar assignments, which parents will be required to check on a regular basis.

Instructor: Karan Cobb

CLASS FEE: \$125

Required Texts: Literature books-TBD

Easy Grammar Plus (If you used it last year, you do not need to purchase again.)

Easy Grammar Plus Teacher Edition

7/8 History In this course, we will use major events to provide a framework for understanding the chronology of world history beginning with the creation of God's world, exploring created wonders, landmarks and cultures to show how they have influenced history and culture through the end of the 20th century.

Instructor: Jennifer Ryndak

CLASS FEE: \$125

Required Text:

(Notgrass History)

*From Adam to Us Part 1: Creation to Cathedrals**

*From Adam to Us Part 2: Castles to Computers**

*Our Creative World**

*From Adam to Us Map Book**

From Adam to Us Timeline*

From Adam to Us Answer Key*

*also sold as a bundle

From Adam to Us, Student Workbook

From Adam to Us, Lesson Review

7/8 Earth Science Earth Science will be rooted in a Biblical perspective on the study and care of God's world. The following topics will be covered this year: Geology, The Dynamic Earth, Water and Water Systems, Astronomy, Meteorology and the Environment. Labs/activities will take place weekly and quizzes will take place in class bi-weekly.

Instructor: Sue Grimm

CLASS FEE: \$125

Required Texts:

Earth Science by Christian Schools International. It is sometimes available from CBD and easily found on Amazon and on the CSI website.

As of 4/13/2020

7/8 Middle School Art (Semester 1) This class will continue to broaden the understanding of the Elements and Principles of Design. Students will explore many mediums and techniques – some traditional, some not. Some history and relevant artists will be discussed. From grid drawings, cultural 3D masks, perspective illusions, symbolic collages and metal tooling – there's something in this class for every artist. The goal: to grow those art abilities and comprehension, to utilize those artistic skills in all aspects of life. Homework will be weekly and mandatory. This class will receive a grade.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$85; SUPPLY FEE: \$50

MS/HS Computer Skills (Semester 2) Students will acquire essential computer skills. The following topics will be covered: sending and receiving emails, scheduling meetings linking calendars, managing contacts, email groups, word processing, document formatting, references and citations, using a spreadsheet, spreadsheet formatting, basic formulas, data organization, data sorting, create graphs, show trends, analyze results, create presentations, use multimedia in presentations.

Progress will be evaluated through projects, assignments, test, quizzes, and presentations.

Prerequisite: a keyboarding class

Instructor: Lannette Rice

CLASS FEE: \$100

Required Materials:

A smart computing device with a keyboard that can use the current google tools and/or Microsoft Office, internet access

MS/HS Choir (Semester 1) Our choral ensemble is for anyone in middle or high school who has a desire to sing together. While learning fun, new music, students will be taught basic technique on how to properly sing, how to blend their voices in unity, how to sing in harmony (different melody lines being sung simultaneously), and how to work together with others. Singing in choir builds focus, self-awareness, self-confidence, teamwork, memorization, and responsibility. The class includes preparation for a choir concert at the end of the semester. Practice MP3s will be provided for reinforcement at home. No previous singing experience is required. While we aim to sing well, the greater emphasis of this class is to enjoy the wonderful gift of music that God has given us.

Instructor: Casey Golden

CLASS FEE: \$100

As of 4/13/2020

MS/HS DRAMA - Musical Theater (Semester 2)

This musical theater course is for anyone in middle or high school who has a desire to bring together the disciplines of singing, acting, and dancing, to create an effective and compelling full length musical. No previous singing, acting, or dancing experience required, but there will be auditions to determine roles suitable for each student. There are various opportunities within the musical. Some roles require both singing and speaking, while some are only speaking parts. And if there are students who don't want a solo or speaking part, the ensemble is a great opportunity to participate without having to say or sing anything alone. This is best taken as a two-part course. CHOIR CLASS, offered in the 1st Semester, is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for those participating in the musical as songs from the show will be learned during that class. (If there are any scheduling conflicts with taking CHOIR in the first semester, please email Casey Golden.)

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Auditions will take place on Back to School Night, August 31, 2020
- There will be 4 all-day workshops (IN THE FIRST SEMESTER) on the second "Saturday" of September, October, November, and January.
- Additional workshops may be required in the 2nd semester as needed.
- Tech week is MANDATORY. It will take place the week of the show.

DISCLAIMER:

Putting on a musical takes a lot of time, work, and effort. It is impossible to learn an entire show and have it performance ready in one semester (with the time allotment we have). Therefore, while the classroom portion is in the second semester, the student would be expected to do preparation work in the FIRST SEMESTER. This includes: learning lines and music, developing their character/s, attending workshops, and practicing any blocking/choreography that is taught during the workshops. The students will be equipped with materials to accomplish these mandates. In January we want to be ready to hit the ground running. The extra time we spend in preparation will make for a more enjoyable and rewarding journey.

Instructor: Casey Golden

CLASS FEE: \$200

High School Classes

9th-10th Grade Composition & Literary Analysis This course will focus on a variety of genres from different time periods to illustrate the breadth and depth of literature. Students will investigate different literary devices, learn to apply them in their own writing, and begin to discern the world views presented in these works, concentrating especially on Christian Theism and Romanticism. Books will include *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Ivanhoe*, *Silas Marner*, and *Macbeth*. In addition, students will complete a short story unit using *A Collection of Classic Short Stories* from authors including Doyle, London, Twain, Wilde, and Saki. The special theme of the composition portion of the class this year is "Writing for your audience." The class will also include the following special units: creative writing, and the research paper.

Required Skills: Students should be competent readers and should have taken a 7th-8th grade English class or equivalent. A placement test can be given as needed.

Instructor: Dorothy Bonett

CLASS FEE: \$200, NOVEL FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

All books will be purchased by Cornerstone using the novel fee.

11th-12th Grade British Literature This course will cover the development of the English language and world views through the study of British Literature. Students will read *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales* (selections), *Henry V*, *Murder in the Cathedral*, and *Frankenstein*, and short stories and poems. Students will identify world views and literary techniques within the works they are reading. Writing will include many different styles of essays, a lecture, an MLA-style research essay, and some creative writing.

Prerequisite: Students should have completed a 9th/10th-grade English course (or equivalent), know basic literary terms, and have experience writing research papers and short papers or essays. A placement test may be given.

Instructor: Dorothy Bonett

CLASS FEE: \$200, NOVEL FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

British Literature: Cultural Influences of Early to Contemporary Voices, Student Book
James Stobaugh, Master Books 2012. ISBN 0890516731

The five novels will be purchased by Cornerstone.

As of 4/13/2020

HS World History, Literature, and Composition

World History-this part of the course surveys world history from Creation to the 21st Century. It discusses civilizations from around the world. A special emphasis is placed on key events, key ideas, key persons, and everyday life in various time periods of world history. The student will read a significant number of original documents and speeches while studying the narrative of lessons.

Literature-this part of the class coordinates with the history course *Exploring World History*. The student will read and analyze classic works of world literature, including novels, short stories, devotional literature, plays, theological essays, biographies, memoirs, poetry, and hymns. The writing assignments will take several forms, including essays, editorials, speeches, letters, and a research paper. We will emphasize improving our writing skills in a variety of contexts.

This class will cover enough material for a student to earn 1 history credit and 1 literature/writing credit.

Instructors: Lynda Grimes and Karan Cobb

CLASS FEE: \$250

Required Texts:

Notgrass *Exploring World History*, Curriculum Package which includes:

- *Part 1: Creation Through the Middle Ages* (first semester)
- *Part 2: The Renaissance to the Present* (second semester)
- *In Their Words: Original Documents, Speeches, Poems, and Stories from World History* (assigned readings)
- Guide for Parents

Exploring World History, Student Review Pack

Literature books-TBD

As of 4/13/2020

HS Spanish I This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, including basic grammatical concepts, basic pronunciation, and conversation. Students will: learn greetings and leavings; ask and answer simple questions; use numbers in everyday contexts; give and follow directions; make purchases; narrate and describe events in present, past, and future tenses; express simple opinions; tell the gospel message; and learn and correctly use grammatical structures such as nouns, pronouns, adjectives, subject-verb agreement, gender and number agreement, regular and irregular verbs in the present and preterite tenses, the near future, reflexive verbs, direct and indirect object pronouns, and command forms.

Instructor: Karen Moser

CLASS FEE: \$200, MATERIALS FEE: \$25

Required Text:

Avencemos I, Houghton-Mifflin, 2013. Student textbook and workbook.

HS Spanish II This course continues the study of Spanish including grammar, vocabulary, and other core concepts, verb conjugations, and speaking. The preterite/imperfect tenses, and the subjunctive mood are emphasized in second level grammar. Reading and translating become more complex and writing skills are honed.

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Instructor: Karen Moser

CLASS FEE: \$200, MATERIALS FEE: \$25

Required Text:

Avencemos II, Houghton-Mifflin, 2013. Student textbook and workbook.

As of 4/13/2020

HS Physical Science This is the required prerequisite class for further high school science; it should be taken in 9th grade. Text includes introductory chemistry, introductory physics, and the metric system in preparation for upper-level laboratory courses. There also will be lab activities. A prerequisite for this course is a working knowledge of basic algebraic principles or pre-algebra. Students may take Algebra 1 concurrently with this course.

Instructor: Melissa Bowman

CLASS FEE: \$200; LAB FEE: \$50

Required Text:

Apologia Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Textbook

Apologia Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Solutions and Test Manual

HS Chemistry Chemistry students will discover amazing things about the properties of matter. The course groundwork is laid by discussing measurements and units, energy, heat, and temperature. We will then delve into the study of atoms and molecules, chemical equations, stoichiometry (the relationships that exist between quantities of substances in chemical reactions). The chemistry of acids and bases, the phases of matter, thermodynamics, kinetics, and chemical equilibrium will be explored. (We will cover oxidation-reductions reactions if there is time). Students will perform labs in small groups in class at least every other week. Progress will be evaluated through Homework, Quizzes, In-Class and Take-Home Exams.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed Physical Science or equivalent and Algebra I or receive a waiver from the instructor and Board.

Instructor: Sue Grimm

CLASS FEE: \$200, LAB FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

Discovering Design with Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile

Answer Key and Tests for Discovering Design with Chemistry highly recommended

HS Art: Watercolor/Acrylic (Semester 1) Artist Cath Howard invites you to move to new levels of achievement in a relaxed atmosphere of enjoyable sessions. Delve into watercolor and acrylic painting while exploring artistic abilities and learning new painting techniques. Learn the basics of painting and new techniques. Study a master in each medium. Explore this rewarding activity and gain satisfaction from personal works of art. Beginning students are welcome and returning students will discover all-new content and instruction.

Instructor: Cath Howard

CLASS FEE: \$100; SUPPLY FEE: \$75

HS Foundational Art (Semester 2) The Elements of Art and the Principles of Design are the foundational tools used to create amazing art. Why does one piece stand out over another? Why does one look more realistic? We'll be discussing exactly that. This high school level class will focus primarily on drawing skills. Whether a beginner, or a seasoned artist, there are always areas to improve upon. Here we will continually be practicing, learning and producing art. Students will be expected to truly think through designs and execution. Class dynamics and mediums will often change. Topics will range from shading, to color combining, perspectives to texture simulating, good composition and design layout, to grid drawing and sizing with your eyes. Pencil, scratchboard, acrylics, pastels, metal tooling, clay, cardboard, plaster and collage...the possibilities are endless. No previous art experience is needed, however, students are expected to have the listed supplies at home. A successful art student is one who enjoys thinking, learning, trying and creating a bit outside of the box. Art should be fun. It should be amazing! It brings color and dimension to our lives. That is *exactly* how God intended it.

Qualifies for ½ high school fine arts credit – this class will receive a grade, and homework is mandatory.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$100; SUPPLY FEE: \$65

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Instructor: Casey Golden

CLASS FEE: \$100

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