

Elementary Course Descriptions (K5-5th)

K5 Areas of Study

K5 is an instrumental year in a student's education as students learn routines, habits, and skills that will carry them through their elementary career. K5 is full of fun, engaging learning activities that keep students fully focused on the learning taking place.

- Beginning addition and subtraction facts
- Reading skills, as well as letters and sounds
- Handwriting and penmanship
- Beginning geography, American history
- Basic American History
- Community helpers and Fire Safety Week
- 100th Day of School celebration

1st Grade Areas of Study

First grade is an exciting year as students expand their knowledge and enhance what they learned in kindergarten, as well as learning math facts, improving handwriting, and studying spelling words.

- Addition and subtraction facts
- Reading skills and comprehension
- Books of the Bible, fruits of the spirit
- Scripture memorization
- American history
- Health, safety, and manners
- Handwriting, letters, and sounds
- Spelling and poetry
- Fire Safety Week and 100th Day of School celebrations

2nd Grade Areas of Study

Second grade is a fundamental, foundational year full of new studies, like cursive writing, and paragraph writing skills, as well as phonics, fluency, and comprehension that will be used throughout their educational careers.

- Grammar, creative writing, and spelling
- Penmanship: cursive and print
- Adding and subtracting with and without regrouping
- Geometry, measurement, place value
- Memorization of multiplication facts and introduction to division
- Anchor tests and experiments in science
- American government, patriotism, map skills, and inventors in history
- Flat Stanley study and project
- "AmeriKids" a patriotic musical

3rd Grade Areas of Study

Third grade is an exciting journey of learning and growing as they prepare for the transition to Upper Elementary. 3rd grade focuses on deepening understanding through research, writer, and application of math to real life scenarios.

- Study of the Old Testament, from Genesis through Joshua
- Novel studies that include Charlotte's Web, Roald Dahl books, Little House on the Prairie, and biographies
- Animal Day report, presentation, and program
- Deepening and enhancement of writing skills

- Further application of addition, subtraction, and place value, as well as real life scenarios of multiplication and division
- Study of force and motion, outer-space, and natural disasters
- Study of cultures and government in history studies

4th Grade Areas of Study

Fourth grade is an exciting year, full of experiences meant to take students' learning from inside the classroom into real life experiences. Alabama history, science, and math problems all come to life with engaging experiments, research reports, and special activities.

- Word problems, multiplication, and short and long division
- Grammar: punctuation and writing complete sentences
- Organizing research reports using graphic organizers
- Identifying elements of a story and furthering reading comprehension skills through novel studies and book reports
- Scripture memorization and apologetics study
- Old Testament study of the prophets, kings, and priests
- In depth study of Alabama history
- Report and special day focused on the "Frontier"
- Earth science and life science, with engaging experiments

5th Grade Areas of Study

As the oldest and leaders of the elementary school, students are encouraged to use kindness towards peers, respect towards authority, and responsibility in their studies, all in preparation for the transition to middle school.

- Engaging novel studies
- American history, from Native Americans through the American Revolution
- Figurative language, elements of a story, and parts of speech, used in "real life"
- Six traits of writing and enhancement of writing skills
- Research paper and novel during National Novel Writing Month
- Development of algebraic reasoning and geometric concepts
- Problem solving and proportional thinking
- Science labs
- Study of the human body, force and motion, energy, and matter
- Scripture memorization
- Study of God's covenant with His people, from Genesis through Jesus' life

*Alabama Courses of Study standards are utilized in HCA's scope and sequence

*Field trips and on site learning experiences are incorporated into the curriculum