



Willamette Christian School

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Third Grade Overview

BIBLE

Following Christ, by BJU Press, stresses a higher-level of thinking skills while encouraging Christ-likeness in the lives of the students. Understanding of the Bible as the inspired Word of God is paramount as students increase in ability to locate verses and apply Biblical truths to daily life. Memory work is assigned weekly as part of our Bible curriculum to help strengthen the students in their spiritual growth.

LANGUAGE ARTS

English 3, also by BJU Press, teaches grammar and develops writing skills that will last a lifetime. Students will learn to plan, draft, revise, proofread, and publish many types of writing: instructions, a letter, a book report, a persuasive essay, a research report, and more. The Bob Jones University readers, *Once Upon an Open Book* and *Not So Very Long Ago*, provide a spring board to a broad range of literary experiences. Phonetic rules are reviewed and new reading strategies are developed, especially predicting and clarifying. Our author studies include Beverly Cleary, Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Astrid Lindgren.

Our handwriting text is, *D'Nealian Handwriting*, by Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley, and spelling is *Spelling Connections*, by Zaner-Bloser, which emphasize phonics and word structure. This is an individualized spelling program that is integrated into meaningful creative story writing and research projects.

MATHEMATICS

Students continue to solidify concepts of place value, time, money, estimating, rounding off and borrowing/carrying. Arithmetic at the third grade level works toward mastery of the multiplication tables and long division. Students continue to apply mathematics through story problems and through geometry, measurement, solving for an unknown number, and basic fractions. They strive to find actual, predictable patterns and answers. The purposefulness and order in God's creation is emphasized in *Math 3*, by BJU Press, which helps bring a relevancy to math and everyday living.

SCIENCE

Our science curriculum is *Science 3* by BJU Press. Students learn to observe, record, and interpret data that will help them to appreciate the awesome creation and our Creator. Third graders dive deeper into familiar units of study: The plant and animal life cycles, the weather and water cycles, sun, moon, and earth unit. They explore physical properties of the states of matter and how forces affect an object's position, motion, and speed. Weekly experiments bring the curriculum to life which adds an excitement and change to every week.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Heritage Studies 3 by BJU Press, leads students through the growing pains of the new nation from the Constitutional Convention through the Civil War and the westward expansion. Together, students study celebrations and traditions of the period, the transcontinental railroad, ranchers, cowboys, and outlaws of the Wild West. With sixty-eight complete lessons which include activities, patterns for crafts, games, songs, and hands-on activities, students are immersed in learning the history of this time period.

Additionally, individual write-on desk maps of the world and the United States, and maps with views of a community provide hands-on learning activities in *Discovery - Level 3 Communities*, by George F. Cram. Many useful mapping activities and projects reinforce concepts of climate and seasons, globe studies, natural features, direction and location, and history and design of a community.

Enrichment Classes

Additional instruction in music, physical education, and library enhance the education offered in 3rd Grade at Willamette Christian School.