



CATALYST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

FOURTH GRADE SCOPE & SEQUENCE

LATIN AND LANGUAGE ARTS

Literature guide activities begin transitioning from teacher-directed, whole-class development of comprehension answers to some individually answered questions. This is the first year we advocate independent written answers, though students are not left to their own devices. Beginning in first grade, answering comprehension questions in a complete sentence with correct grammar, capitalization, and punctuation has been practiced daily. Literature selections should still be read orally as a whole class and be read multiple times, though subsequent readings can now be silent, independent ones. Expression as well as volume when reading orally improves as the students gain confidence through daily practice. Read-aloud selections should continue to expand students' vocabulary and include advanced sentence structure. The poetry study that began in third grade continues with new selections themed with the Classical Core Curriculum subjects. Several poems are memorized and presented orally.

In fourth grade, we begin the process of working through the *Classical Composition* program. *Classical Composition* begins with the *Fable* stage as it guides a student through the *progymnasmata*, a set of writing competencies considered foundational for a skilled writer. At this level, the student will master an understanding of how writing functions in communicating an idea. Students will develop the skill of variation as they are guided through the process of paraphrasing a text. Expansion in vocabulary, observed both in writing as well as speech, is a central goal at this level of writing. Ability to identify and understand basic plot components is further developed at this level, as is the capacity to structure an essay properly. Students will also begin to practice use of figures of speech and figures of description in their writing.

Spelling will continue to be honed through the study of grade-appropriate phonetic spelling lists. Correct spelling will be required in all student work. Mastery of spelling knowledge should be evidenced in all student writing.

All student writing will be completed in a legible and lovely cursive script. Penmanship may still need focused practice, which can best be perfected with copywork but will be reinforced in all subjects.

English Grammar Recitation at this level covers the grammar rules pertaining to sentences, verbs, and questions. Students master verb tenses, verb phrases, physical and mental verbs, and the "to be" verb. Memorization of the rules recited orally is coupled with written practice in their student guide. This is complemented perfectly with the study of Latin.

The Latin concepts that were introduced to students in the previous year are reviewed and built upon. This introduction is foundational to the study of Latin grammar.

Reading

Students will:

- Define vocabulary using context clues
- Have level-appropriate comprehension of material read
- Compare and contrast
- Orally read with level-appropriate speed, fluency, and expression
- Memorize and recite selected poems
- Understand allegory
- Understand idioms

- Understand characterization
- Have aural understanding of texts above their personal reading level
- Accurately analyze illustrations
- Gain attention to detail
- Accurately identify character, setting, and plot of a story
- Recognize literary devices (puns, foreshadowing, conflict)

Composition

Students will:

- Master how narrative elements work together to communicate a thought
- Expand vocabulary
- Expand precision in speech
- Further develop ability to format a paragraph
- Master identification of plot components
- Orally present an essay
- Properly apply grammar concepts learned to this point

Spelling

Students will:

- Demonstrate mastery of level-appropriate word lists
- Correctly use prefixes and suffixes
- Correctly use possessives and contractions
- Master vowel pairs and digraphs

Grammar

Students will:

- Master basic grammar rules pertaining to sentences
- Understand verbs (tenses, phrases, physical, mental, and "to be")
- Master types of questions
- Correctly encode dictated sentences

Penmanship

Students will:

- Exclusively use cursive when writing
- Write legibly with correct grip, spacing, slant, and size

Latin

Students will:

- Review *Latina Christiana* material learned in third grade
- Memorize 1st conjugation imperfect and future tenses, completing the present system
- Memorize 2nd conjugation present system
- Master 75 vocabulary words with several English derivatives
- Be introduced to 3rd declension nouns
- Understand predicate nominatives

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press Literature Guides for *The Cricket in Times Square, Homer Price, The Blue Fairy Book, and Dangerous Journey: The Story of Pilgrim's Progress (Student and Teacher)*** – Consumable study guides with activities that include vocabulary lessons, comprehension questions for each chapter, and various language arts activities.
- **Memoria Press Poetry for the Grammar Stage (Student, Teacher, and Anthology)** – Poetry selections to match the topics read in grade-level curriculum. The guides provide vocabulary work and include questions to help analyze the meanings of poems. Includes anthology of poems.
- **Memoria Press Fourth Grade Read-Aloud Set** – Selection of books on the student's listening level to be read to the student for exposure to advanced vocabulary and sentence structure.
- **Memoria Press Copybook Cursive II** – Penmanship, basic grammar, spelling, literature, accuracy, attention to detail, and memorization facilitation are the skills practiced within this book through the copying of Scripture and poems.
- **Spelling Workout E Set** – Level-appropriate words for students to study meaning and phonetic makeup of list words.
- **Memoria Press Latina Christiana (Student, Teacher, Pronunciation CD, and Flashcards)** – Preparatory Latin course which reviews the Latin covered in *Prima Latina* but adds five additional vocabulary words a week as well as new Latin sayings and English derivatives. The study includes systematic grammar, practice exercises, prayers, songs, history lessons, and games.
- **Memoria Press Latina Christiana Review Worksheets (Student and Key)** – Cumulative review for every lesson of *Latina Christiana* to ensure retention and mastery.
- **Memoria Press Latina Christiana Games & Puzzles (Student and Teacher)** – Book of enrichment activities to reinforce and review vocabulary, grammar, and derivatives introduced in *Latina Christiana*.
- **Memoria Press English Grammar Recitation (Handbook and Flashcards)** – Concise reference manual containing 150 rules of English grammar, capitalization, and punctuation stated in the form of questions and examples, to be memorized and practiced with the accompanying workbook.
- **Memoria Press English Grammar Recitation Workbook I (Student and Teacher)** – This book covers two or three grammar questions in each lesson with accompanying written implementation practice.
- **Core Skills Language Arts 4** – Student consumable workbook to be used as an independent practice supplement to both *Latina Christiana* and *English Grammar Recitation*.
- **Memoria Press Classical Composition I: Fable Stage Set** – Level I of the *progymnasmata* method of teaching composition.

MATHEMATICS

Emphasis on the four operations continues at this level, and fluency in long division is mastered. This proficiency is a direct result of memorization and good working knowledge of multiplication and division facts through 12. Neatness, legibility, and attention to detail are skills that must be honed in order to accurately compute the two-digit multiplication and long division problems. Students should be able to verify their answers at this age and progress in their graphing, place value, and measurement. Mathematical reading problems introduce distance, rate, and time. Student focus on addition and subtraction includes work with fractions as well as increasing speed at answering 100 facts in four minutes.

Number Sense and Numbers

Students will:

- Understand place value to the 100,000,000's

Computation

Students will:

- Display increased speed in answering written facts (100 in four minutes)
- Demonstrate ability to solve increasingly difficult word problems
- Master multiplication and division of facts through 12
- Master multiplication of two-digit numbers
- Master adding and subtracting fractions
- Display fluency in long division
- Verify answers
- Reduce fractions

Measurement

Students will:

- Master equivalent measures
- Find the perimeter
- Solve problems including distance, rate, and time

Texts Used:

- *Rod & Staff Math* Grade 4
 - *Student Book* – Consumable student workbook which gives practice of skills taught in the interactive lessons of the *Teacher's Manual*.
 - *Teacher's Manual (Parts 1 and 2)* – Teacher book containing answers to student workbook and speed drills as well as scripted lessons and templates to aid in introduction of concepts.
 - *Tests* – Consumable test booklet for skills taught.
 - *Speed Drills* – Consumable booklet of timed drills to help increase speed.
 - *Rod & Staff Speed Drill Packet* – Reproducible pages of 100 facts for timed drills.

AMERICAN AND MODERN STUDIES

In fourth grade, the formal study of states and capitals is completed. By year's end, students will be able to map all of the United States, spelling the names of the states correctly and matching the capitals. States are introduced regionally, and students study attributes and fun facts about each state, providing cultural literacy. The study of history is quite an endeavor; therefore, we divide the study into three sections. In Christian Studies, we look at Creation through prophetic times to come, highlighting our Christian heritage. In Classical Studies, we introduce two major empires with a focus upon Greece and Rome. However, in this section of the Scope & Sequence, we are only looking at our most recent history, the history of America. Students begin independently reading historical literature including biographies and fiction. Review of the United States presidents is practiced as well.

Students will:

- Locate all 50 states
- Name and locate the Great Lakes
- Master four regions of the U.S. (Southern, Plain, Rocky Mountain, Pacific)
- Be introduced to world geography
- Review of all U.S. presidents by name in order of service
- Gain exposure to various time periods and events
- Gain familiarity with historic Americans
- Master significant dates

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *Fourth Grade American Studies Book Set*** – Biographies of great Americans.
 - **Memoria Press *Fourth Grade American Studies Discussion Questions*** – Teacher's book with questions to aid in facilitating student discussions of the biographies.
- **Memoria Press *States & Capitals (Student and Teacher)*** – Mapping workbook that covers the United States region by region. Teacher key includes student quizzes and tests as well as answers for the student book.
 - ***Don't Know Much About the 50 States*** – Text providing fun facts and other information about each state.
 - ***States & Capitals Flashcards*** – Set of cards to aid in independent study of state and capital identification.
- **Memoria Press *Timeline Program*** – Description listed below.

SCIENCE

Students retain more information when it is reviewed weekly and practiced daily, not a completely new topic each week. Our next yearlong study is astronomy. This study teaches the skies using the stories of the Greeks and Romans. Students will map and draw constellations, memorize the fifteen brightest stars in the skies, and study the solar system.

Students will:

- Display ability to compare and contrast
- Master naming and describing the planets within our solar system and facts about each
- Have working knowledge of vocabulary relating to planets, heavenly bodies, and moons
- Name the moons of Jupiter and Saturn
- Recite the fifteen brightest stars
- Identify and draw sixteen constellations
- Recognize the brightest stars in each constellations
- Draw the seasonal constellation groups
- Understand the various types of planets
- Make pertinent observations
- Read and comprehend expository material

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *The Book of Astronomy (Student and Teacher)*** – Study of constellations, the motion of the earth, the changing sky throughout the seasons, the solar system, and the zodiac. The *Teacher Guide* includes teaching information, quizzes, and tests.