



CATALYST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

KINDERGARTEN SCOPE & SEQUENCE

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language arts is a broad subject used to describe the elements of English and how students use them. This collective includes subordinate yet interwoven subjects dependent upon one another for success with the English language as a whole. New concepts in Phonics, Reading, Writing, and Spelling as well as Grammar should be continually reviewed once that concept has been introduced and initially practiced. Expectation is for age-appropriate mastery of each skill. Research suggests instruction in phonics is most effective when students are given practice reading, which includes both decoding and comprehension, and writing, which is the encoding of sounds, with words; we give practice with both. Writing includes more than just penmanship. It is learning how to form letters, group those letters into words, copy words and sentences accurately, and then write letters, words, and sentences correctly.

Spelling begins with practice writing each newly introduced phonogram to build a neurological pathway, paving the way to eventual mastery. This mastery is achieved through subsequent reading, writing, and spelling activities.

Due to the methods by which we present our materials, separate standards for listening and speaking are not necessary. Most of our subjects through the Grammar School begin with oral recitation. As the students matriculate, expectations advance as well. Students are given opportunities to speak in front of their classmates daily beginning in junior kindergarten. Likewise, all lessons are teacher directed and paced to ensure all students are actively listening and participating. Whether in a kindergarten craft class in which they progress step by step through the activity or in a phonics lesson in which ear training occurs, to high school-level Socratic discussions, listening skills are being taught and honed. There is no point at which students are not actively listening. Lesson pace does not allow for this! Each year, active listening is ensured and tested through the discussion of lessons.

Phonics

Students will:

- Recognize each letter of the alphabet and assign its correct sound
- Have working knowledge, both oral and written, of 35 essential English phonograms
- Understand and demonstrate ability to rhyme

Reading

Students will:

- Understand left to right progression
- Master short vowel (CVC) words through decoding (reading)
- Be able to read 67 common sight words, basic number words, and color words
- Demonstrate individual progression with speed, fluency, and expression when reading
- Have the ability to answer simple questions about a text they have read
- Follow a storyline in a book above their personal reading level
- Correctly use vocabulary above their individual reading level
- Have the ability to correctly predict events within a story
- Be able to orally retell a story in narrative format

- Recognize main characters, setting, and basic plot of a narrative
- Recall facts from a nonfiction story and be able to verbalize how they relate to subject matter

Writing

Students will:

- Understand that what is said orally can be written by the encoding of sounds
- Neatly write all letters and numbers using correct formation
- Accurately and neatly copy text from the line above to the line below

Spelling

Students will:

- Write correct letter to sound correspondence for all letters of the alphabet
- Encode CVC words dictated to them

Grammar

Students will:

- Understand the basic attributes of sentence structure
- Recognize three sentence end marks (period, question mark, exclamation point) and know when to use them
- Use and understand capitalization at the beginning of a sentence, for the pronoun "I," and for the name of a person
- Understand the basic attributes of sentence structure including capitalization and punctuation
- Identify plurals and possessives

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Start Reading (Student Books A-D and Teacher Manual)*** – Consumable student workbooks cover introduction of letters and their sounds, instruction on how to write the letters in manuscript, how to hear the sound of each in isolation, and formation of the letter in each lesson, and the *Teacher Manual* has a key to the student books and additional teacher information. *Book D* assumes mastery of short vowels and covers introduction of long vowel with the silent e, consonant blends, and h-team (ch, th, sh, wh). This core course coordinates with:
 - **Memoria Press *Classical Phonics*** – The 44 phonograms of the English language and many other spellings of these phonograms divided into lists of words and word families. A methodical presentation of phonics.
 - **Memoria Press *Phonics Flashcards*** – Set of cards each containing either a phonogram or spelling of a phonogram in isolation with picture clue on one side and words with the sound on the other. Also includes 112 common sight word cards.
 - **Memoria Press *Kindergarten Phonics Supplemental Workbook*** – Consumable student workbook that is used as either teacher-led class review of skills introduced in *First Start Reading*, or as independent review practice of letters and sounds
 - **Memoria Press *Kindergarten Morning Work*** – Twice-weekly review designed to practice quick recall of concepts as they are taught in Kindergarten, including penmanship, phonics, color words, number awareness, and manner of the week.
 - **Memoria Press *Manuscript Practice Sheets*** – Additional practice with manuscript printing, coordinated with the letter being taught in *First Start Reading*.
 - **Memoria Press *Manner of the Week (Wall Charts and Flashcards)*** – Short, relevant weekly sayings about proper behavior at the dinner table, around the home, and out in public.

- Reading Practice — *Fun in the Sun* (reading practice with CVC, short vowel words), *Scamp and Tramp* (reading practice with short vowel words and consonant blends and teams), *Soft and White* (reading practice with long vowel, silent e words, and transitioning between those and words with short vowels, **Memoria Press First Start Reading Storybooks** (the targeted phonetic stories from the FSR student books in illustrated, storybook format for weekly practice), *Christian Liberty Nature Reader Book K* (detailed descriptions of an animal whose name begins with each letter of the alphabet), **Primary Phonics Readers (Optional)** (Readers that give phonetic reading practice with individualized sounds. Set 1: short vowels; Set 2: long vowels both silent e and vowel teams; Set 3: consonant blends, compound words, and two-syllable words; Set 4: consonant teams and r-controlled vowels.)
- *Animal Alphabet Coloring Book* — Consumable student coloring book. To be used in coordination with *Christian Liberty Nature Reader Book K*. Each page focuses on a letter of the alphabet and animals whose names begin with that letter. Provides fine motor skill practice as well.
- **Memoria Press Cut & Paste Book** — Practice with scissors skills, using glue, and letter tracing while working on mastery of beginning phonics sounds as they are learned in First Start Reading.
- **Memoria Press Copybook I** and *Composition & Sketchbook I* – Penmanship, basic grammar, spelling, literature, accuracy, attention to detail, and memorization through more than 35 passages of Scripture or poetry.
- **Memoria Press 100 Days of Summer Reading: Book One** — Reading journal intended to promote continued reading throughout the summer months so as to avoid regression.

MATHEMATICS

In primary-level mathematics, mastery of addition and subtraction is key. Of the four concrete operations, the main focus of daily work is only upon these two. Through introduction, practice, and consistent review, mastery of these facts can be attained in both written and oral format. Then, by seventh grade when students are able to understand abstract math concepts, they expend no time or brain energy on calculation of concrete operations, but all attention is toward learning the new material. After oral mastery of the operations has been displayed, work should be done on the speed at which a correct answer is written. Though other math-related skills are introduced at each level, some form of practice each day should be devoted to sums and differences.

Number Sense and Numbers

Students will:

- Count to 100 by 1's
- Recognize and write numbers to 100
- Use and understand ordinal numbers
- Skip count to 100 by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- Give "before" or "after" numbers
- Put numbers in order from least to greatest
- Use the symbols $<$, $=$, $>$ correctly
- Interpret pictographs
- Accurately count groups of things
- Understand distinction between odd and even numbers
- Display awareness of numerical value of English prefixes
- Distinguish between whole and half of an object
- Have working knowledge of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ in relation to a whole

Computation

Students will:

- Exhibit mastery of addition facts through the seven family and subtraction facts through the six family in both written and oral format
- Solve basic word problems

Money

Students will:

- Identify coins and their value
- Identify the dollar bill
- Know the relation of coins to a dollar
- Identify both \$ and ¢ symbols
- Write money amounts using the ¢ symbol
- Describe the visual distinctions between the coins

Time

Students will:

- Identify the attributes of both an analog and digital clock
- Tell time to the hour and half hour on both analog and digital clock
- Understand orientation in time, today, yesterday, tomorrow
- Know how to read a calendar
- Recite the days of the week and the months of the year

Measurement

Students will:

- Compare height (taller, shorter), length (longer, shorter), volume (full, empty), weight (heavier, lighter), temperature (hotter, colder)
- Recognize and know the use of measurement tools: ruler, scale, and thermometer
- Read a thermometer

Geometry

Students will:

- Recognize basic shapes
- Understand the attributes of basic shapes
- Identify patterns

Texts Used:

- *Rod & Staff Grade 1*
 - *Student Book, Part 1* – Consumable student workbook which gives practice of skills taught in the interactive lessons of the *Teacher's Manual*.
 - *Teacher Manual* – Teacher book containing answers to student workbook as well as scripted lessons and templates to aid in introduction of concepts.
 - *Practice Sheets* – Reproducible pages of skills taught within the lessons of *Rod & Staff Grade 1*.
- **Memoria Press Numbers Books One and Two** – Practice pages of math skills key to numeric literacy not covered at this level in math books.

- **Memoria Press Memoria Math Challenge Level A (Student Drills and Teacher Key)** — Timed daily drills that promote mastery and immediate recall of basic math facts, including addition, subtraction, and number dictation.
- **Memoria Press Arithmetic Flashcards: Addition & Subtraction, 0-18** – Typical flashcards for use with *Rod & Staff* lessons.

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Children of this age group learn best through observation and discussion within a structured environment. It is precisely for this reason that the majority of work done within this branch of study is based around a theme gleaned from our weekly read-aloud. This read-aloud selection is typically fictional in nature but is a classic work used to capture interest. From each of these weekly books, a history, geography, or cultural studies theme is extracted and further developed through the reading of an expository selection on that theme. Activities for social studies themes always culminate with a teacher-led discussion of the subject.

Students will:

- Name and locate on a map the seven continents and five oceans
- Locate the United States and their own state on a map
- Know their state's capital
- Recognize and know the significance of both the equator and compass rose
- Compare and contrast
- Demonstrate basic calendar skills
- Understand simple processes, such as how we get our milk
- Recognize the symbols of our country (flag, eagle, Statue of Liberty)
- Know basic attributes of their home city and state (capital, map location, distinctive geography or event)
- Describe the American flag in detail and know its basic history
- Know the role of each in the history of America: Columbus, the Pilgrims, Native Americans, and our Founding Fathers
- Know that there were thirteen original colonies
- Describe what life was like in early America, New England
- Have a working knowledge of major holidays and when they occur

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press Kindergarten Enrichment Guide** – Teacher's guide containing activities and discussion questions for elevating the cultural literacy of students. To be used in coordination with the kindergarten read-aloud sets.
 - **Memoria Press Kindergarten 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 Kindergarten Science & Enrichment Set** – Group of books with either science or social studies material.

SCIENCE

There is a plethora of variety to be found in nature. Students this age have a natural curiosity

for the world around them and its creatures. When we take this natural wonder and expose students to the order and beauty of their world through either observation or listening to an expository text, students will best engage in age-appropriate scientific study. Memorization of some facts can be beneficial as the students frequently categorize and relate the world to themselves. Therefore, at this stage, no written assessments are given over science concepts mastered. As with the study of History, Geography, and Cultural Studies, a science-based theme is derived from the weekly read-aloud book. Any observations or activities are always followed by teacher-led discussions.

Students will:

- Participate well in age-appropriate group discussions
- Know the attributes of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians
- Understand the attributes of the four seasons
- Demonstrate knowledge of the stages of metamorphosis
- Have basic knowledge of the natural world
- Gain fine motor skills by coloring and learn about various animals as they learn each letter of the alphabet

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press Kindergarten Enrichment Guide** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press Kindergarten Read-Aloud Set** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press Kindergarten Science & Enrichment Set** – Description listed above.
- **Christian Liberty Nature Reader** – Description listed above.
- **Animal Alphabet** – Description listed above.

FINE ARTS AND POETRY

Studies indicate students should be exposed to the elevated language and the advanced sentence structure of books that are at least two reading levels above their individual reading ability; this is their listening level. We therefore selected a classic book at the student's listening level to be the read-aloud focus book for the week. This book is read multiple times for best results. All History, Geography, Cultural Studies, Science, Poetry, and Art are thematically tied to this read-aloud. Information about the read-aloud's author and illustrator as well as before and after reading activities are included. Many of the week's lessons include the reinforcement of a language lesson. The poetry study covers either a classic poem or one about an animal from the story. Students will be exposed to a variety of poets and styles with brief biographies of many. Each week also includes a famous art piece which could be from any of the major art periods, as all will be represented. Information on the artist and the piece is given as a springboard to further discussion and observation of the actual artwork. The classical music selections are not as easily tied to the read-aloud theme, but the diversification of study covers each period and type of music. Exposure is the goal. Students and parents alike enjoy the introduction to these fine arts.

Students will:

- Gain exposure to 34 famous art pieces from a variety of artists and art periods
- Gain exposure to 34 classical music pieces from a variety of composers from each period
- Gain exposure to 34 poems from hearing a variety of poets
- Be exposed to elevated language and advanced vocabulary
- Create art using a variety of media

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press Kindergarten Enrichment Guide** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press Kindergarten Read-Aloud Set** – Description listed above.
 - **Memoria Press Kindergarten Book of Crafts** – A compilation of directions for simple crafts that coordinate with the read-aloud selection. Additional concept crafts are also included.
 - **Memoria Press Art Cards** – Each card in this set of 34 shows a piece of art on one side and brief description on the other.
 - **Memoria Press Art Posters** – Larger version of each art card.
 - **Memoria Press Music Enrichment** – Book used in kindergarten through second grade describing each music selection, a brief biography of the composer, and guided study questions.
 - *Animals, Animals* by **Eric Carle** – Various types of poetry about animals make up this compilation.
 - *A Child's Book of Poems* by **Gyo Fujikawa** – Book of children's poems from a variety of authors.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The study of our history and heritage as Christians can and should be a key pillar of our studies. After all, one reason we teach our children to read or learn their math facts or observe nature is to train them to recognize and emulate the perfect example of truth, goodness, and beauty. By studying the story of salvation, we are training them in the way they should go. We learn by looking at history and using the examples therein. Through Scripture memorization, we are equipping our students with knowledge that will always be with them regardless of their circumstance. Doctrine will not be taught but is left up to the church, family, and particular school.

Students will:

- Hear and discuss Bible stories from Creation through the death of Moses
- Memorize thirteen Scripture verses and three prayers

Texts Used:

- *The Story Bible* – Age-appropriate book of chronological Bible stories.
 - **Memoria Press Christian Studies Enrichment** – Book used in kindergarten through second grade providing vocabulary and comprehension questions to be coupled with *The Story Bible*.
- **Memoria Press Copybook I** – Description listed above.