

Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School
5th Grade Curricular Syllabus: The American Year

Our Lady Star of the Sea 5th graders study “The American Year” from 1800-1960. This time period picks up where 4th grade left off in its study of the “Year of Exploration” and early founding of America. We begin at the turn of the 19th century with the Jefferson era, and conclude in the mid-twentieth century at the time of the Civil Rights movement. We will explore the deeper questions of how America grew and developed as a nation of hope and beacon of freedom.

Religion

Resource: Augustine Institute: Word of Life
Ruah Woods Institute: Theology of the Body

Math

Resources: Dimensions Math 5A/5B
Modern Logic by Forbes (excerpts and exercises)

Nature Studies

Resource: Core Knowledge units on cell biology, chemistry, and botany, among other topics.
Scientist biographies, nature journaling, and a self-made science notebook supplement lessons.

History

Resources: The Story of Civilization: The History of the United States (TAN books)
Core Knowledge history readers on American History from 1800-1960
Read-alouds of fables, folk tales, and American biographies

Literature

Resources: Short biographies, stories, legends, poems, and primary sources such as:
Louis & Clark in Their Own Words
American legends and folktales (Paul Bunyan, Davy Crockett, John Henry, Johnny Appleseed)
Brady by Jean Fritz
Biographies such as of Thomas Alva Edison and the Wright Brothers
Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
Twenty and Ten, Clare Huchet
Tuck Everlasting, Natalie Babbitt

Language Arts

Composition

Resource: Excellence in Writing

Grammar

Resource: Shurley Grammar, DailyGrams

Handwriting

Resource: Writing Our Catholic Faith (Universal Publishing)

Spelling and Vocabulary

Resources: Words Their Way (spelling)
Wordly Wise (vocabulary)

Latin

Resources: Lingua Latīna Per Sē Illustrata: Pars Prīma, Familia Rōmāna (Chp. 3 - 5)
Colloquia Personārum (Chp. 3 - 5)

Music

Resources: Harmony in Sequence by Ruth Dwyer (Indianapolis Childrens' Choir)
Sightsinging School by Mark O'Leary
Lumen Christi Simple Gradual
St. Michael Hymnal

Art

Resources: Assorted paintings from both modern and classical painters including but not limited to
Rene Magrite
Bernini
Caravagio
Georges de La Tour
Michaelangelo
Raphael
William-Adolphe Bouguereau (For Pieta lesson during Lent)
Monet and Van Gogh

Which will be chosen each week while planning for each lesson.

Mediums Used: Graphite, Eraser, Mixed Media Paper, decoupage/ collage/ and mosaic, colored pencil.

Students will be learning slightly more advanced techniques building off the basics learned in elementary school. My approach takes students from the inception of inspiration to a finished product at the end of the year. My emphasis is a balance between thoughtfulness, technique, and interaction. By supplementing well known art instead of focussing solely on it students will be encouraged to express themselves and their faith instead of make copies of works that have already been done.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Under the patronage of our Blessed Mother, the mission of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School is to support parents in their role as the primary educators of their children. Our classical training nourishes the students' natural sense of wonder and guides them to know and love what is genuinely good, true, and beautiful. Faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church, we form our students to be virtuous disciples of Jesus Christ and joyful witnesses to the Gospel.