

Academic Standards for The Classical Academy



Second Grade

History: Middle Ages (476 A.D. – 1400 A.D.)

Students are introduced to the Middle Ages in chronological order and by geographic area. Sources used may include: *The Story of the World, Volume 2: The Middle Ages* by Susan Wise Bauer, *Usborne World History – Medieval History*. Through stories, pictures, and class discussions, students will learn:

- Understand why the Roman Empire fell
- Introduce the story of Beowulf
- Explain Augustine arrival in England
- Re-enact the life of a monk
- Discuss Justinian's influence on the Byzantine Empire
- Understand the influence of the great kings of France
- Listen to stories about the Norse gods
- Study Alfred the Great
- Discuss The Battle of Hastings
- Draw and discover castles, serfs, and noblemen
- Explain and make relevant chivalry in knights and samurais
- Be able to explain the Crusades
- Memorize the monarchs of England
- Introduction of the first Russians
- Understand the ramifications of the Plague
- Explore the kingdoms of Spain and Portugal
- Discover Martin Luther's role in the Reformation
- Explain the influence of the Renaissance on society
- View and participate in a William Shakespeare play
- Memorize 160 key points in history
- Sing key Middle Ages events

Science: Chemistry

Students are introduced to the grammar of chemistry through a study of the Periodic Table, specific elements, and key vocabulary terms. Unit studies include: atoms, elements, periodic table, atomic number, chemical reactions, chemical bonds, introduction to scientific method, hands-on experiments and scientist biographies. Sources used may include: *Chemistry for the Grammar Stage* created by Paige Hudson, *Adventures with Atoms and Molecules* by Robert C. Mebane and Thomas R. Rybolt

- Introduce the grammar of chemistry, including memorization (using songs) of the following:
 - What is chemistry?
 - What are some parts of an atom?

Academic Standards for The Classical Academy



- What are the two types of chemical bonds?
 - What are the two types of mixtures?
 - What is the periodic table?
 - What are the first 12 elements of the periodic table?
 - What are the three main types of elements?
 - What is an element?
 - What is a compound?
- Introduce and discuss key vocabulary (examples include chemical reaction, alloys, chemical bond, malleable, electrons, nucleus, protons)
 - Discuss and investigate each group of the periodic table and focus on main elements in each group.
 - Regularly conduct experiments, using the scientific method to note observations and write conclusions (including an illustration or diagram)

Mathematics – (Saxon 3)

Mathematics is taught using Saxon textbooks and workbooks. Manipulatives and games are used to reinforce math concepts, basic facts, and operations.

The student will:

- Identify and compare numbers to 1000 (greater than, less than)
- Add and subtract within 100 using place value and properties of operations including renaming for both
- Multiply and Divide up to 12
- Perform speed drills up to 10 x 12
- Measure - length (metric and customary units), weight, and capacity
- Master money and its value
- Use graphs
- Learn basic geometry – making shapes and flat and curved faces
- Master area – square units
- Understand fractions – halves and quarters

Reading and Grammar

The students will receive daily reading instruction through *The Riggs Institute; The Writing & Spelling Road to Reading and Thinking*, which builds reading skills like fluency, comprehension, concentration, and retention of information. They will also read along with excerpts from great books, working on vocabulary, descriptive language, and making connections between fictional works and what we learn in History:

The student will:

- Master all 71 phonograms

Academic Standards for The Classical Academy



- Learn the 47 spelling rules
- Master penmanship and how to write with excellence
- Memorize spellings according to Riggs phonogram and spelling rules (15 per week)
- Recite and analyze daily reading selections which incorporate the following literary terms:
 - Subject of a selection
 - How to write titles
 - Author's purpose
 - Fiction vs. Nonfiction
 - Biography vs. Autobiography
 - Opinion vs. Fact
 - Point of View (1st and 3rd)
 - Alliteration
 - Main Idea
 - Mood
 - Setting
 - Simile
 - How to skim a selection
 - Graphic Organizers (storyboard, chart, timeline, character web, cause/effect, story string)
 - Key word outlines and summaries
- Identify one vocabulary word a day and discuss definition and part of speech
 - Compose a sentence that reiterates the definition (beginning as a group moving toward independence)
- Master grammar concepts, taught through copy work, dictation, narration and memorization, including:
 - Explain and memorize parts of speech
 - Capitalization
 - Four types of sentences
 - Punctuation
 - Contractions
 - Picture narration
 - Dates, months of the year, seasons, days of the week
 - Articles
 - Synonyms and antonyms
- Use mastered grammar concepts and apply them to writing
- Leave second grade reading at or above a third grade level as determined by McCall Crabbs testing

Literature

Academic Standards for The Classical Academy



Students are exposed to timeless stories that instill a love of reading.

The student will:

- Read three, carefully selected chapter books to advance reading levels (identical portion read in class is also read at home)
- Discuss characters and their virtue, or lack of, by use of the Socratic Dialogue
- Literature selections may include:
 - *Farmer Boy* (Laura Ingalls Wilder)
 - *Prince and the Pauper* (abridged)(Mark Twain)
 - *Boxcar Children, No. 1* (Gertrude C. Warner)
- Read Aloud selections may include:
 - *Bard of Avon: Life of Shakespeare* (Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema)
 - *Door in the Wall* (Marguerite de Angeli)
 - *Call it Courage* (Armstrong Sperry)
 - *Adam of the Road* (Elizabeth Janet Gray)
 - *The Apprentice* (Pilar Molina Llorente)

Geography

- Memorize World Song, including countries and cities and locate on map
- Memorize, locate and discuss/analyze European countries and capitals and create journal with maps and geographic information