

# **St. Peter's Lutheran School Curriculum Overview**

**2025  
2026**



**School  
Year**

St. Peter's Lutheran School  
719 5th Street ▪ Columbus, IN 47201  
812-372-5266

[www.stpeterscolumbus.org](http://www.stpeterscolumbus.org)



# Table of Contents

---

Grading Scale	Page 2
Discipleship	Page 3
Mathematics	Page 6
Reading	Page 8
Writing	Page 10
Science	Page 12
Social Studies	Page 16
Spanish	Page 19
Health	Page 20
Physical Education	Page 21
Art	Page 23
Music	Page 25
Technology	Page 26
Minds in Motion	Page 27

---





# Grading Scale

As we begin our 160<sup>th</sup> school year, it is important that all students and parents are fully aware of the grading scales used for this school year, especially as they relate to specific classes. Please know that our grading scale mirrors our local high school grading scales. Questions may be directed to classroom teachers or our school office. Thank you for being a part of the SPLS family!

## Primary Grading Scale

A+	100 – 97.5%	[12]
A	97.49 – 92.6%	[11]
A-	92.59 – 90.0%	[10]
B+	89.99 – 87.5%	[9]
B	87.49 – 82.6%	[8]
B-	82.59 – 80.0%	[7]
C+	79.99 – 77.5%	[6]
C	77.49 – 72.6%	[5]
C-	72.59 – 70.0%	[4]
D+	69.99 – 67.5%	[3]
D	67.49 – 62.6%	[2]
D-	62.59 – 60.0%	[1]
F	59.99% and Below	[0]

## Secondary Grading Scale

E: Excellent	100 – 90%
S: Satisfactory	89.9 – 75%
N: Needs Improvement	74.9 – 65%
U: Unsatisfactory	64.9% and Below

## Discipleship

All students in grades 5-8 will receive a Discipleship grade based upon our Primary Grading Scale. Students in grades K-4 will receive a Discipleship grade based upon our Secondary Grading Scale.

## Memory Work

K-1<sup>st</sup> grade students will receive a Memory Work grade based upon our Secondary Grading Scale. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a Memory grade based upon our Primary Grading Scale. For GPA purposes for our 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Memory Work will count 20% of a full grade. For example, Math will receive a 100% grade weighting toward total GPA, while Memory Work will only receive a 20% grade weighting toward total GPA.

## Specials

K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive Specials grades based upon our Secondary Grading Scale. 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive Specials grades based upon our Primary Grading Scale. For GPA purposes for our 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Specials will count 20% of a full grade for each day that the Special meets per week. For example, if a student has Art two days per week, then Art is weighted at 40% of a full grade.



# Discipleship

## School-Wide Memory Curriculum

### GOD'S WORD ALIVE Overview

God's Word Alive, based on God's Word and Luther's Small Catechism, is designed to empower students at St. Peter's Lutheran School to have God's Word on their hearts and minds and apply it to their everyday lives.

### Kindergarten Discipleship Overview

Kindergarten students will develop a personal relationship with Jesus through weekly Bible stories, songs, crafts, and prayer.

### Grade 1 Discipleship Overview

Students in first grade will strengthen their faith through time spent each day in devotion, prayer, song and exploring God's Word. Our main focuses are on basic Bible stories, and developing a servant attitude for others.

### Grade 2 Discipleship Overview

Students in second grade will come to faith and grow each day through devotions, bible stories, memory verses, and prayer. Students will be able to express their faith daily by exploring God's word and sharing it with others around them.

### Grade 3 Discipleship Overview

Throughout the third grade year, we will strengthen and grow in our faith by emphasizing the Scriptural truths contained in Luther's Small Catechism. These truths include: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed (attributes of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,) the Sacraments, the Lord's Prayer, the truth of God's Word, Confession, Absolution, and spreading the Gospel to others. Time is spent each day in devotions, prayer, praising, and applying Bible stories to our daily lives.

### Grade 4 Discipleship Overview

Through our study of the bible, children will learn how to spend time in God's word through daily reading and journaling. Children will learn how to defend their faith and feel comfortable sharing God's word with others. We will study various bible stories and focus on how to apply what we have learned from the bible to our everyday life.

### Grade 5 Discipleship Overview

Students in fifth grade will know the Triune God, come to and mature in their faith, and identify themselves as a member of the body of Christ. Students will demonstrate a life of joy, contentment, and harmony with God, themselves, and others. They will express their faith of God in service and worship and understand the value of all God's creation and care for it wisely. Fifth graders will be able to witness their faith in Jesus, their personal Savior and the Savior of all people and live in the Christian hope of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus.

**Grade 6 Discipleship Overview:**

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, we will spend each Friday dealing with Part of Luther's Catechism in connection with our school's memory work. Each quarter we will tie God's Word in the Modern-day world and its issues. Teachers will cover topics such as conflict resolution in a LCMS program called The Young Peacemaker. This involves the basic values Christians need to be all they can be in the world as Children of God. Students will also dive into God's Word and study issues they face on a daily basis. Other resources may include Max Lucado's Facing Your Giants and Soul Surfer faith-faith based Bible materials.

**Grade 7 Discipleship Overview****Catechism**

In Jr. High Catechism, students review the content in Luther's Small Catechism as well discuss how each concept applies and plays out in our current culture.

**James Bible Study**

Throughout the course of one nine-week quarter, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be looking in-depth at the book of James. Each chapter will be read and "broken-down" in an effort to look at what the book of James is really saying to Christians living in today's world. One misconception that will be uncovered and explained is James's assertion that "faith without deeds is dead" ...some argue that this means you must work to receive salvation instead of it being God's free gift to believers. We see this command as a challenge to faithful followers of Jesus Christ to not just "talk the talk," but to "walk the walk." Throughout the study of James, a foundation will be laid for next year's "Christians in Action" (CIA) service project, a graduation requirement for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade SPLS students.

**Creation**

One unit covers the Bible book of Genesis up to the birth of Joseph. In this course the students will learn how God created a perfect Earth and everything in the Universe. They will study how man fell away from God and how God promised them a Savior from the beginning. Through the lives of people in Genesis, students can learn how to live God-pleasing lives, how to avoid some of the mistakes made by the people of old. Throughout Genesis, students will see God's hand in the lives and salvation of the believing individuals recorded, and how God has a plan for their life.

**Grade 8 Discipleship Overview****Catechism**

In Junior High Catechism, students review the content in Luther's Small Catechism as well discuss how each concept applies and plays out in our current culture.

**Christians in Action (CIA) Project**

All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at St. Peter's Lutheran School will work to develop and implement an in-depth service project that makes a worthwhile contribution to the community. Students must use their knowledge of God's Word as well as academic skills to address and take action on a community need. In addition to the planning and implementation of the project, students will learn and practice a variety of skills including: letter writing, research skills, phone etiquette skills and public speaking. Students will have both individual and group assignments to complete during the course of the first semester. Groups will create a physical project and present an oral presentation before a panel of judges for their culminating project. Throughout the semester, students will review their past Bible study of the book of James as well as other Biblical references for the idea of service.

**Psalms and Proverbs**

One unit concentrated on the Biblical books of Proverbs and Psalms. They students will spend time reading over the truth that God shares with us through the wise words of David, Solomon and other presented in Psalms and Proverbs. They also spend will time relating those truths to their life today and for their future references.

**Apologetics**

What is truth? Why do we believe what we believe? How do we know what we believe is true? These questions are

ones that we all wrestle with. All 8th grade students at St. Peter's Lutheran School will seek to answer these questions and more while learning how to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks them to give the reason for the hope they have; and to do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15)



# Mathematics

## MATHEMATICS VISION STATEMENT

Students will show individual growth in Indiana Academic Mathematics Standards by applying skills that prepare students to think critically, problem solve, innovate, communicate, and collaborate in real-world situations.

## INSTRUCTIONAL CORE VALUES

- Differentiated lessons/activities
- Ensure that the continual progression of math facts and concepts will prepare students for next level of learning
- Utilize appropriate math language
- Incorporate technology into learning
- Incorporate data to drive instruction
- Facilitate a student-centered learning environment

### Kindergarten Math Overview

Students in Kindergarten will learn beginning math concepts that will ready them for First Grade. Students will focus on number recognition, counting, patterns, and basic math functions. Students receive many hands-on opportunities to refine these skills.

### Grade 1 Math Overview

Students in first grade will grow in their basic math skills and knowledge. Our main focuses are on number sense, problem solving, addition and subtraction fluency. We also explore the concepts of money, time, geometry, graphs, place value, and measurement. Students will further their understanding of these concepts through guided instruction, manipulatives, and hands-on activities.

### Grade 2 Math Overview

Grade 2 students will review the skills they learned in first grade and build upon those skills in second grade. Those skills include number and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and problem solving. Students will gain knowledge of these skills by using print materials, hands-on learning, digital resources and engaging fiction stories.

### Grade 3 Math Overview

Grade 3 students review basic addition, subtraction, geometry, and numeration skills. Students understand the concept of multiplication and master multiplication facts. Students are introduced to the concept of division and begin learning division facts and the process of long division. Students are also introduced to fractions.

### Grade 4 Math Overview

In grade 4, math will be taught so that students can see the benefits of learning math and be able to make math



connections that can be utilized in daily life. Students will gain knowledge of these skills by video lessons, solving algorithms and word problems, drawing models and explaining strategies. Students will focus on a variety of skills to prepare them for 5th grade.

**Grade 5 Math Overview**

Students in Grade 5 will develop skills in classification, numeric representation, comparisons, and relationships in the base – ten numeration system. These skills cover additional subtraction and division/multiplication computations of whole numbers. Appropriate grade level fraction and decimal problems are taught and assessment occurs on all levels of the math curriculum. Each concept taught has life skills and practical application problems for increased student understanding. Basic geometry and algebraic concepts are also introduced at this level. Customary and Metric units of time, measurement, and capacity are integrated throughout the curriculum.

**Grade 6 Math Overview**

This course of Mathematics allows the 6th grade student to reinforce the basic computation skills while developing higher level cognitive skills. The course lays the foundation for Pre-Algebra for the students.

**Grade 6 Advanced Math Overview**

The Advanced 6th grade Mathematics is designed to reach the needs of those 6th grade students who have the drive or aptitude for more challenging work to prepare for Junior High Mathematics. This course is more rigorous and calls for higher level cognitive skills in Preparation for Pre-Algebra or Algebra.

**Grade 7 Pre-Algebra Overview**

The 7th grade students, after taking the Pre-Algebra class, will have a firm understanding of the basic computational skills. They will be able to convert simple word problems into Algebraic expression and solve them. At the end of 7th grade the students will have the foundational skills to successfully complete an Algebra class as 8th graders.

**Grade 8 Algebra Overview**

The 8th grade Algebra class is designed to help students learn how to see patterns, how to generalize these patterns into rules and how to make connections and solve problems. The students learn communication skill when explaining their reasoning to their fellow classmates. These skills are valuable tools in working in the real world.



# Reading

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS VISION STATEMENT

Aligning with the Indiana Academic Standards, our school will provide all students with a strong foundation in language arts which builds on itself to achieve mastery at each grade level.

## INSTRUCTIONAL CORE VALUES

- Instructional continuity
- Consistent expectations
- Common terminology and practices
- Evident student-to-learning connections
- Independent reading and writing preparedness

### Resource Overview

The Resource Department at St. Peters Lutheran School develops educational plans for the purpose of meeting the needs of the exceptional students. We provide on-going assessment and evaluation using such programs as Dibles, Star, and Leveled Literacy Intervention Benchmark Assessment System, to ensure each student is working toward their personal goals and objectives. We use a wide variety of programs such as Explode the Code, Great Leaps, Leveled Literacy Intervention, Orton-Gillingham and other multi-sensory approaches to meet the needs of our resource students. The Resource Department also coordinates with the classroom teacher to help each student move successfully through the classroom core curriculum content. We strive to help each student understand that they are a special and important child of God!

### Kindergarten Reading Overview

Students in kindergarten will learn beginning reading skills such as letter and sound recognition, phonemic awareness, C-V-C words, and word families. Beginning reading skills are introduced and students are given the opportunities to practice these skills through small reading groups, word family activities, and manipulatives.

### Grade 1 Reading Overview

Students in first grade will spend a substantial amount of time each day in developing their English/Language Art skills. Students will build on skills learned in Kindergarten by blending letter sounds to form words, including vowels, consonant blends, digraphs, and vowel patterns. Word endings and word families will also be emphasized. Students will develop fluency and build comprehension skills through guided instruction, independent reading time, and small group activities. Students will experience a variety of genres and use leveled text according to individual reading ability. Writing is integrated daily with our Language Arts time focusing on capitalization, punctuation, and writing complete thoughts.

**Grade 2 Reading Overview**

Grade 2 students will develop the ability to comprehend texts of varied genres with increasing complexity. The focus of the genres is mainly fiction and informational text. Students will learn to support their ideas using text evidence from the reading and will be able to apply this to their oral and written assignments. Daily phonics, vocabulary, spelling and grammar lessons will be presented through daily instruction and students will be able to use these skills in all areas of language arts.

**Grade 3 Reading Overview**

Grade 3 students discover many reading genres, mainly focusing on fictional and informational texts. Students learn how to read for meaning, and also how to use the text to prove their answers and opinions. Students learn that text evidence is crucial to their oral and written responses to text. Students' vocabulary continues to grow through their reading, allowing them to be challenged in their reading text choices. Students' spelling continues to improve as they're becoming more aware of frequently used words and also new words in the texts they're reading.

**Grade 4 Reading Overview**

In grade 4, language arts will be taught so that students can see the importance of reading. Students will make connections to our reading selections by discussions, journaling and various projects completed throughout the school year. We will focus on theme, point of view, story structure, plot, character, and setting of our stories. Through these activities, students will be prepared for 5th grade.

**Grade 5 Reading Overview**

Grade 5 students read many reading genres, focusing on fictional and informational texts. Students read for meaning, using text evidence to support and prove answers and opinions. Students continue to make connections to the reading texts through discussions and writing. Students' vocabulary continues to grow through their reading, allowing them to be challenged in their reading text choices. Students begin to develop higher level cognitive skills, which will be needed in sixth grade and beyond.

**Grade 6 Reading Overview**

This course of Reading allows the 6th grade student to reinforce the basic reading skills while developing higher level cognitive skills. Emphasis will also be placed on vocabulary within the reading curriculum. The course lays the foundation for the challenges and expectation set forth in their 7th and 8th grade years.

**Grade 7 Reading Overview**

In this course of study, students read a wide range of fiction, nonfiction, classic, and contemporary works, to build an understanding of texts, of themselves, and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace. Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts. They read a wide range of literature in many genres from a variety of time periods and cultures from around the world to build an understanding of the many dimensions of human experience. They draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, and reading skills that they have developed and refined. In Reading 7, there are three key areas: Key Ideas and Textual Support, Structural Elements and Organization, and Synthesis and Connection of Ideas. By demonstrating the skills listed in each section, and reading a variety of literature within a range of complexity, students should be able to meet the Learning Outcome for Reading 7 and interact with texts proficiently and independently at the middle of the range and with scaffolding as needed for texts at the high end of the range.

**Grade 8 Reading Overview**

In this unit of study, students read a wide range of fiction, nonfiction, classic, and contemporary works, to build an understanding of texts, of themselves, and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace. Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts. They read a wide range of literature in many genres from a variety of time periods and cultures from around the world to build an understanding of the many dimensions of human experience. They draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, and reading skills that they have developed and refined. Three key areas found in Reading 8: Key Ideas and Textual Support, Structural Elements and Organization, and Synthesis and Connection of Ideas. By demonstrating the skills listed in each section, and reading a variety of literature within a range of complexity, students should be able to meet the learning outcomes, as well as interact with texts proficiently and independently.



# Writing

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS VISION STATEMENT

Aligning with the Indiana Academic Standards, our school will provide all students with a strong foundation in language arts which builds on itself to achieve mastery at each grade level.

## INSTRUCTIONAL CORE VALUES

- Instructional continuity
- Consistent expectations
- Common terminology and practices
- Evident student-to-learning connections
- Independent reading and writing preparedness

### Kindergarten Writing & Language Overview

Students in Kindergarten will learn basic sentence structure and punctuation skills. Students will practice these skills through journaling, along with narrative, informative, and opinion writing genres. Beginning language and grammar rules are introduced and students are given the opportunities to practice these skills through dictation and in their writing and speaking.

### Grade 1 Writing & Language Overview

Writing is integrated daily with our Language Arts time focusing on capitalization, punctuation, and writing complete thoughts. We also explore writing for different purposes and audiences, focusing on narrative and informative pieces. Beginning editing skills are also introduced.

### Grade 2 Writing & Language Overview

Students in Grade 2 will demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, from vocabulary and syntax to the development and organization of ideas. Student will write opinion, informative, and narrative pieces. Students writing will be focused and contain details. Their writing will be strengthened by revising and editing. Basic language and grammar rules are taught and students are given opportunity to transfer these basics into their writing and speaking.

### Grade 3 Writing & Language Overview

Students in grade 3 review basic writing and punctuation skills, while learning new and advanced concepts to better their writing. Focusing on narrative, informative, and opinion writing genres, third grade students receive a variety of opportunities to use their learned skills while writing complete and well-formed paragraphs. Basic language and grammar rules are taught and students are given opportunity to transfer these basics into their writing and speaking.

**Grade 4 Writing & Language Overview**

Students in grade 4 will review basic writing and punctuation skills while learning new concepts to better their writing. We will focus on narrative, informative, and opinion writing genres. Various projects will be incorporated for students to display their knowledge and skills such as poetry books, essays, class newspaper, and well formed paragraphs. An overview of language and grammar rules will be taught throughout the year and applied to their writing and speaking.

**Grade 5 Writing & Language Overview**

Students in grade 5 review basic writing and punctuation skills, while learning new and advanced concepts to better their writing. Students receive a variety of opportunities to use their learned skills while writing stories, reports, and essays in the narrative, informative, and opinion writing genres. Basic language rules are taught, and students are given opportunities to transfer these basics into their writing and speaking. Technology is utilized to produce and publish student writing.

**Grade 6 Writing & Language Overview**

This course of Writing/English allows the 6th grade student to reinforce the basic skills while developing higher level cognitive skills. The course lays the foundation for advancing their essay and narrative writing skills as well as laying the foundation for advance writing at higher skill levels.

**Grade 7 Writing & Language Overview**

Students will employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use various writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes. Students will apply knowledge of language structure & conventions, media techniques, figurative language, and genre to create, critique, discuss, and share writing. Students research both issues and interests by formulating ideas and questions. They analyze data from various sources to communicate their discoveries for the purpose of teaching and meeting the needs of their audience.

**Grade 8 Writing & Language Overview**

Students will employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use various writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes. Students will apply knowledge of language structure & conventions, media techniques, figurative language, and genre to create, critique, discuss, and share writing. Students research both issues and interests by formulating ideas and questions. They analyze data from various sources to communicate their discoveries for the purpose of teaching and meeting the needs of their audience.



# Science

## VISION STATEMENT

As we implement our Science Curriculum, our teachers will strive to:

- Keep the cross of Christ squarely in the center of our Science Curriculum.
- Teach in a manner that reflects the 21<sup>st</sup> Century world in which we live
- Meet the individual needs of all students.
- Effectively implement the required Process Standards into instruction.
- Teach the required Content Standards from a distinctively Christian perspective, while at the same time, teaching secular viewpoints.
- Continue to grow professionally, enabling all aspects of our curriculum to be effectively implemented.

## FAITH STATEMENTS

The public scientific community maintains various scientific theories to be true that are in direct opposition to our Christian beliefs. For this reason, it is extremely important to emphasize Biblical truths as we provide effective science instruction.

- I. **God is the creator of all.**
  - a. God's workmanship is evident in creation.
  - b. We are made in God's image.
  - c. The world reflects the scientific truths revealed in Scripture.
  - d. God created a young earth.
  - e. There were six twenty-four-hour days of creation.
- II. **Jesus is God.**
- III. **Salvation comes only through faith in Christ Jesus.**
- IV. **God's Word as printed in Scripture is infallible.**
- V. **Sin alters God's creation.**
- VI. **We are stewards of all that God has graciously bestowed upon us.**
  - a. Science is our human response to God's command to care for His creation.
  - b. God allows us to develop new technologies to help take care of His creation.
- VII. **God's plan is still in operation today and He has provided all of the resources needed in our lives.**

### Kindergarten Science Overview

Students in Kindergarten are introduced to science topics through our classroom themes. Students learn through our center time, small classroom experiments, non-fiction books, crafts, and educational videos.

### Grade 1 Science Overview

Students in first grade will explore the world around them through the study of Physical, Life, and Earth science. They will focus on the topics of living and nonliving things, matter, habitats, food chains, soil, and space. These topics are further investigated through experiments and integration of technology.

**Grade 2 Science Overview**

Students in second grade study changes in physical properties of materials and the effect of force on the motion of an object. They investigate patterns in the weather and the position of the sun and the moon in the sky during the day and in the shape over the course of about a month. Students study the life cycles of plants and animals and compare the different body plans. Students investigate simple tools and how they can be used to meet human needs. Within this study, students employ the key principles of the nature of science and the design process.

**Grade 3 Science Overview**

Students in third grade will continue to study the nature of science, plant life, and the design process of technology. Students will expand their knowledge of the properties of matter and forms of energy. Regarding earth science, students will be introduced to minerals and rocks. Within all of these studies, students will continue to use and practice the scientific method.

**Grade 4 Science Overview**

Students in grade 4 will review the scientific process with a focus on technology and design. Students will explore the nature of science, motion, energy, heat, electricity, the changing surface of the Earth, plant and animal characteristics and interactions. Students will investigate and apply their knowledge of these topics through discussions, outlines, projects, labs, and technology-based activities.

**Grade 5 Science Overview**

Students in Grade 5 connect in an interactive process of hands-on learning of science in the areas of physical, Earth, life, and health sciences. Hands-on lab engagements are experienced throughout the curriculum. Practical science, engineering, and technology concepts and careers are introduced for increased student learning. The material effectively engages student interaction to enhance the concepts being taught.

**Grade 6 Science Overview**

Students in Grade 6 review the basics of science and the tools of science. Students will look to the processes that give us our weather and the components that change our weather. Topics on matter, solids, liquids, and gases, as well as energy and the solar system will be discovered throughout the year. Students will finish the year by looking at ecosystems and biomes.

**Grade 7 Science Overview**

Students in Grade 7 focus their scientific study on Earth and Physical Science in addition to encompassing the scientific process throughout the year. This will consist of learning how to set up an experiment; collect and record data using scientific measurement, graphs, charts, and observations; and communicate their findings. In the area of Earth Science, the students will learn about the earth through rocks and minerals, how the earth changes with earthquakes and volcanoes, and how the oceans influence our weather. In the area of Physical Science, the students will learn about motion, velocity, and acceleration, along with the types of forces that are applied to everyday objects around us. Students will also explore different chemistry topics, including an introduction to the atom and periodic table, chemical equations and reaction types, and concluding with an introduction to nuclear energy.

**Grade 8 Science Overview**

Students in Grade 8 continue their focus on the scientific study and will be introduced to various life science topics in preparation for them to take Biology 1 as a freshman in high school. Specific topics of focus in the life science realm include ecology/environmental science, cells, genetics and heredity, and an introduction to evolution and the Christian response to evolution. Extra time will be taken on each of these focus areas so that students will be fully ready for the next step in high school.

**Grade 8 - Biology Overview**

Some students in grade 8 will be given the opportunity to complete Biology 1, which is normally taken as a freshman,



while in junior high. Students should either be currently enrolled in or have already passed Algebra 1 in order to enter this class. Students will cover the same topics as seen above in Grade 8 Science, but at a higher and deeper level. Multiple labs and projects will be completed throughout the year to assist with learning the material, including dissections at the end of the year.



# Social Studies

## SOCIAL STUDIES VISION STATEMENT

Using 21st Century skills, students will be actively connected to their community, becoming informed, socially responsible citizens as they are challenged to care for God's world.

## INSTRUCTIONAL CORE VALUES:

- Continual progression of social studies concepts leads to student connection
- Purposefully chosen cross-curricular learning opportunities expands students' reading and writing skills
- Student learning will be active and incorporate technology

### Kindergarten Social Studies Overview

Students in Kindergarten are introduced to Social Studies topics through our classroom themes. Students learn through our center time, small classroom experiments, non-fiction books, crafts, and educational videos.

Kindergarten Key Concepts

- Personal address and phone number
- Name of city, state, and country
- Recognize basic U.S. symbols

### Grade 1 Social Studies Overview

Students in first grade will learn about the world around them through the study of history, geography, and community. We will focus on U.S. Symbols, national holidays, laws, leaders, citizenship, economics, neighborhoods, community helpers, maps, weather, and seasons.

Grade 1 Key Concepts:

- Personal address and phone number
- Name of city, state, and country
- Recognize basic U.S. symbols
- Name of current U.S. President

### Grade 2 Social Studies Overview

Students in grade 2 will examine local and regional communities in the present and past and how these communities meet people's needs. They will describe their basic rights and responsibilities as citizens. Students will examine themselves, their society and different cultures.

Grade 2 Key Concepts:

- Personal address and phone number
- Name of city, state, and country
- Recognize basic U.S. symbols
- Name of current U.S. President
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Name of current mayor and governor
- Cardinal and intermediate map directions

### **Grade 3 Social Studies Overview**

Grade 3 students are introduced to economics, government, geography, and history. Students learn to use maps. Students' learning also focuses on their community.

Grade 3 Key Concepts:

- Local community information
- Cardinal and intermediate directions
- Name of the U.S. region where they live

### **Grade 4 Indiana History/Social Studies Overview**

Our main focus in 4th grade is to study the history of our state Indiana. We will learn all about regions, waterways, weather, pioneer life, transportation, famous people in Indiana, contributions from our state and how our state played a role throughout history. Children will complete various projects such as debates, portfolios, and reports over these different topics. We will also spend time learning continents and oceans and facts over each of our 50 states along with capitals, locations, and abbreviations for each.

Grade 4 Key Concepts:

- U.S. States and Capitals (locations and abbreviations)
- Name world continents and oceans
- Cultural differences

### **Grade 5 Social Studies Overview**

The Grade 5 Social Studies curriculum integrates historical concepts and information with present day applications involving student development and twentieth century learning. These concepts trace the historical movements that influenced the development of the United States from pre-Columbian times through Reconstruction after the United States' Civil War. The standards covered range from identification and descriptions of the cultural development of the societies living in the United States through its growth to how these changes influence why our country looks at it does in modern day times.

Grade 5 Key Concepts:

- Three branches of U.S. government and their basic responsibilities
- Basic rights of Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- National Anthem
- Map skills

### **Grade 6 Social Studies Overview**

Students in Grade 6 will study the geography of the world to better understand the blessings God has given different land masses and their people. Most important in this field are the five basic themes of geography that will explain the history of the world. Students will learn the basic forms of governments in the world and how each works differently. Students will look at the nations of Europe, North America, and Latin America and their economic condition. Finally, students will look at the history of Europe, North America, and Latin America.

Grade 6 Key Concepts:

- Five themes of geography
- Economic systems of the world
- Forms of world government
- Current Events

**Grade 7 World Geography Overview**

Students in Grade 7 study the regions and nations of Africa, Asia, and the Southwest Pacific. Our studies include historical, geographical, economic, political, and cultural relationships. The geographic area of our studies includes the following regions: Africa, Southwest and Central Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the Southwest Pacific. Students will learn about world geography, including both physical and human geography, specifically focusing on Africa, Asia and the South Pacific.

Grade 7 Key Concepts:

- Five themes of geography
- Economic systems of the world
- Forms of world government
- Current Events

**Grade 8 U.S. History Overview**

Students in Grade 8 focus on United States history, beginning with early history, including the Revolution and founding era, and the principles of the United States government until immediately following the Civil War. The Constitution and other founding documents, and their applications to subsequent periods of national history and to civic and political life, provide a basis for discussing the birth and formative years of our nation. Students also learn about national development, westward expansion, social reform movements and the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will understand the beginnings of our nation, starting with pre-historic civilizations in North America and ending with our nation's Reconstruction after the Civil War.

Grade 8 Key Concepts:

- Key historical documents
- Current Events



# Spanish

## **Grade 7 Spanish Overview**

Grade 7 students receive continued instruction in the foreign language of Spanish daily. Students continue to learn and acquire high frequency words, as well as theme-based vocabulary through gesturing, oral and written stories, cultural readings, and a novel. Students practice strategies for deciphering unfamiliar words through cognates, parts of speech, and comparing the Spanish language with the English language. Students continue to develop an ear for the Spanish language through listening to native speakers in songs and other authentic materials. Students also expand their vocabulary through reading a novel in Spanish, as well as enforce reading strategies such as summarizing, using context clues, and visualization. Students continue to learn the structure of the language in present tense by filling out graphic organizers based on readings and the novel. Students also relate the Spanish language to its culture through the study of various Spanish-speaking countries including Spain, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, and demonstrate their speaking and writing skills through short presentations, essays, and stories.

## **Grade 8 Spanish Overview**

Grade 8 students receive continued instruction in the foreign language of Spanish daily. Students continue to learn and acquire high frequency words, as well as theme-based vocabulary through gesturing, oral and written stories, cultural readings, and a novel. Students practice strategies for deciphering unfamiliar words through cognates, parts of speech, and comparing the Spanish language with the English language. Students continue to develop an ear for the Spanish language through listening to native speakers in songs and other authentic materials. Students also expand their vocabulary through reading a novel in Spanish, as well as enforce reading strategies such as summarizing, using context clues, and visualization. Students continue to learn the structure of the language in present tense by filling out graphic organizers based on readings and the novel, and also start to learn the structure of the language in past tense. Students relate the Spanish language to its culture through the study of various Spanish-speaking countries including Peru and Colombia. Lastly, students demonstrate their speaking and writing abilities in Spanish through presentations, essays, and stories.



# Health

## **Kindergarten Health Overview**

Students in Kindergarten are introduced to Health topics through our classroom themes. Students learn through our center time, small classroom experiments, non-fiction books, crafts, and educational videos.

## **Grade 1 Health Overview**

Students in first grade will learn basic principles for living a healthy lifestyle. They will learn about body systems, dental hygiene, emotional health, nutrition and exercise, and the importance of safety. They will recognize that our bodies are a gift from God that need to be cared for by making healthy choices.

## **Grade 2 Health Overview**

Students in second grade will acknowledge personal responsibility for health promotion and/or risk reduction. They will describe healthy behaviors and will know the components of health as emotional, physical and social. Students will compare how the family, media and peers will influence their health. They will be able to use communication skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risk. Students will accept personal responsibility for their health and are encouraged to practice healthy behaviors.

## **Grade 3 – 8 Health Overview**

Students in grades 3-8 will use the Life Skills Training program developed by Dr. Gilbert Bortvin. This program was developed to provide an organized way for students to learn various important life skills. Dr. Bortvin discovered that students who received this program were not only better prepared to deal with the challenges of life, but also less likely to smoke, drink, or use drugs. The Life Skills Training program not only prevents tobacco, alcohol, and drug abuse, but also teaches the knowledge and skills necessary to:

- Increase self-esteem;
- Increase the ability to make decisions and solve problems;
- Communicate effectively;
- Avoid misunderstandings;
- Manage anxiety;
- Make new friends;
- Stand up for personal rights;
- Say “no” to unfair requests;
- Resist advertising pressures,
- Resist pressure to use drugs.



# Physical Education

## **Kindergarten Physical Education Overview**

Kindergarten students will begin to learn and express enjoyment and self-confidence when participating in a variety of movement activities. These variations in movement include spatial, directional and temporal movement and awareness. Throughout this year, students will be encouraged to show a willingness to follow basic directions for an active class and to show a positive attitude toward self and others during physical activity.

## **Grade 1 Physical Education Overview**

Our first grade students are encouraged and guided to learn to apply the basic elements for locomotor, non-locomotor, stability, and manipulative skills. They also should be able to begin to demonstrate techniques for safe and efficient movement, perform locomotor skills proficiently and in combination with developmentally appropriate challenges. Finally, students will begin to understand and demonstrate strategies for active games and learn to move and play in ways that honor God through their physical activity.

## **Grade 2 Physical Education Overview**

Our second grade students are encouraged and guided to learn to apply the basic elements for locomotor, non-locomotor, stability, and manipulative skills. They also should be able to begin to demonstrate techniques for safe and efficient movement, perform locomotor skills proficiently and in combination with developmentally appropriate challenges. Finally, students will begin to understand and demonstrate strategies for active games and learn to move and play in ways that honor God through their physical activity.

## **Grade 3 Physical Education Overview**

Students in our elementary grades are challenged to live God honoring physically active lives in which they begin to understand the value of exercise and developing healthy bodies. Our third graders have the opportunity to be challenged physically and emotionally through skill development, team building activities, fitness activities, game playing and movement activities. Safety is of utmost importance at this level as many students have the ability to begin to participate in all activities at a much higher level.

## **Grade 4 Physical Education Overview**

Our fourth grade students will be learning how to use their God given abilities to appreciate the blessing of being able to be physically active to the Glory of God. Students in grade 4 will explore and learn about fair play, teamwork, and sportsmanship along with the benefits of physical activity using a Christ-centered approach. They will do this through the use of lead-up games, skill development, team-building, movement, fitness and recreational activities. Students also will learn the importance of physical activity and how this can benefit them in their everyday lives.

**Grade 5 Physical Education Overview**

Our fifth grade students will be learning how to use their God given abilities to appreciate the blessing of being able to be physically active to the Glory of God. Students in grade 5 will explore and learn about fair play, teamwork, and sportsmanship along with the benefits of physical activity using a Christ-centered approach. They will do this through the use of game play, team-building, movement, fitness and recreational activities. Students also will learn the importance of physical activity and how this can benefit them in their everyday lives.

**Grade 6 Physical Education Overview**

Our middle school students will be learning how to use their God given abilities to appreciate the blessing of being able to be physically active to the Glory of God. Students are challenged to be physically active while learning to work with their classmates to accomplish goals, work together as a team, be good sports, all in a safe and environment. A variety of individual activities, team games, team work activities, and fitness activities will be utilized to allow students to show their abilities and Christian character.

**Grade 7 Physical Education Overview**

Our middle school students will be learning how to use their God given abilities to appreciate the blessing of being able to be physically active to the Glory of God. Students are challenged to be physically active while learning to work with their classmates to accomplish goals, work together as a team, be good sports, all in a safe and environment. A variety of individual activities, team games, team work activities, and fitness activities will be utilized to allow students to show their abilities and Christian character.

**Grade 8 Physical Education Overview**

Our middle school students will be learning how to use their God given abilities to appreciate the blessing of being able to be physically active to the Glory of God. Students are challenged to be physically active while learning to work with their classmates to accomplish goals, work together as a team, be good sports, all in a safe and environment. A variety of individual activities, team games, team work activities, and fitness activities will be utilized to allow students to show their abilities and Christian character.



**Kindergarten Art Overview**

Students in Kindergarten will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists and focus on the elements of line and visual organization principles of pattern and repetition. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will experiment with line, shape, form, color, and texture to create their own art design. Students will begin to create a background that is relevant to their art work.

**Grade 1 Art Overview**

Students in First grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists and focus on the elements of line and visual organization principles of pattern and repetition. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will experiment with line, shape, form, color, and texture to create their own art design. Students will create a background that is relevant to their art work.

**Grade 2 Art Overview**

Students in Second grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists and focus on the elements of line and visual organization principles of pattern and repetition. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will experiment with line, shape, form, color, and texture to create their own art design. Students will create a background that is relevant to their art work.

**Grade 3 Art Overview**

Students in Third grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists and focus on the elements of line and visual organization principles of pattern and repetition. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will experiment with line, shape, form, color, and texture to create their own art design. Students will create a background that is relevant to their art work.

**Grade 4 Art Overview**

Students in Fourth grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists. Students will explore how an artist's work may change over time. Students will focus on the elements and principles of visual organization. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will use principles of visual organization to develop their own work of art. Students will use precise vocabulary to describe or tell a story about their work of art. They will incorporate geometric terms and descriptive language.

**Grade 5 Art Overview**

Students in Fifth grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists. Students will explore how an artist's work may change over time. Students will focus on the elements and principles of visual organization. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will use principles of visual organization to develop their own work of art. Students will use precise vocabulary to describe or tell a story about their work of art. They will incorporate geometric terms and descriptive language.



**Grade 6 Art Overview**

Students in sixth grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists. They will understand visual art in relation to history and cultures. Students will explore how an artist's work may change over time. Students will focus on the elements and principles of visual organization. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will use principles of visual organization to develop their own work of art. They will analyze characteristics of two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms using visualization, spatial reasoning, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Students will use precise vocabulary to describe or tell a story about their work of art. They will incorporate geometric terms and descriptive language.

**Grade 7 Art Overview**

Students in Seventh grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists. They will understand visual art in relation to history and cultures. Students will explore how an artist's work may change over time. Students will focus on the elements and principles of visual organization. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will use principles of visual organization to develop their own work of art. They will analyze characteristics of two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms using visualization, spatial reasoning, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Students will use precise vocabulary to describe or tell a story about their work of art. They will incorporate geometric terms and descriptive language.

**Grade 8 Art Overview**

Students in Eighth grade will become familiar with classic and contemporary artists. They will understand visual art in relation to history and cultures. Students will explore how an artist's work may change over time. Students will focus on the elements and principles of visual organization. A variety of medium will be used to convey these elements. Students will use principles of visual organization to develop their own work of art. They will analyze characteristics of two-dimensional and three-dimensional forms using visualization, spatial reasoning, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Students will use precise vocabulary to describe or tell a story about their work of art. They will incorporate geometric terms and descriptive language.



# Music

## **Kindergarten Music Overview**

Kindergarten students will be introduced to basic music concepts: beat, rhythm, and melody through movement, listening, playing and singing. Students will also prepare for and sing in church during the school year.

## **Grade 1 Music Overview**

Grade 1 students continue to develop music concepts of beat, melody, and rhythm, tone color, and expression through simple songs, playing instruments, guided movement, and listening activities. Students also prepare for and sing in church several times during the school year.

## **Grade 2 Music Overview**

Grade 2 students continue to develop music concepts using pentatonic melodies, adding half, whole and sixteenth notes and rhythms. Students listen for form and tone colors; dancing and playing more difficult instrument parts is included in the second grade music curriculum. Students prepare for and sing for several worship services during the school year.

## **Grade 3 Music Overview**

Grade 3 students continue building on previous studies. Additionally, Grade 3 students participate in an in-depth study of learning to play the recorder. This study includes reading the various notes of the treble clef and correctly interpreting musical symbols and rhythms, as well as playing songs in a group with a conductor. In the spring students participate in a field trip to see and hear the Columbus Philharmonic. Students prepare for and sing for several worship services during the school year.

## **Grade 4 Music Overview**

Grade 4 students continue building on previous studies, adding more rhythms, dotted notes, and time signatures. Playing chords and written accompaniments on a variety of instruments, along with dancing, is part of the Grade 4 music curriculum. Students learn to improvise and compose simple parts and songs, along with analyzing and discussing musical selections from a variety of styles. Grade 4 students also learn how to play the recorder and attend the Columbus Philharmonic concert each school year.

## **Grade 5 Music Overview**

Grade 5 students continue building on previous studies, adding more rhythms dotted notes, and time signatures. Students participate in dancing, along with playing chords and written accompaniments on a variety of instruments. Students learn to improvise and compose simple parts and songs, also learning to analyze and discuss musical selections from a variety of styles. Grade 5 students continue further instruction in choral singing. In addition, Grade 5 students learn to understand and use dynamic and expressive markings and vocabulary. Students in grade 5 also learn how to play the ukulele and participate in a trip to The Indianapolis Symphony.



# Technology

**Kindergarten Computer Overview**

Students in Kindergarten are introduced to the desktop computer and learn basic computer skills through activities and games.

**Grade 1 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 1 review basic computer skills through games and lessons. Word processing, internet navigation, and drawing applications are taught.

**Grade 2 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 2 review basic computer, word processing, internet navigation, and drawing application skills. Basic typing fundamentals are introduced and practiced.

**Grade 3 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 3 review word processing, internet, and drawing application skills. Lessons in typing fundamentals are stressed. Computer applications are used to complete classroom projects and presentations.

**Grade 4 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 4 use word processing, presentation, and project applications to expand on classroom topics. Knowledge in internet navigation and content is utilized for projects. Typing skills are improved throughout the year.

**Grade 5 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 5 use word processing, presentation, and project applications to expand on classroom topics. Knowledge in internet navigation and content is utilized for projects. Typing skills are improved upon, but are utilized in many word processing assignments.

**Grade 6 Computer Overview**

Students in Grade 6 use word processing, presentation, and project applications to expand on classroom topics. Knowledge in internet navigation and content is utilized for projects. Typing skills are improved upon, but are utilized in many word processing assignments.



# Minds in Motion

---

Minds in Motion at St. Peters Lutheran School is based on the research that says that most mental processes involve both sides of the brain. Integration problems between the two hemispheres result in inefficiencies in the brain processes and leads to learning and behavioral problems. At St. Peter's we use movement to address a wide variety of learning/behavioral deficiencies. We provide specific movement programs and accommodations to ensure that each student in our care reaches his or her potential and finds success in the classroom.