

Mountain Christian School

Curriculum Overview



Updated Summer 2025

Mountain Christian School Mission

Mountain Christian School seeks to partner with parents who desire their children to know Biblical truths and receive quality academic education integrated with a Biblical worldview.

In choosing the curriculum for Mountain Christian School and facilitating its consistent use across grade levels, our curriculum committee seeks to ensure that the curriculum fits and upholds our school's mission statement.

First, we look for curriculums that align with a Biblical worldview. This is much more important in some subjects than others. For example, a Biblical worldview is crucial for correctly interpreting scientific evidence. Without an underlying rigorous understanding of scripture, the scientific evidence can be easily misunderstood or twisted to support alternate worldviews. In Science, Social Studies, and Bible, the MCS curriculum committee looks for curriculum that has this Biblical foundation and mission. In other subjects, such as Language Arts, Writing, Reading, and Math, the curriculum committee checks carefully to ensure that nothing in the curriculum contradicts, confuses, or detracts from a Biblical worldview.

Second, our school seeks out curriculum that can be used to foster partnership with parents in the school community. We want our parents to be directly involved in their students education, helping with homework and supporting the teachers. With that in mind, the school's curriculum needs to be transparently shared with the school community and must be usable by parents as they seek to support and help their students.

Third, our school seeks out academically rigorous curriculum that encourages student growth and aligns with our school's grade level goals. Our school has carefully put together and implemented a *Curriculum Progression Guide* which details the expectations and goals for our core subject and how each grade builds on the one before to achieve our school's expected student outcomes. This guide aligns with our curriculum expectations, state standards, and the standards tested by our yearly IOWA assessment. This guide is used by our curriculum committee to assess proposed curriculum updates.

In these ways, our school has carefully and thoughtfully used our mission statement as an integral part of choosing and implementing curriculum across grade levels at our school.



Kindergarten Curriculum

Language Arts	Purposeful Design Language Arts: Kindergarten 1st Edition, Published by Purposeful Design Publishing, ©2020 Supplemental Resources: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source Heggerty Phonemic Awareness A-Z Reading Zaner-Bloser Handwriting
Math	Purposeful Design Math: Kindergarten 2nd Edition, Published by Purposeful Designs ©2015
Social Studies	A Beka Social Studies K Published by Pensacola Christian College A Beka Children of the World 2 nd Edition, Published by Pensacola Christian College, ©2013
Science	God's World K5 4 th Edition, Published by A Beka Book Pensacola, Florida
Bible	Elementary Bible Kindergarten 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2019



1st Grade Curriculum

Language Arts	<p>Purposeful Design Language Arts: Grade 1 Published by Purposeful Design Publishing, ©2020</p> <p>Supplemental Resources: A-Z Reading Easy Grammar Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Zaner-Bloser Handwriting</p> <p>Class Books Read Aloud Include (but are not limited to): Little Pilgrim's Progress by Helen L. Taylor Tales that Tell the Truth Series published by the Good Book Company</p>
Math	<p>Purposeful Design Math: Grade 1 2nd Edition, Published by Purposeful Designs ©2015</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 1 4th Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2020</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 1 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2021</p>
Bible	<p>Elementary Bible, Grade 1 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2019</p>



2nd Grade Curriculum



Language Arts	<p>Purposeful Design Language Arts: Grade 2 Published by Purposeful Design Publishing, ©2020</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 2 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2012</p> <p><u>Supplemental Resources:</u> A-Z Reading Easy Grammar Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Zaner-Bloser Handwriting</p> <p>Class Books Read Aloud Include: The Classic Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis</p>
Math	<p>Purposeful Design Math: Grade 2 2nd Edition, Published by Purposeful Designs ©2016</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 2 3rd Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2013</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 2 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2021</p>
Bible	<p>Elementary Bible, Grade 2 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2019</p>



3rd Grade Curriculum



Language Arts	<p>Purposeful Design Language Arts: Grade 3 Published by Purposeful Design Publishing, ©2021</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 3 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2012</p> <p>Easy Grammar: Grade 3 Published by Easy Grammar Systems ©2006</p> <p>Zaner-Bloser Handwriting 3 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc. ©2020</p> <p>Supplemental Resources: Abeka Readers A-Z Reading</p> <p>Novel Studies: Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo Secret in the Maple Tree by Matilda Nordtvedt A Mouse Called Wolf by Dick King-Smith</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math Intermediate 3, Teacher's Manual Volume 1 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing ©2012</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 3 3rd Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2015</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 3 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2021</p>
Bible	<p>Elementary Bible, Grade 3 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2019</p>



4th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts	<p>Mosdos Press Literature, Ruby Published by Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, ©2009</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 4 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2006</p> <p>Spelling Connections, Level 5 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc., ©2012</p> <p>Easy Grammar: Grade 4 Published by Easy Grammar Systems ©2006</p> <p>Zaner-Bloser Handwriting, Level 4 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc. ©2020</p> <p>Class Books Read Aloud Include: Frindle by Andrew Clements Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brian Red Sails to Capri by Ann Weil</p> <p>Novel Studies: The Horse and His Boy by C.S. Lewis Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math Intermediate 4 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company ©2012</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 4 3rd Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2019</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 4 3rd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2024</p>
Bible	<p>Elementary Bible, Grade 4 2nd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2018</p>



5th Grade Curriculum



Language Arts	<p>Mosdos Press Literature, Coral Published by Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, ©2009</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source Grade 5 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2006</p> <p>Spelling Connections, Level 6 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc., ©2012</p> <p>Easy Grammar: Grade 5 Published by Easy Grammar Systems ©2006</p> <p>Zaner-Bloser Handwriting, Level 5 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc. ©2012</p> <p>Class Books Read Aloud Include: The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke Bud, not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis</p> <p>Novel Studies: Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare Number the Stars by Lois Lowry The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math 6/5 Published by Saxon Publisher's Inc. and Stephen Hake ©2004</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 5 4th Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2016</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 5, Changes 2nd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2014</p>
Bible	<p>Elementary Bible, Grade 5 2nd Edition, Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2018</p>



6th Grade Curriculum



Language Arts	<p>Mosdos Press Literature, Coral Published by Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, ©2003</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 6 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2012</p> <p>Spelling Connections, A Spelling & Vocabulary Program, Level 7 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc., ©2012</p> <p>Zaner-Bloser Handwriting, Level 6 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc. ©2020</p> <p>Novel Studies: The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman Eric Liddell: Finish the Race by John W. Keddie Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes The Dawn Treader by C.S. Lewis</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math Course 1 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt & Stephen Hake ©2012</p>
Social Studies	<p>Heritage Studies 6 4th Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2018</p>
Science	<p>Purposeful Design Science, Level 6, Choices 2nd Edition, Published by ACSI Purposeful Design Publications, ©2014</p>
Bible	<p>Basics for a Biblical Worldview Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Publications, ©2021</p>



7th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts	<p>Mosdos Press Literature, Jade Published by Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, ©2003</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 8 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2012</p> <p>Spelling Connections, A Spelling and Vocabulary Program, Level 8 Published by Zaner-Bloser, Inc., ©2012</p> <p>Easy Grammar: Plus Published by Easy Grammar Systems ©2007</p> <p>Novel Studies: The Silver Chair by C.S. Lewis The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom Night by Ellie Wiesel Watership Down by Richard Adams</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math Course 2 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt & Stephen Hake ©2012</p>
Social Studies	<p>World Studies 5th Edition, Published by BJU Press, ©2023</p>
Science	<p>Earth and Space Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2017</p> <p>Life Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2016</p> <p>Physical Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2018</p>
Bible	<p>To the Ends of the Earth: The Bible and Early Expansions of the Church Published by ACSI Purposeful Designs ©2002</p> <p>The Life of Christ Published by Positive Action for Christ ©2011</p>



8th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts	<p>Mosdos Press Literature, Gold Published by Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, ©2003</p> <p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Write Source, Grade 8 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, ©2012</p> <p>Easy Grammar: Plus Published by Easy Grammar Systems ©2007</p> <p>Novel Studies: The Last Battle by C.S. Lewis The Pearl by John Steinbeck The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt</p>
Math	<p>Saxon Math Course 3 Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt & Stephen Hake ©2007</p> <p>Saxon Algebra 1 3rd Edition, Published by Saxon Publishers, Inc. ©1997</p>
Social Studies	<p>American Republic 5th Edition, Published by BJU Press ©2022</p>
Science	<p>Earth and Space Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2017</p> <p>Life Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2016</p> <p>Physical Science Published by ACSI/Purposeful Design Press, ©2018</p>
Bible	<p>To the Ends of the Earth: The Bible and Early Expansions of the Church Published by ACSI Purposeful Designs ©2002</p> <p>The Life of Christ Published by Positive Action for Christ ©2011</p>