

# NorthCreek Academy

## Fourth Grade

### **Bible**

As we seek to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in our knowledge of Him, we dig into Scripture to see what God has to say. We study the life of Christ in the Gospels and learn about the Holy Spirit in the Gospels, Acts, and the Epistles. We end the year learning about the life of Paul and his missionary journeys through studying his Epistles and the book of Acts. Each week we hide God's Word in our hearts by memorizing and reciting scripture, which helps us walk in a manner that brings God glory.

### **Language Arts**

Developing writing skills is a key component of our Language Arts program. A major focus in fourth grade is that of researching, note-taking using key word outlines, forming paragraphs with topic sentences, supporting details, and clinchers, and composing an essay about a California Mission. We also do creative writing including Native American myths, first person narratives, and poetry! For each writing assignment, students are expected to apply the grammar, sentence structure, and mechanics of writing that they learn through the Shurley English program and publish final drafts in cursive. We continue to develop reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary using our literature anthologies and spelling curriculum. Students are exposed to a variety of genres (biography, fantasy, historical fiction, realistic fiction, mystery, and more) through our monthly book reports. We also read several core literature novels in class which correspond to our history curriculum. These novels include: *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, *Little House in the Big Woods*, *By the Great Horn Spoon!*, *Patty Reed's Doll*, and *Sarah, Plain and Tall*.

### **History/Social Studies**

In Social Studies, we explore and discover the state of California as well as learn how it fits into the big picture of the United States. As we learn more about California's history and geography we are better able to understand the state that we live in, how it came to be a part of the United States, and how it continues to grow today. In addition, we get to see some of the sights for ourselves as we travel to John Muir's Martinez Home and Muir Woods, Mission San Francisco de Solano, Old Sacramento and the Railroad Museum, Sutter's Fort and the Capitol, and Columbia State Historic Park!

### **Math**

Fourth grade math is a time to pull together the basics we have already learned and build on this foundation. Over the course of the year, we master our multiplication facts, tackle double-digit multiplication, and become experts in long division! Students also acquire many problem solving strategies such as making tables/lists, using logical reasoning, working backward, using diagrams and graphs, finding patterns, and more. In addition, we begin to work with geometry, decimals, fractions, and yes, even algebra, and we learn why these skills are important.

### **Science**

Fourth grade science is a time of investigation and discovery. Students conduct hands-on experiments, making predictions and observations, and thinking critically about the way the world around us works. This helps us to learn about our amazing God, our Creator, as we see His order, logic, and creativity in our units on Solid Earth, Magnetism and Electricity, and Environments.