



7th Grade

Bible

Our prayer is that Bible at NorthCreek Academy is an important and formative time for each Junior High student. Dividing the boys and girls into separate classes and lowering the number in each class means that focused attention can be given to the study, application, and understanding of God's word. All Junior High Bible classes use a curriculum from *Positive Action for Christ*. Seventh grade uses the *Route 66* curriculum, which presents a survey of the 66 books of the Holy Bible. In seventh grade, students turn their attention to the New Testament. With the same journaling Bibles that they started with in sixth grade, students "travel" through the Gospels to Paul's Letters, and beyond. With the goal of examining the character and attributes of God and Jesus, students memorize scripture, complete projects, and present findings, all while they focus on their understanding of the faith.

Language Arts

As they continue in the Dialectic Stage of the classical model of education, students' critical thinking skills and higher-level reasoning are honed through writing analyses, evaluations, and responses to the various themes and elements of the seventh-grade core literature which includes a *Short Story Collection* by *Classic Authors*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Hind's Feet on High Places* by Hurnard, and *Macbeth* by Shakespeare. Independent reading from the Junior High Classics Reading List is completed, along with free reading. Students are involved in a variety of writing experiences addressing different topics and writing styles including persuasive, argumentative, expository and creative. As part of their 7th grade studies, students continue extending grammar skills and enhancing vocabulary in *Vocabulary Workshop Level B* by Sadlier-Oxford, as these comprehensive curriculums will equip them for high school, and beyond.

History/Social Studies

Students explore God's unfolding narrative as it spans from Rome's downfall to 18th century Europe. Through a combination of reading material, ethnic food days, museum trips, and films, students enjoy vicarious visits to almost every continent. In the midst of these delights, we must also taste some bitterness, as we learn what happens when God's image-bearers, created for eternity, instead live under the curse of sin and mortality. History is littered with conflicts, oppression, and war. Ultimately, however, through our study of empires and civilizations, students will see the pre-eminence of God's grace, and will behold in different cultures, the progression of the eclectic expression of all that which was seeded in Adam and Eve.

Math

In seventh grade math, we continue to solidify basic arithmetic skills including working with integers, ratios, proportions, fractions, decimals and percents. We also spend some time in the geometry world, learning about angles, polygons and circles and finding the perimeter, area, surface area and volume of two- and three- dimensional figures. We also expand our knowledge of algebra by solving equations, as well as applying those concepts and skills to problem solving situations.

Science

Each year in Junior High Science, students start by exploring the scriptural foundation of Creation, cementing the knowledge that God created the earth and is in complete control of His creation. In seventh grade, Science comes to life as they delve into the various areas of Life Science such as cells, heredity, plants, animals, human body systems and so much more. Students have opportunities to improve their critical thinking skills, participate in hands-on labs such as dissections and model creation, and grow from cooperative learning opportunities.

Seventh-grade students have the opportunity to utilize the equipped science laboratory in which they attend class. The Scientific Method is once again highlighted as students put their research, writing, data gathering, and presentation skills to the test as they successfully navigate an individual science project and the NorthCreek Academy's Science Fair.

Logic

Informal logic is another way seventh graders work on their thinking skills. Studying logic is a vital component of the Dialectic Stage of the classical model of education, providing students with an opportunity to learn the rules by which we reason. This also builds on their abilities to discern truth from error and gives them tools to be able to defend their faith. We learn about 28 separate fallacies— bad arguments— giving us insight into how one should not defend a position. Students discuss these in class and create a booklet defining and illustrating each of these common fallacies. Studying logic helps students to sharpen their own reasoning skills and to be more discerning when reading or listening to arguments and opinions that surround them

via the media and the people in their lives.

Health

Health is an area that allows students to learn about their God-given bodies. Students are encouraged to develop a personal fitness plan and how to set goals for themselves. 7th grade life science includes learning about the human body's skeletal & muscular systems, circulation & respiration, & nervous system. As part of our health education, we also teach grade level, gender-centric workshops on sexual education. This program is designed so that, while these topics are being covered with students, a separate parent class is offered for moms and dads to be informed of what will be shared. It is our heartfelt desire that parents take an active role in their student's learning in this God-designed area, as well as in answering questions at home and continuing to talk more in-depth about these important topics. As it is our desire to cultivate our students' hearts and minds in Christ, we also include drug and alcohol awareness, and internet safety for our seventh-grade students.