

# FREEDOM PROJECT ACADEMY SYLLABUS

## Course: Fifth Grade

### Course Description

Freedom Project Academy offers a rigorous classical education to students of all ages. The fifth-grade experience is a transitional year focused on assisting your student in making the change from elementary to middle school. Using Saxon Math 65 for Arithmetic, teachers challenge and support students with fundamental mathematical concepts. After completing Rod and Staff's English 5, your student will be confidently diagramming sentences, able to define parts of speech and use words properly within the English language. Writing skills are honed using a combination of Rod and Staff curriculum and IEW's (The Institute for Excellence in Writing) outline-rewrite concepts. Our focus on classical literature exposes students to historically accurate novels that trigger the imagination and build impressive vocabularies. Apologia's Anatomy and Physiology course explores the amazing wonders of the human body and the manifestation of God's awesome creation. Reading "The Story of the Thirteen Colonies and the Great Republic" our students will explore a detailed account of United States History through the 1800's with a concentration on founding documents and our Constitution. Included in this course is a complete study of United States geography. Students will be expected to memorize all fifty states, capitals, and abbreviations. Latin, which enhances our grasp of English grammar and vocabulary, is an introduction to the language's structure. It is an appropriate beginning point. We continue to explore language with Rod and Staff's Spelling program that systematically teaches vowel and consonant rules through syllables as they apply to complete words. Appropriately completing our program is the Reason for Handwriting manuscript instruction and practice course. Our fifth-grade team works diligently to ensure that your student is adequately prepared for higher education.

### Topics of Study

#### Arithmetic:

**Text:** *Saxon 6/5 First Edition*

**Scope:** Review of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and number sense. Continued learning with multiplication, division, addition/subtraction/multiplication/division of fractions and decimals, measurement, geometry basics, word problems, averaging, percentage, time and rounding.

**Skills Development:** Students will gain confidence with a thorough review of previous mathematical concepts. As they continue to build on fundamental arithmetic, they will be taught a complete approach to fractions and decimals. Daily lessons in the classroom and problem sets completed as homework help reinforce these learning concepts.

## **Reading:**

**Texts Novels:** *Adam of the Road, The Door in the Wall, Caddie Woodlawn, Rolf and the Viking Bow.* Poetry and short story selections will be provided by the instructor.

**Scope:** word study, composition, vocabulary, discussion questions, sequencing, literary terms, comprehension

**Skills Development:** Students are asked to read slightly above their comfort level to develop into superior readers. Literature study guides train students to become active readers. Our guides focus on vocabulary, comprehension, and composition skills. Each lesson includes a word study to help students build vocabulary. The comprehension questions challenge students to consider what they have read, identify the important content of each story, and compose clear, concise answers (a difficult skill at any age). Using our study of Literary Analysis, students are introduced to setting and its importance to its story, plot, conflict, character development critiques, and theme. Because of their clarity, children's stories provide the best opportunities for learning these elements. Discussion of these elements as a class enable students to recognize components of literature even on their own. Literary Analysis skills and terminology are then applied to our novels providing a continual learning regime.

## **English:**

**Text:** *Following the Plan (Rod and Staff Publishers, Inc.)*

**Scope:** The text focuses on understanding sentence types and structure. Students will learn parts of speech in detail including nouns (concrete and abstract), verbs, pronouns (nominative, objective and possessive), adjectives, adverbs, prepositions (and their objects), articles, and conjunctions. Emphasis is given to punctuation and proper use of the English language. Diagramming sentences is practiced throughout the course as students learn proper sentence structure and parts of speech. Dictionary skills, synonyms, antonyms, Bible reference books, hyphens, and colon usage are also covered in this course. Continual review is practiced throughout the year.

**Skills Development:** Students will have practice in parts of speech, sentence diagramming, word usage skills, and the introduction of grammar concepts, and the study of poetry and memorization.

**Writing:** Institute of Excellence in Writing: Teacher Directed. Students will learn strategies taught in a clear manner that quickly improve writing skills using a repertoire of writing techniques that will be used across the curriculum. They will learn outlining skills that assist in creating well organized, cohesive paragraphs.

## **Spelling:**

**Text:** *Spelling by Sound and Structure (Rod and Staff Publishers, Inc.)*

**Scope:** syllable and sound review, phonics-based lists

**Skills Development:** Students will combine spelling with phonics practice as they build important spelling skills.

## **Handwriting:**

**Text:** *A Reason for Handwriting*

**Scope:** size, spacing, alignment, and shape of alphabet letters

**Skills Development:** Students will practice proper letter formation while writing verses from Scripture. Prior proper letter formation is assumed in this text book, but may be practiced simultaneously.

## **US History and Geography**

**Texts:** *The Story of the Thirteen Colonies and the Great Republic*

**Scope:** Introduction to United States History with a concentration on the Constitution, memorization of state locations, capitals, and geographical vocabulary.

**Skills Development:** Students will study a detailed overview of the history of the United States beginning with exploration and continuing through the Spanish-American War. We will spend a significant amount of time focused on the Constitution and the importance of this document in our lives. Geography study will include state locations and capitals, learning major rivers, borders of our country, landform regions, vocabulary and map work.

## **Science:**

**Text:** *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology (Apologia Science)*

**Scope:** Study of the human body includes history of anatomy and physiology, explores the eleven organ systems, includes a study of nutrition, the senses and growth and development.

**Skills Development:** Students will begin to learn about the wonders of the human body with a creation viewpoint through instruction and hands-on experiments. They will learn to explain and illustrate different scientific terms. They will practice using the Scientific Method and complete lab reports.

## **Latin:**

**Text:** *Latina Christiana Book 1 (An Introduction to First Form Latin – Memoria Press)*

**Scope:** Latin vocabulary, nouns in the first, second and third declensions, first conjugation verbs in present, imperfect and future tenses, second conjugation verbs in present, imperfect and future tenses.

**Skills:** Students will practice translating, conversation, learn common sayings, derivatives, songs and prayers. Weekly assignments and tests will assist in helping to build solid skills and retain learning concepts.

## **Class Expectations:**

### **Attendance/Participation:**

Students are expected to attend class Monday-Thursday. They are expected to participate and engage during class time. Please notify the teacher in advance (if possible) if any classes will be missed.

### **Assignment Sheets:**

Assignment Sheets will be posted by the Friday prior to the start of the week the assignments outline. They will include all assignments (Monday-Thursday) that need to be done for each subject for that week. Assignments in black can be done at home and checked by a parent.

Assignments in red need to be scanned and uploaded into Canvas. They may not be emailed to the teacher. Reading Checks appear in red text and are highlighted. Those will close the day they appear on the assignment sheet but are opened the Friday prior to the week they are due.

### **Grades:**

All assignments turned into Canvas will be graded by instructors within one week of the due date.

### **Due Dates:**

All assignments for the week are due on Friday, and close Friday. Turning assignments in daily works best.