

Subject Religion

Grade 8

Purpose: To invite students to discipleship and to a relationship with God via an age-appropriate catechesis guided by biblical faith, church teaching and Gospel values, while providing an understanding of the history of our Church.

Outcomes (Grouped by themes):

1. Doctrine

The Students will:

1. Understand the development of the Magisterium and the role of the Pope as the Apostolic successor
2. Develop a belief in the Trinitarian foundation of the Church (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
3. Recognize the Church's four marks and its Apostolic mission within the Creed
4. Learn about the early schisms of the Eastern and Western Churches
5. Learn about the Protestant Reformation and the effects of division
6. Understand that Jesus Christ brings salvation to everyone
7. Understand and explore the challenges of the Church's mission in spreading the Good News
8. Recognize Christ as God's revelation through the mystery of the Incarnation

2. Scripture

The Students will:

3. Morality

The Students will:

4. Prayer and Worship

Prayer

The Students will:

1. Understand that there are many ways we can express our faith and show God's love to others
2. Reflect upon unity and differences in our everyday lives, the world at large and our Church
3. Study how sacramentals are a means of leading us into prayer

4. Realize that as witnesses to Christ we are called to use our prayer as a way to imitate Christ and live out our mission as Catholics
5. Develop a recognition of what the needs of the world and the Church are and bring them to God through prayer
6. Study the mysteries of the rosary and the power of praying the rosary
7. Create an awareness of the reverence of the Eucharist through the practice of First Friday Adoration

Worship

The Students will:

1. Recognize the presence of Christ in the sacramental life of the Church
2. Learn about the Church's liturgy and recognize the Eucharist as the central act of worship
3. Understand the Church as the Body of Christ
4. Appreciate the sacrament of Reconciliation and its healing power
5. Understand the Mass as an integral part of our lives as Catholics

5. Christian life and Social Justice

The Students will:

1. Look at conflict within the Church's history and study ways these disagreements were solved
2. Respond to the conflicts within our own lives and explore ways we can resolve them
3. Offer ways we are called as Catholics to respond to the common good of all
4. Follow the challenges of natural law and address ways to be obedient to God in our modern society
5. Explore ways we can be open and respectful to all
6. Consider our responses to injustices and moral dilemmas within our society and how we can incorporate the corporal works of mercy into our own actions

Teaching Strategies

1. Text lessons
2. Journal writing
3. Dramatic presentations
4. Oral discussions
5. Group work
6. Videos

Assessments

1. Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Writing essays
4. End of the year prayer projects

5. Informal assessment and daily observations of student interactions
6. Saint Reports

Time on Task (per week): 225 minutes

Resources

1. Textbook: Blest Are We, Silver Burdett Ginn, 2005
2. Liturgical Music
3. Guided Meditations for Children, Brown Publishing
4. Living Word/Living Water – Sunday’s readings (23rd Publications)
5. The New American Bible, World Bible Publishers
6. Masses and Eucharistic Adoration
7. *People of Faith Collection* – illustrated cards
8. *Saints Kit*, Loyola
9. Internet access

Purpose: To facilitate in students a process approach to learning by equipping them with correct skills and tools to discover the facts and concepts about physical science.

Outcomes (Grouped by Themes):

1. Life

The Students will:

2. Earth

The Students will:

3. Physical

The Students will:

1. Illustrate the properties and changes of properties in matter
2. Describe chemical reactions
3. Demonstrate motion and forces
4. Express the transfer of energy
5. Connect science and technology

4. Health

The Students will:

Teaching Strategies

1. Large group instruction
2. Small group work
3. Cooperative learning
4. Problem solving
5. Inquiry based hands on activities

Assessments

1. Question and answer
2. Quizzes and tests
3. Written assignments
4. Short term and long term assignments

5. Chapter outlines
6. Projects, laboratory investigations and science fair projects

Time on Task (per week): 225 minutes

Resources

1. Text and ancillary materials
2. Transparencies
3. Charts and posters
4. Laboratory materials and equipment
5. Diocesan curriculum guidelines
6. Massachusetts state guidelines
7. Internet access
8. VHS and DVD programs

Purpose: Through the skills inherent in geography and history, inculcate in students that the future is a refining of experiences of both the past and the present. The students will focus on the study of the United States from the year 1860 to the present.

Outcomes (Grouped by Themes):

1. History

The Students will:

1. Describe how the railroad companies expanded westward to meet the East's needs for western resources
2. Trace the decline of the Native Americans' way of life
3. Examine the harsh life of both the cowboy and the homesteaders
4. Find out what events led to World War I and how the United States became involved
5. Identify the plight of immigrants
6. Trace how the Treaty of Versailles punished Germany and how it led to Nazism
7. Describe the causes and effects of the Dust Bowl
8. Describe how the Cold War ended
9. Explore the United States' involvement in the Middle East
10. Summarize the roots and direction of terrorism

2. Government/Civics

The Students will:

1. Identify the political and business reforms of Presidents Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson
2. Describe how women got the right to vote
3. Explain the efforts of minorities to fight discrimination
4. Break down The New Deal into positive and negative effects
5. Analyze why the atomic bomb was used
6. Follow the dictatorships in Japan, Italy, Germany and the Soviet Union before and after World War II
7. Cite how communism led to the Cold War

3. Geography

The Students will:

1. Identify the kinds of information detailed in any map
2. Record the expansion of U.S. territories across the globe
3. Locate the areas of the Dust Bowl on a map
4. Locate the Korean Peninsula on a map
5. Locate Vietnam on a map

4. Economics

The Students will:

1. Identify inventions which changed the way Americans lived
2. Summarize the interactions of Big Business and Organized Labor
3. Determine the impact of World War I on our economy
4. Describe the causes and effects of the industrial boom that occurred in the 1920's
5. Connect the boom of the 1920's to the causes of the Great Depression of the 1930's
6. Trace how America converted its economy to meet wartime needs
7. Explain how the Cold War affected American life
8. Cite the goals of the environmental movement

5. Communities

The Students will:

1. Follow the emergence and acceptance of minorities in various fields of American culture
2. Describe how the Vietnam War divided Americans at home

6. World Cultures

The Students will:

1. Discover the impact of the Cold War on emerging countries in Africa and Asia
2. Explore the role of the United States in the global economy

Teaching Strategies

1. Question and answer
2. Note taking
3. Audio/visual aides
4. Maps/posters
5. Small group work
6. Interpreting transparencies

Assessments

1. Written work
2. Chapter review
3. Quizzes and tests
4. Project presentations
5. End of chapter work
6. Maps

Time on Task (per week): 225 minutes

Resources

1. Textbook: America, A History of Our Nation, Pearson Education, 2007
2. Transparencies
3. Worksheets
4. Video cassettes
5. Current periodicals
6. Television productions

Subject Pre-Algebra

Grade 7 and 8

Purpose: Students will gain a preliminary foundation of algebra including but not limited to solving equations, solving inequalities, solving functions, graphing linear equations and graphing inequalities.

Outcomes (Grouped by Themes):

1. Numeration

The Students will:

1. Determine if an expressions is a monomial
2. Evaluate expressions with powers and exponents (including an introduction to square roots)
3. Prime factor monomials
4. Find the greatest common factor of monomials
5. Express negative exponents as division of a positive exponents
6. Recognize rational numbers
7. Express large numbers using scientific notation

2. Computation

The Students will:

1. Review the order of operations
2. Evaluate expressions that include absolute value
3. Add and subtract integers including subtracting negative integers
4. Multiply and divide integers
5. Add, subtract, multiply and divide monomials
6. Complete operations with rational numbers (i.e. positive and negative fractions and decimals)

3. Problem Solving

The Students will:

1. Solve problems by finding patterns
2. Solve problems using the process of elimination
3. Solve problems using diagrams, particularly tree diagrams
4. Solve problems using logical reasoning
5. Solve problems by working backwards
6. Solve problems by drawing a graph
7. Solve problems by making a table

4. Measurement

The Students will:

- Review conversions in the metric system

5. Time and Money

The Students will:

6. Tables and Graphs

The Students will:

- Gather, record and interpret data in various kinds of graphs including but not limited to line plots, scatter plots

7. Ratio, Statistics, Probability and Percents

The Students will:

1. Find measures of central tendency including mean, median, mode and range
2. Express rates as unit rates
3. Find simple probability and express it as a fraction, decimal, percent and with words
4. Solve proportions by using cross products
5. Solve percent proportions
6. Solve percent equations
7. Find percent of change

8. Algebra and Patterns

The Students will:

1. Learn what variables and constants are and how they are used
2. Write algebraic expressions
3. Identify and use the following properties: commutative, associative, distributive, identity and multiplicative inverse
4. Solve for constants in equations and inequalities mentally and using inverse operations, including equations with decimals and fractions
5. Review graphing ordered pairs and use the coordinate system
6. Solve inequalities and graph answers on the number line
7. Understand the purpose of formulas, use formulas and be able to derive their own formulas
8. Apply equations and inequalities
9. Recognize and complete arithmetic and geometric sequences
10. Solve two-step and multi-step equations and inequalities

11. Write two-step equations and inequalities
12. Solve equations and inequalities with constants on both sides
13. Identify domain, range and if sets of ordered pairs are functions (including using the vertical line test)
14. Graph linear relations
15. Solve functional equations
16. Find the slope of a line (a drawn line or with given coordinates)
17. Graph a line using intercepts
18. Graph systems of equation
19. Graph inequalities

9. Geometry

The Students will:

1. Use the formulas for perimeter and area
2. Find the circumference of a circle

Teaching Strategies

1. Use of portfolios to include all handouts given by teacher, notes, reflections, homework, vocabulary and tests and quizzes
2. Use of wait time when asking questions
3. Discovery based methods (students make conclusions based upon what they see happening through patterns, etc)
4. Students create formulas as “shortcuts” when learning different topics with the help of the teacher (with the goal being coming to the mathematical formula)
5. Students create steps for different processes
6. Overhead projector used for word problems and other worksheets
7. Students write reflections based upon their understanding of the material they just learned
8. Students keep a vocabulary section in which they write definitions in their own words
9. Use of manipulatives, such as counters, when introduced to new topics
10. Use of calculators for purpose of checking work only
11. Written projects in which students explore mathematics in the real world (i.e. newspaper project, math in the real world, etc)

Assessments

1. Opportunities for questions
2. Reflections in which students ask questions and think about how well they understand the topic
3. Mental math problems at the beginning of class
4. Practice problems after learning a topic
5. Participation level
6. Body language of students
7. Circulation around classroom to check students’ notes and work

8. Homework checks
9. Quarterly portfolio checks
10. Weekly quizzes and pop quizzes
11. Mid-chapter and end of chapter tests

Time on Task (per week): 270 minutes

Resources

1. Textbook: Pre-Algebra: An Integrated Transition to Algebra and Geometry, Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 1999
2. Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and other links from www.doe.mass.edu (Department of Education of Massachusetts)
3. Principles and Standards for School Mathematics, The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc., 2000
4. Curriculum Guidelines for Mathematics Teaching and Learning, Diocese of Worcester, MA., 2001
5. Bridges to Classroom Mathematics, COMAP, 1999
6. Selected Issues in Mathematics Education, McCutchan, 1980
7. Teaching Mathematics Vocabulary in Context, Miki Murray, 2004

Subject Algebra I

Grade 8

Purpose: Students will gain an understanding of Algebra I topics, focusing on solving equations and inequalities, graphing linear equations, quadratics and polynomials.

Outcomes (Grouped by Themes):

1. Numeration

The Students will:

- Recognize rational numbers

2. Computation

The Students will:

1. Review the order of operations
2. Perform operations with rational numbers
3. Find positive and negative square roots of numbers
4. Review solving equations using inverse operations

3. Problem Solving

The Students will:

1. Solve problems by writing an expression or creating a formula
2. Solve problems of compound events by drawing tree diagrams

4. Measurement

The Students will:

5. Time and Money

The Students will:

6. Tables and Graphs

The Students will:

1. Read and create stem-and-leaf plots
2. Read and create line plots
3. Find different measures of central tendency in various kinds of charts
4. Find measures of variation particularly to create box-and-whisker plots
5. Read scatter plot to identify correlations

7. Ratio, Statistics and Probability

The Students will:

1. Review percents and how to find them
2. Review percent of change
3. Identify the difference between probability and odds and be able to find each

8. Algebra and Patterns

The Students will:

1. Write expressions using variables and constants
2. Continue patterns and sequences
3. Recognize and use various properties including: additive identity, multiplicative identity, multiplicative property of zero, multiplicative inverse, reflexive, symmetric, transitive, substitution, commutative, associative, and distributive
4. Translate events into graphs based upon the relationship of the events
5. Write and graph equations in standard form, point-slope form, and y-intercept form
6. Write linear equations from patterns
7. Graph parallel and perpendicular lines when given information about the original line
8. Find the midpoint of a line segment
9. Review solving inequalities
10. Solve compound inequalities
11. Solve open sentences involving absolute value
12. Graph inequalities involving two variables
13. Solve systems of equations by graphing, substitution or elimination
14. Solve systems of inequalities
15. Multiply and divide monomials
16. Add and subtract polynomials
17. Multiply polynomials, including knowing special products
18. Factor using the distributive property
19. Factor trinomials
20. Factor the difference of two squares
21. Solve equations by factoring
22. Graph quadratic equations
23. Simplify radicals

9. Geometry

The Students will:

1. Find supplementary and complementary angles
2. Find missing angles in a triangle
3. Find measurements in similar triangles by using proportions
4. Use the Pythagorean theorem

Teaching Strategies

1. Use of portfolios to include all handouts given by teacher, notes, reflections, homework, vocabulary and tests and quizzes
2. Use of wait time when asking questions
3. Discovery based methods (students make conclusions based upon what they see happening through patterns, etc.)
4. Students create formulas as “shortcuts” when learning different topics with the help of the teacher (with the goal being coming to the mathematical formula)
5. Students create steps for different processes
6. Overhead projector used for word problems and other worksheets
7. Students write reflections based upon their understanding of the material they just learned
8. Students keep a vocabulary section in which they write definitions in their own words
9. Use of manipulatives, such as counters, when introduced to new topics
10. Use of calculators for purpose of checking work only
11. Written projects in which students explore mathematics in the real world (i.e. newspaper project, math in the real world, etc)
12. Experiments such as Barbie Bungee

Assessments

1. Opportunities for questions
2. Reflections in which students ask questions and think about how well they understand the topic
3. Mental math problems at the beginning of class
4. Practice problems after learning a topic
5. Participation level
6. Body language of students
7. Circulation around classroom to check students’ notes and work
8. Homework checks
9. Quarterly portfolio checks
10. Weekly quizzes and pop quizzes
11. Mid-chapter and end of chapter tests

Time on Task (per week): 270 minutes

Resources

1. Textbook: Algebra 1, Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 1998
2. Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and other links from www.doe.mass.edu (Department of Education of Massachusetts)
3. Principles and Standards for School Mathematics, The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Inc., 2000
4. Curriculum Guidelines for Mathematics Teaching and Learning, Diocese of Worcester, MA, 2001
5. Bridges to Classroom Mathematics, COMAP, 1999
6. Selected Issues in Mathematics Education, McCutchan, 1980
7. Teaching Mathematics Vocabulary in Context, Miki Murray, 2004.

Purpose: To provide an integrated language arts program incorporating skills within its framework: reading, writing, grammar usage, mechanics, spelling, vocabulary, critical thinking, speaking and listening.

Outcomes (Grouped by Themes):

1. Reading/Literature

The Students will:

1. Review the plot structure of various literary works
2. Review and build upon their previous study of characterization
3. Review the effect of internal and external conflict in a story
4. Review graphic organizers
5. Review drawing conclusions and making generalizations
6. Analyze the various genres and their purposes
7. Make connections amongst the different genres
8. Make inferences from a variety of reading selections
9. Analyze the author's position and critique ideas

2. Phonics

The Students will:

3. Spelling

The Students will:

1. Read spelling words in list form and context
2. Sort spelling words according to the number of syllables
3. Read and remember the week's spelling strategy
4. Write spelling words to match given definitions
5. Change compound word parts to write spelling words
6. Use the spelling dictionary to look up definitions and parts of speech
7. Recognize endings that may change the parts of speech of each word
8. Solve analogies using spelling words
9. Replace words in sentences with spelling words
10. Complete a paragraph using spelling words
11. Proofread editorials in the spelling text
12. Learn how to use a dictionary and thesaurus
13. Transfer spelling skills to students' writing and the writing process

4. Vocabulary

The Students will:

1. Attain the core idea of what each word means
2. Understand the parts of speech of different words
3. Use the pronunciation key to determine how the word is said
4. Use the pronunciation key to understand that words change pronunciation
5. Study the given synonyms and antonyms of words
6. Compare specific usages of key words and their synonyms and antonyms to better understand differences in connotation and denotation and different usages
7. Use the words in their given context in a literal or direct way
8. Understand that some words may change in number and tense depending on how they are used
9. Choose a word out of a pair that better completes a sentence
10. Develop the ability to use a word in a more figurative context
11. Give further usage for selected words
12. Derive meaning from context
13. Practice the type of vocabulary exercise found in standardized testing
14. Use vocabulary to write short essays or sentences
15. Read vocabulary words in the context of a brief passage
16. Determine the context of words used in a brief passage
17. Review and practice grammar and usage skills used on standardized tests
18. Become familiar with word-omission exercises
19. Be introduced to English words derived from Latin and Greek
20. Practice finding meaning by analyzing the parts of a word

5. English Grammar

The Students will:

1. Review all parts of speech
2. Learn how to differentiate the various parts of speech
3. Use the various parts of speech in everyday speaking and writing
4. Learn the proper syntax and creation of simple, compound, complex and compound-complex sentences
5. Recognize and use words in the progressive form of the indicative mood
6. Identify and use the emphatic forms of the indicative mood
7. Recognize verbs in the imperative and subjunctive moods
8. Identify verbals: participles, gerunds and infinitives and their different uses in sentences
9. Identify and use noun clauses as various parts of complex sentences
10. Identify, review and practice proper punctuation and capitalization

6. Writing

The Students will:

1. Use the writing process
2. Learn how to select a topic and build a paragraph
3. Learn how to write descriptive paragraphs
4. Learn how to write autobiographical and biographical sketches
5. Learn how to write narrative paragraphs
6. Learn how to write informative paragraphs
7. Review use of graphics organizers and outlining
8. Review using various sources for research
9. Practice choosing a topic and developing it into a thesis statement
10. Write a research paper and cite sources in a bibliography format
11. Learn about and practice using footnotes

7. Penmanship

The Students will:

Write letters clearly and correctly in cursive

8. Oral

The Students will:

1. Read aloud fluently and clearly
2. Memorize short pieces in various genres of literature and recite them with expression and gestures
3. Present first person narratives becoming the person each student researches
4. Learn how to positively critique fellow classmates to help encourage and enhance the speaking experience
5. Interpret and use information from lectures and oral discussions in class
6. Deliver various presentations from a variety of sources employing gestures and voice inflection
7. Practice pitch, enunciation and volume in an effective way that enhances the delivery of the topic

Teaching Strategies

Reading/Literature

1. Reading aloud
2. Dramatization
3. Silent reading
4. Group work
5. Seat work

Spelling

1. Group work
2. Word games
3. Spelling bees

Vocabulary

1. Group work
2. Educational games
3. Writing folders
4. Board drills
5. Seat work
6. Reading aloud
7. Dramatization

English/Writing

1. Text
2. Workbook practice
3. Board drill
4. Grammar games
5. Group work
6. Writing folders
7. Diagramming sentences

Assessments

Reading/Literature

1. Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Book reports
4. Oral Presentations
5. Projects
6. Worksheets

Spelling

1. Tests
2. Workbook
3. Writing samples

Vocabulary

1. Tests
2. Book units
3. Reviews

English/Writing

1. Collins writing folder
2. Tests
3. Quizzes
4. Homework
5. Workbook pages

Time on Task (per week): 450 minutes

Resources

Reading/Literature

1. Textbook: Prentice Hall Literature – Silver, 1996
2. Summer reading books
3. The Pigman's Legacy, Paul Zindel
4. School library
5. Internet

Spelling

Spelling Connections, Zaner Bloser, 2001

Vocabulary

Vocabulary Workshop, Sadlier Oxford, 2005

English/Writing

1. Textbook: Voyages in English, Loyola, 1999
2. *Voyages in English* workbook