



Third Grade at Westgate Christian Academy



Cultures Around the Globe

Summary

At the third grade level the students learn about a specific society in a particular time and place by studying the customs, arts, conveniences, and ideas formulated within it. As students study these cultures, they also explore their own family culture and learn about the many represented within their class.

Concept Statements

1. Cultures have distinct family and social structures.
2. People of a culture share in a set of beliefs about religion, values, and ideas.
3. People of a culture depend on language to remain distinctive, to express feeling, for fellowship, and to carry out their heritage.
4. The Gospel generates, transcends, and critiques culture.
5. People of a culture have behaviors dependent on their culture.
6. The culture of people impact how they view the world.
7. Cultural values are learned.

Thematic Units

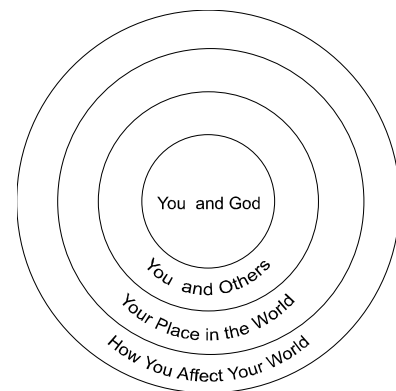
Thematic Units are organized around a particular theme. For the third grade this theme is “Cultures Around the Globe.” This theme is then infused into all the basic subjects such as reading and science with hands on exploration. This is based on the idea that children learn best in the context of the “whole,” and when they can connect subjects together with the real world. The culminating unit involves a project that links the units studied to the student’s life. In third grade, this unit is “My Culture.” The thematic units for third grade are:

Israel
India
China

Native Americans
Latin America – Ancient Cultures (Optional)
My Culture

The Big Picture

The curriculum can be translated into a visual model that looks like a target. In the center of the target is the child’s relationship with God which is the primary focus. As we move from the center, the child begins to understand how he or she relates to others, how he or she has a place in this world and finally how this world is affected by the child’s actions.



Subject	Curriculum	Projects/Units												
History	Cultures Around the Globe	Israel Native Americans India Latin America – Ancient Cultures China My Culture												
Geography	Developed within History	Identifying and naming countries/states, major mountain ranges and rivers in historical areas studied Drawing maps Projects surrounding geography of the area												
Bible	Developed within History	Worship in the Old Testament Jesus as the Messiah Ten Commandments Jesus as a Prophet Observances of Jewish holidays Jesus as a High Priest Tabernacle and Temple Worship Bible Stories of the lives and ministry of the Prophets												
Mathematics	Saxon 3	<i>Number Sense and Operations:</i> Includes writing numbers using words, rounding, place value, multiplication and division, and writing Roman numerals <i>Patterns, Relations, and Algebra:</i> Includes skip counting using fractions, order of operations, and using parentheses and exponents <i>Geometry:</i> Includes identifying angles, parts of a geometric solid, and naming triangles <i>Measurement:</i> Includes using a scale on a map and estimating temperature <i>Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability:</i> Includes graphing and creating own graph												
Reading	Individual Novel Units connected to History	Includes novels such as <i>The Hidden Jewel</i> and <i>Molly's Pilgrim</i> . Vocabulary and reading comprehension activities are also utilized during the study of the novels												
Writing	Writer's Express 4	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Personal Narrative</td> <td>Friendly Notes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Writing</td> <td>Paragraph Writing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book review</td> <td>Biographical or Descriptive Writing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poetry and Riddles</td> <td>Plays</td> </tr> <tr> <td>How-To Writing</td> <td>Summary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Realistic Stories</td> <td>Classroom Reports</td> </tr> </table> *Grammar is incorporated into the Writer's Express program	Personal Narrative	Friendly Notes	Business Writing	Paragraph Writing	Book review	Biographical or Descriptive Writing	Poetry and Riddles	Plays	How-To Writing	Summary	Realistic Stories	Classroom Reports
Personal Narrative	Friendly Notes													
Business Writing	Paragraph Writing													
Book review	Biographical or Descriptive Writing													
Poetry and Riddles	Plays													
How-To Writing	Summary													
Realistic Stories	Classroom Reports													
Spelling	Spellwell C and Cc	Units include review of: blends, syllables, and long and short vowel pairs												
Penmanship	Program chosen by teacher	Includes learning formation of letters in traditional cursive and applying to written words and sentences.												
Science	Real Science 3	<i>Life</i> - Organisms and Where They Live; Humans in the Ecosystem; Changes in the Environment <i>Earth</i> - Earth and Space; Earth and Its Many Layers; Earth Beneath You <i>Physical</i> - How Matter Changes; Light; Simple Machines and How They Work; Electricity <i>Health</i> - Muscles and Bones Work Together; Personal and Community Health; Nutrition												