



The Oaks[®]
ACADEMY

True education.[®]

LOWER SCHOOL
curriculum overview

*“...They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord, for the display of His splendor.”
Isaiah 61:3*

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	HUMANITIES	BIBLE CHRONOLOGY
First Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continents • Thanksgiving feast • Christmas Around the World • Backstage theatre visit • Indianapolis Zoo • Scottish tea party • Farm visit • Timeline project 	Tour of the Seven Continents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folklore of the world • Landmarks and natural wonders • Wyeth, Rivera, Renoir, Picasso, African tribal masks, Katsushika Hokusai, McCubbin, Friedrich; • Benjamin Britten, world music • Geography and map skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tower of Babel: Origins of civilizations and culture • Esther • Nehemiah • Mark
Second Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-school Egyptian museum • The Children's Museum of Indianapolis: Egyptology • Joseph play • Passover seder • Conner Prairie (pioneer life) 	Ancient Israel and Egypt / Civil Rights Movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient inventions and technology • Civil rights biographies • Egyptian art, Ellis Wilson; Verdi, Mozart, spirituals, pioneer songs, freedom movement songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genesis: Patriarchs and matriarchs to Egyptian captivity • Exodus: Freedom • Joshua in the Promised Land
Third Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third grade Olympics • Indianapolis Museum of Art: Greek and Roman art • Greek Islands restaurant • State capitol 	Ancient Greece and Rome / Indiana State History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roman villa project • Trojan horse reenactment • Architectural tour of Indianapolis • Ancient art, pottery and architecture, Currier & Ives; Holst, Respighi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United and Divided Kingdoms: Saul, David, Solomon, Judah, Israel • Prophets and Exile: Daniel, Esther, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, II Chronicles (Sennacherib), Maccabees, Proverbs
Fourth Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Meinrad Archabbey overnight field trip • James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home • Medieval tournament of arms and fair • Conner Prairie (medieval guilds) 	Early Church and Medieval Times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathedral tour: Stained glass • Castle building project • Medieval, Byzantine and Renaissance art; Handel, von Bingen, Prokofiev 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John • Acts of the Apostles
Fifth Grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patriotic Speech Festival • Colonial Day and Thanksgiving feast • Shark dissection • Holcomb Observatory 	Early America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mesoamerican civilization • Explorers and pioneers • American Revolution • Founding documents • Westward expansion, Native Americans • Meso-American art and architecture, Rembrandt, Velazquez, Trumbull, Catlin; Bach, patriotic songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epistles of Paul: Romans to Philemon

LITERATURE	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATHEMATICS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmer Boy (<i>Ingalls Wilder</i>) Winnie the Pooh (<i>Milne</i>) The Pied Piper (<i>Browning</i>) Folk stories and international tales: Madeline, Babar, Arabian Nights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phonemic awareness Decoding and word recognition Sentence construction Sing, Spell, Read and Write curriculum Handwriting (ball and stick) Oral presentations Chapter book read alouds Victory Drill Book (reading fluency) Recitations: Short poems and Bible verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text: Saxon Math Understanding operations: Addition and subtraction Problem solving Numeration to 100 Fractions Basic geometric concepts Measurement Money
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little House in the Big Woods (<i>Ingalls Wilder</i>) The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (<i>Lewis</i>) Freedom Train (<i>Sterling</i>) The Courage of Sarah Noble (<i>Dagliesh</i>) I Have a Dream (<i>King</i>) Charlotte's Web (<i>White</i>) Sword of Egypt (<i>Williams</i>) Egyptian mythology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decoding and word recognition Types of sentences Paragraph development Printing Beginning cursive Thank you letters Sing, Spell, Read and Write curriculum Chapter book read alouds Recitations: Short poems and Bible verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text: Saxon Math Operations: Addition, subtraction, multiplication Numeration to 999 and place value Relationship of fractions to division Money and change Probability Order of operation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julius Caesar (<i>Shakespeare</i>) Black Ships Before Troy (<i>Sutcliff</i>) Greek Myths (<i>D'Aulaire</i>) Theras and His Town (<i>Snedeker</i>) Tales from the Big Thicket (<i>Brett</i>) The Bears of Blue River (<i>Major</i>) Paddle to the Sea (<i>Holling</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical writing: Fable Imitative stories Paragraph organization: Narrative Letter writing: Personal, persuasive, formal Spelling Workout curriculum Cursive writing Recitations: Longer poetry and Bible verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text: Saxon Math Operations: Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division Numeration to 999,999 and place value Decimals, fractions, percents, mixed numbers Units of length, capacity, temperature, time, weight Beginning algebra including variables Perimeter and area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romeo and Juliet (<i>Shakespeare</i>) The Horse and His Boy (<i>Lewis</i>) Cleopatra (<i>Stanley</i>) The Bronze Bow (<i>Speare</i>) Crispin and the Cross of Lead (<i>Avi</i>) Medieval Tales: King Arthur, Robin Hood, Lady Godiva; Saint stories and legends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical writing: Chreia and Proverb Letter writing: Personal, persuasive, formal Paragraph organization: Essay Spelling Workout curriculum Cursive writing Recitations: Longer poetry and Bible verses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text: Saxon Math All operations: Whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents Powers of whole numbers Numeration beyond one trillion and place value Beginning algebraic functions Data, graphs, estimation, probability Geometric shapes, angles, measurement Perimeter and area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MacBeth (<i>Shakespeare</i>) Mayan and Aztec mythology The Ocean of Truth (<i>MacPherson</i>) I, Juan de Pareja (<i>Trevino</i>) The Courtship of Miles Standish; Midnight Ride of Paul Revere (<i>Longfellow</i>) Johnny Tremain (<i>Forbes</i>) Declaration of Independence Legend of Sleepy Hollow (<i>Irving</i>) The Raven; The Tell-Tale Heart (<i>Poe</i>) Seaman (<i>Langer</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical writing: Refutation, confirmation, commonplace Persuasive and expository focus in writing Spelling Workout curriculum Recitations: Longer speeches, poetry, Bible excerpts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text: Saxon Math All operations: Whole numbers, fractions, decimals Powers of whole numbers, square roots Negative exponents Estimation Prime and composite numbers, integers Complex fractions Measurement and unit conversion Scale drawing and modeling Slope

SCIENCE	LATIN	ART
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather • Climate • Habitats, biomes, animals of the seven continents • Nature studies and field trips 	<p><i>No Latin</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting: Focal subject • Drawing: Shapes and form • Paper weaving • Recycled sculpture works
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deserts • Seasons: Wind and air • Overview of body systems • Rainforest and food chains • Machines • Nature studies and field trips 	<p><i>No Latin</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting: Waterscapes • Drawing: Crayon, pastel, inks, symmetry, increasing realism • Relief and 3D sculptures • Collage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grasslands • Mammals • Rocks and minerals • Sound and light • Nutrition • Nature studies and field trips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conjugate and decline • Vocabulary: Meanings, derivatives, spelling • 1st conjugation present tense • Present tense of “sum” (to be) • 1st declension • 2nd declension masculine • Case names • Agreement of subjects and verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting: Watercolor • Drawing: Mechanical, foreshortening, shading • Clay pots and sculptures • Mosaics • Rag weaving • Design patterns in ancient and modern cultures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands • Trees and leaves • Fungi • Amphibians • Thermal energy • Electricity • Caves and weathering • Circulatory system • Nature studies and field trips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary: Meanings, derivatives, spelling • 2nd declension neuter • Gender: Noun and adjective agreement • Present tense of “possum” (to be able) • 2nd conjugation present • 1st and 2nd conjugation future tense • 1st and 2nd imperfect tense • Personal pronouns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting: Color theory, composition, special techniques • Drawing: Ratio and proportion in portraiture • Relief sculpture • Clay works • Architectural features of cathedrals • Chinese calligraphy • Japanese sumie
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oceans and wetlands • Mass and volume • Magnetism, gravity, inertia • Astronomy and the solar system • Drugs, alcohol, the nervous system • Nature studies and field trips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translations in present tense • Direct objects (accusative case) • Case functions and basic translations • 2nd declension — er, ir, r words • Prepositions and prepositional phrases • Present, imperfect and future tense of “sum” (to be) • 3rd conjugation present and imperfect • 4th conjugation present and imperfect • Adverbs • 3rd declension male and female 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting: Experimental watercolor techniques • Drawing: Turning shape into form • Intro to grid drawing • Portraits, 3/4 view, realistic skin tones • 3D sculpture • Advanced weaving

LIBRARY	MUSIC	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folklore around the world • Care of books • Checking out and checking in • Author studies • Learning to read spine label 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beat: Steady beat in movement, rhymes and dances • Rhythm: Read, perform and notate rhythmic patterns — 1/4, 1/8 • Melody: Read and perform melodic patterns — mi, sol, la; Step and skip — do, re, mi • Harmony: Ostinato patterns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Physical Education (Pangrazi) • Life fitness • Motor skill development: Running, skipping, hopping, tumbling, throwing, kicking, striking • Tag, kick ball, mat ball • Teamwork
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using The Oaks Academy's online library catalog • Caldecott authors • Library sections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beat: Movement games and dances • Rhythm: Read, perform and notate rhythmic patterns — 1/4, 1/8, 1/2, rests • Melody: Pentatonic solfege notes — do, re, mi, so, la • Form: Differentiate principle instruments of the orchestra; Decode symbols of music scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Physical Education (Pangrazi) • Life fitness • Motor skill development: Running, skipping, hopping, tumbling, throwing, kicking, striking • Tag, kick ball, mat ball • Calisthenics and stretching • Gymnastics and badminton • Game strategy • Teamwork
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genres of literature • Using the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library's online catalog • Book talks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beat: Complex dance patterns • Rhythm: Perform whole note and rest — dotted 1/2, 1/8, 1/16 • Melody: Sing pentatonic songs on pitch — low sol, low la, high do, melodic percussion • Harmony: Partner songs and rounds; Canons in two parts; Play ostinati with skips, steps and leaps • Form: Differentiate secondary instruments; Decode symbols of music scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Physical Education (Pangrazi) • Life fitness • Motor skill development: Running, skipping, hopping, tumbling, throwing, kicking, striking • Dodge ball, soccer, tag, kick ball, mat ball • Calisthenics and stretching • Gymnastics, badminton, soccer • Game strategy • Teamwork
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning research • Citing sources • Dewey Decimal System • Reference materials • Book talks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beat: Square dance calls; Original movements to music • Rhythm: Perform dotted 1/4 and 1/8; Syncopation — 1/8, 1/4, 1/8 • Melody: Matching pitch in folk songs, fa and ti, whole steps and half steps • Harmony: Matching pitch and independent singing in canons, ostinati, partner songs, two-part singing • Form: Identify rhythmic and melodic motives; Decode symbols of music scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Physical Education (Pangrazi) • Life fitness • Motor skill development: Running, skipping, hopping, tumbling, throwing, kicking, striking • Dodge ball, tag, kick ball, mat ball • Calisthenics and stretching • Gymnastics, badminton, soccer, lacrosse • Health • Teamwork
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using online databases • Book talks • Citing sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music performances • Beat: Controlled and original movement to music; Conduct in 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 • Rhythm: Dotted 1/8 then 1/16 and reverse • Melody: Matching pitch for folk song repertoire • Harmony: Sing and play ostinati • Form: Instrument tone, size and shape; Flat, sharp, natural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dynamic Physical Education (Pangrazi) • Life fitness • Calisthenics and stretching • Gymnastics, badminton, soccer, lacrosse, basketball • Health • Teamwork

The Oaks Academy's classical education model is guided by four principles:

THE PRINCIPLE OF PERSONHOOD

...affirms that all people are created in the image of God. As such, every child is a whole person, unique and capable of the duty and delight of learning, and worthy of dignity, respect and high expectations as they grow and mature.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE UNITY OF KNOWLEDGE

...asserts that all knowledge is interconnected because God is its author. As relational beings, children are encouraged to form healthy relationships with persons, ideas, and the world.

THE PRINCIPLE OF IMITATION

...is an invitation for children to examine, emulate and extend the beautiful books and works of art set before them.

THE PRINCIPLE OF ACTIVE LEARNING

...asserts that children achieve best when they are actively engaged in the work of learning. Our goal is for students to form the habits of mind and heart necessary for lifelong success and maturity.



The Oaks Academy is a Christ-centered school that exists to provide a rich, classical education to children of diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, preparing them to succeed in a rigorous secondary educational program and to demonstrate spiritual, social and emotional maturity.