



Phoenix Christian

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY CURRICULA

Math

Phoenix Christian uses **Purposeful Design** Math curriculum. This Christian curriculum focuses on providing a strong mathematical foundation, while also integrating a Biblical worldview. Our aim is to give students the tools they need to have strong skills in math, while also engaging in critical thinking. Teachers engage students in hands-on and small group activities and foster space for students to apply their problem-solving skills to every day life.

Language Arts

Phoenix Christian uses **Benchmark Advance** as the primary Language Arts curriculum. [Benchmark Advance](#) is an engaging new comprehensive Language Arts program, which takes an integrated approach to phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, reading comprehension, reading fluency, writing, spelling, grammar, and handwriting. This rigorous program with high-quality texts has strong resources for differentiated instruction and responsive teaching based on ongoing assessments. It encourages working in small groups, integrates Social Studies and Science, and has the best strategies for engaging today's learners. There are many incredible resources through Benchmark that are provided to students, parents, and teachers. We are excited to partner with Benchmark and take our students to the next level with their literacy! Additionally, we will continue to have a Reading Specialist to partner with teachers and students to provide extra **Reading Interventions** to small groups of students who need extra support or to challenge gifted students.

Bible

The most important goal for all teachers at Phoenix Christian is to show students God's love and to point them towards understanding their worth in Christ. This is done through daily time in prayer, memorizing scripture, weekly chapel, and direct instruction. Students at Phoenix Christian use the **Purposeful Design** Bible curriculum daily. Students learn daily Bible Truths from the Old and New Testaments. These truths teach students stories from the Bible and help students apply God's word directly to their life by talking through practical examples. Teachers also integrate Bible Truths into all content areas.

Social Studies

Students at Phoenix Christian explore the past and present by integrating Social Studies standards into Language Arts instruction. Additionally, **Harcourt** Social Studies curriculum is used to aid this integration. This curriculum invites learners to tackle challenging questions about our global community, while providing teachers with the tools they need to meet new academic standards with limited class time.

S.T.E.M.

Phoenix Christian students study **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics** in multiple different contexts. Our primary Science curriculum is **McGraw Hill**, where students study God's world through the lens of Science. Teachers also integrate S.T.E.M. into other content areas and do special hands-on S.T.E.M. projects in the classroom. Additionally, Phoenix Christian Elementary students have a S.T.E.M. class once a week where they focus on special hands-on projects that challenge their problem-solving skills and engage their learning in fun and new ways.

Specials

At Phoenix Christian, we greatly value opportunity for students to spend time in Specials classes. These classes are extremely important for students. All specials teachers work with classroom teachers to help strengthen academic areas in ways that are unique to their specialty. Students have the following specials once a week:

Art, Choir, Music, Physical Education, and S.T.E.M.

Standards

At Phoenix Christian, we use the **ACT College and Career Readiness Standards**.

“These standards serve as a link between what students have learned and what they are ready to learn next. The Standards are also linked to college instruction. More than 40 years of research has shown that performance on the ACT is directly related to first-year college grade point average.” Teachers at Phoenix Christian are dedicated to producing students that have the necessary skills to succeed at a college level. This process begins at an early age! For this reason, all of our standards and instruction are tied to the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. Additionally, we monitor students' progress with these standards using the ACT Aspire Summative and Periodic Assessments in third grade through 10th grade. You can find more information about these standards and assessments here: <https://www.discoveractaspire.org/>

Additionally, we use the National Core Knowledge Mathematics Standards (K-2), AZ ELA Standards (K-2), National Core Art Standards (Fine Arts), National Shape America Standards (P.E.), McRel Standards (Social Studies), and Next Gen Standards (Science) in areas where the ACT Standards are not available or need additional supplementation.