



CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

BASIC BELIEFS CURRICULUM INSTRUCTIONS

A guide for teaching God's word

Grades 1-3

INTRODUCTION

Spiritual Standard: **EXPLORATION** – to investigate the beliefs of the Church.

The curriculum outlines an approach for teaching. It identifies Topics to uncover and Goals for learners and is based on the fullness of God's word as presented in the Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon.

These resources are provided as a starting point for lesson preparation. Seek inspiration from the Holy Spirit through prayer, fasting, reading, and meditating on God's word.

Thank you for accepting the responsibility and honor of teaching children in the way of the Lord.

The Church of Jesus Christ Education Committee

SAMPLE CURRICULUM MAP:

SPIRITUAL STANDARD: EXPLORATION

	LESSON FOCUS TOPICS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES/GOALS The student will be able to...	LESSONS (L) TASKS (T)	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS (EQ) REFERENCES (R)
HEAVENLY AUTHORITY	HOLY GHOST God's Power and Thoughts	Through guided discussion, Recognize that God reveals His thoughts and uses His power through the Holy Ghost, John 14:16,17,26, 1 Corinthians 2:9-16, 1 Nephi 10:17-19, 22, Moroni 10:4-7. Through guided discussion, Recognize various ways God reveals His thoughts and uses His power, 1 Corinthians 12:3-11, Moroni 10:8-18. Through song, Reflect on how we can learn of God thoughts through prayer.	L: Divine Revelation (Joseph's Dreams) T: Teacher shares Power of God experience published in The Gospel News, The Church of Jesus Christ, June 2020, Volume 76. No.5, "Blast From The Past" and/or teacher or students relate testimony of the manifestation of the Holy Spirit or invites a guest to class to relate a heavenly experience. T: Teacher gives students a paper cutout of a sword. Teacher asks students, "How can you use this sword for good?" After brainstorming ideas with students, students will choose which response to write on their sword. T: Songbook: Verse 3 and chorus of <i>The Songs of Zion</i> #103, "Take Some Time To Pray" and "Sweet, Sweet Spirit." (Gloria Gaither)	R: Manifestations of God's Gifts and Power through the Holy Ghost: - Teaching the Word of Wisdom and Knowledge - Having great Faith - Gift of Healing - Working mighty Miracles - Prophecy - Beholding Angels and ministering Spirits (visions) - All kinds of Tongues - Interpretation of Languages and Tongues EQ: By what means does God communicate to people? What does God use to cause someone to believe in Jesus, God's Son? What are some ways that God may reveal His will to people? Can you remember a time when you witnessed the Holy Spirit personally or heard of someone who experienced God communicating to them or using His power? How do you know/recognize the Holy Spirit? Why would we want to know God's thoughts? Why would we want to experience God's power? How can we know God's thoughts?

MAP KEY:

- 🔍 **SPIRITUAL STANDARD** - Describes how students will engage with the course
- 🔍 **FOCUS** – Topics/Concepts to be uncovered.
- 🔍 **LEARNING OBJECTIVES** – Goals for students to achieve. Scriptural references aid lesson preparation.
- 🔍 **LESSONS / TASKS** – Priesthood-approved lesson plans (L). Tasks (T): Ways students demonstrate understanding (Eg. games, projects, songs, etc.).
- 🔍 **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS / REFERENCES** – Discussion questions / Scriptural references and Church literature to aid lesson preparation.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

HOW DO I BEGIN?

Start with prayer, seeking inspiration from the Holy Spirit to identify what and how to present the lesson.

HOW DO I USE A CURRICULUM MAP?

Option 1: Select a topic from the “Lesson Focus” column. In the same row, look in the “Lesson” column for a link and open/download it. e.g. [L: Divine Revelation \(Joseph’s Dreams\)](#).

Option 2: Create an original lesson using the curriculum map as a guide:

- a. Select a topic from the “Lesson Focus” column, e.g. Holy Ghost.
- b. In the same row, select a Learning Objective/Goal, e.g. Through guided discussion, Recognize that God reveals His thoughts and uses His power through the Holy Ghost.
- c. Plan learning activities using suggestions from the “Task” column or come up with your own.
- d. Select discussion questions from the “Essential Questions” column that relate to the goal from step b., e.g. By what means does God communicate to people? What does God use to cause someone to believe in Jesus, God's Son? etc.
- e. Study related scriptural references and build the content of the lesson, e.g. John 14:16,17,26, 1 Corinthians 2:9-16, 1 Nephi 10:17-19, 22, Moroni 10:4-7.
- f. Plan to sequence the lesson in an engaging and meaningful manner. Keep in mind the standard of Exploration.

Sample sequence:

- Introduction (Gain Attention)
 - Assess Prior Knowledge
 - Present Content
 - Essential/Discussion Questions
 - Craft/Game/Song, etc.
- g. Create a realistic timeline.

HOW CAN I CREATE A SMOOTH TRANSITION FOR SUCCEEDING TEACHERS?

At the end of your teaching term, inform the next teacher of the lessons/topics taught and where to continue.

[LINK TO RESOURCES](#)

- **LESSONS** (Priesthood-approved lessons created by TCOJC Education Committee)
- **LESSON RESOURCES** (Assignments, Coloring pages, Slideshows, etc.)
- **LESSON SHARING** (Lessons created by members)
- **MEMBER'S GUIDE** (Instructional manual addressing various topics of belief)

Song lyrics (TASKS) can be found on the internet if a source is not identified.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THE CURRICULUM MAP

- **Face Paddles** - Draw or let students draw a smiling face and a frowning face on the front of two paper plates (one expression on each plate). Secure a tongue depressor to the backsides of the plates for a handle. Students use paddles to respond to questions or prompts.
- **Miracle Quilt** – Teacher collects students’ drawings throughout the year and posts the collection on a large wall as a “quilt”. (Ongoing project)
- **Poster-Based Discussion:** Teacher writes a term on a sheet of poster board, and asks students to define it. Teacher adds students’ responses to the poster board.
- **Scripture Cheer** - Teacher states the whole verse aloud while students listen. Then the teacher breaks verse into sections and has students repeat aloud after he/she states each section. Then the teacher and students repeat the whole verse together aloud. (Optional: add movement to cheers)
- **Songbooks** – Teacher prints lyrics or music of songs learned throughout the year and adds to students’ collections (binder/ notebook) as they are introduced. (Ongoing project)
- **Telephone Game** - Teacher whispers a message into one student’s ear. Then that student whispers what they heard into the ear of the person to their immediate right. Continue in like manner until the message is whispered into the ear of the last person. Teacher then asks the last person to say aloud what they heard. Then the teacher shares aloud the message that she whispered to the first person. Compare both messages. Most likely, the message will have changed.

CURRICULUM MAP SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

UNIT 1 - Heavenly Authority, Pages 1-4

Creator
Redeemer
Holy Ghost
Angels

UNIT 2 - Love, Kinship, Worship, Pages 5-6

God's Love
Love to God
Love of Parents and Children
Love to Others

UNIT 3 - Jesus Christ: Ministry and Salvation, Pages 7-9

Signs and Events of Birth
Early Life
Miracles
Ministry in Palestine
Signs and Events of Death and Resurrection

UNIT 4 - Structure and Ordinances of the Church, Pages 10-12

Spiritual Foundation
Anointing
Blessing Children
Baptism and Bestowal of Holy Ghost
Holy Communion and Feet Washing

UNIT 5 - Hope and Restoration, Pages 13-14

God's Word
God's Word - Restoring Plain and Precious Truths...
Zion

UNIT 6 - Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church, Pages 15-25

Abel and Cain
Noah
Tower of Babel and Jaredites
America
Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
Joseph
Moses
David
Jonah
Lehi
Daniel
Enos

King Benjamin
King Noah and Abinadi
Alma and Sons of Mosiah
Alma
Peter
Paul and Silas
Nephi and Lehi