

Subject perspectives in Christian Education

Teaching about God through the subject areas

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Language and literacy

Why do we teach language skills?

- To communicate who God is and what He has done.
- To communicate what He has done for me personally
- That I may introduce others to Him

What can students learn about God through this subject?

- Who God is
- What He has done in Creation
- Why he has done it

How do students develop their language skills?

- Expressing ideas
- Listening
- Responding

Art

Why do we teach art?

- Because God is a Creator and we who are created in God's image can also create
- Art is a means of communication and God can speak to others through art forms

What can students learn about God through this subject?

- We see God, the artist in Creation
- We see man as an artist
- We can gain an understanding of other cultures because the history of art reflects the spirit on a nation

How do student create through art?

- God's creativity in all individuals
- Observation of God's Creation
- Skill in use of medium

Music

Why do we teach music?

- God sings and rejoices, Zeph 3:17

- Man rejoices and praises God
- Others can be reached through music

What can students learn about the creation through this subject?

- God created sound
- Sound is made up of pitch, volume, rhythm and harmony

How can we use music to praise God?

- Wind instruments and voice
- Stringed instruments
- Percussion instruments
- Musical composition

Health and Physical Education

Why do we teach health and physical education?

- God created man in His own image
- He desires us to be completely healthy in body, soul and spirit
- That others may be made whole in body, soul and spirit
- That we may be fit to serve our King

What can students learn about God through this subject?

- Know God as Lord of one's total life: body, soul and spirit
- Know how to maintain personal fitness of body, spirit and soul as temples of the Holy Spirit
- Have a responsible attitude for health and safety, as God would desire of us

How do we develop a healthy body, mind and spirit?

- A personal walk with God
- Developing a knowledge of requirements for good health and maintaining disciplined personal habits
- A yielded will, healed emotions and renewed mind

Science

Why do we teach science?

- God created all things
- God gave man control over His creation. Man should control Creation in God's way.
- People must work together under God to obtain the best use of His creation

What do we learn about God through science?

- God created the world in six 24-hour days:
- We can study His creation through physical science, chemical science, life science, earth science and astronomy
- All science must be observable in the present. Therefore evolution is not science.

How do students learn about God through science?

- God gives understanding and revelation to the teacher and student.
- Students study and experiment *in* and *with* God's creation.
- Students can benefit from the experiences of others through research, but all research must be filtered through God's value system.

History

Why do we teach history?

- God is Lord of the past, present and future
- History is His story
- He desires that people rule their nations under Him

What do we learn about God through History?

- God's hand in history: His direct intervention in world events
- God's dealings in the lives of individuals who have been used in world events
- God's dealings with groups of people, interaction of tribes, nations and migrations

How do we learn history?

- As the Holy Spirit enlightens the minds of teachers and students
- As the principles in God's word are applied to world events
- Through research, filtered through God's value system

Geography

Why do we teach geography?

- God created the universe
- God placed man on the earth to fill and subdue it
- God's desire is that all nations should know Him

What do we learn about God from geography?

- Physical geography: God's created world
- Economics: man's use of God's resources in the world
- Social: men and nations in God's world share the resources

How do we teach geography?

- The Holy Spirit gives inspiration to both student and teacher as they observe the created world
- Through experiences in God's world: travel, excursions, visiting speakers
- Through research, filtered through God's value system, benefiting from experiences of others. We can learn from Christian scientists who show us that rock and sediment layers were laid down quickly during the Great Flood and not slowly over millions of years.

Mathematics

Why teach mathematics?

- To appreciate and know God through His creation
- To express the infinitude of God in His Creation; to observe His orderliness, precision and faithfulness to mathematical laws
- To share with others the infinitude of God

What do we teach about God in mathematics?

- Number: the concise expression of God's greatness and infinity in His Creation
- Measurement: To enable us to live fairly with other before God
- Spatial Maths: To enable us to share God's world with others

How do we teach mathematics?

- The Holy Spirit gives understanding to the teacher and the student
- Concrete examples in God's three-dimensional story
- Applications to every day life
- Pointing out pattern and order in the Creation