
West Brooke Curriculum

Grade 3



A manual written for the children of Jehovah's Witnesses

By Jennifer Westbrook

SAMPLE

Welcome to West Brooke Curriculum

I felt like there was a need for a curriculum written for children of Jehovah's Witnesses using some of our excellent materials that Jehovah has provided. I have homeschooled my children for 12 years and have used a variety of curriculums. I always tell myself that we should use what we already have available to a greater degree, but let's face it, that takes a lot of planning. So in trying to attempt this I thought it would work best if daily/weekly instructions were written out ahead of time; because in my experience when I have a manual/guide I feel better, and feel less stress, the year is laid out I can get the books I need and not have to scrounge up a lesson. I hope this will be a help to other parents out there who are having a tough time putting it all together.

Math Options choose one

- Teaching Textbooks 3 (spiral method- learn new, constant review)
- www.aleks.com subscription
- MCP (Modern Curriculum Press) Mathematics Level C, 2005 (mastery method- focus on one thing, not a lot of review) (this one will take 5 days a week)
- *What your 3rd grader Needs to Know* by Hirsch contains what needs to be covered for 3rd grade math, but basically directions only and no practice problems, you could use this along with a simple workbook or free worksheets online. <http://www.ixl.com/> also has math practice (some free, some not). You can get worksheets here too <http://themathworksheetsite.com/>

Supplement: Menu Math for Beginners (grades 1-3) From Real Life Math Series by Remedia Publications

- (other math that already works for you)

Spelling

If you have a student with any spelling problems or dyslexia you should probably use *Sequential Spelling* program. You can buy one book at a time as you need it and it is recommended to start from the beginning. The books are **not** based on grade level. You can find a sample here: <http://avko.org/sequentialspellingsample.html> The words sequentially build on the previous word and on root words with added prefixes and suffixes for the week. The method of this program is for the Teacher to call out the words and the student writes the word, then the Teacher calls out the correct spelling and the student checks his, if he is wrong he is to immediately fix it. The whole week builds on the root words from the first day; this is the only program I have found that has been able to help fix problems with spelling. It is easy to implement.

For 3rd grade you can start at level 1 or if the student already spells and retains well choose level 2.

We found it only necessary to use just the book with the lists, your student can write the responses in a notebook, on the dry erase board, or orally. We did not feel the need for a student response book, DVD, etc.

I did not schedule specific day assignments for spelling because you may need to slow down your pace, repeat a list, or speed up doing 2 a day one in the morning, and one in the afternoon. Just fill in what day assignments your child is at.

Spellwell B and Bb is an option if you prefer a workbook style spelling program. You will need to do approximately one worksheet per school day, 4 days per week.

If you just want a free 3rd Grade spelling list to work on for the year (borrowing your student does not have difficulties with spelling) then here is a place to get a list by grade level <http://www.spelling-words-well.com/>. As you scroll down you will see the grade levels on the left. The 3rd Grade list has 200 words. You will need to choose 5-6 a week. With this list you can do an oral test of 5-10 words and have the student only work on the words he/she missed.

Natural Speller by Kathryn Stout is another option. Teaches spelling in a natural sequential way as well for grades 1-8. A little more work for the parent as you will want to add prefixes and suffixes, plural, etc. to the words.

Language Arts

Note: A major part of our Language Arts is reading! Read as many titles from the list as you can this year.

A list is provided to pick from, read as many of the titles as the student can. All books suggested have been read either by all of us, or at least the kids, I will recommend books that my kids really enjoyed, and I hope that yours will too. Narration is a Charlotte Mason method of reading comprehension. Basically just get your kids to tell you what is going on in the story, their version of it. This goes for ones they are reading on their own as well as ones you are reading out loud.

Reading aloud to your kids is a great way to bond with them. I suggest that you choose a couple of books to read aloud to them for the year. We have a great time when we do this, it develops reading comprehension better than any workbook ever dreamed of, it increases reading ability, vocabulary, and future writing abilities. This is especially important if you have students with any learning disabilities or are reluctant readers. Even Dads will enjoy this when you read out loud this is great for trips, and who knows maybe Dad will enjoy helping with this part of homeschooling. It can be a family event!

Writing will be a variety. We will do some copy work this is where the student copies good quality literature so that eventually he learns to write correctly. I will leave it up to the discretion of the Home Teacher how much the student is to copy as each student's abilities vary. It is also up to the parent whether the student writes in cursive or print. You can use a cursive handwriting workbook or you can just model sentences/paragraphs for the student to copy. I have scheduled writing on most days, these are not expected to be long drawn out assignments. As the Teacher, it is up to your discretion if you would rather do just a couple for the week and spend more time on those, having more polished writings. You can certainly change writing assignments as you see fit.

Schedule

Here are some suggestions for scheduling:

The grid schedule works from the top down, if using this for more than one child make a copy of just the grid schedule for your portfolio; put the date of the day at the top and work in order down the page, only on some occasions you will see the need to do the Science lesson before the writing lesson because they are connected.

The schedule for West Brooke Curriculum is basically 4 days per week with one school day set aside for the ministry. This schedule has worked well for us for a long time and keeps the student as well as the teacher from burning out. Our service day is set on a Wednesday, which gives a nice mid-week break, however it can be any day of the week that works for you. The students will still be learning on these days, they will be more socially rounded, they will be learning public speaking, and will be better accomplished at using their Bibles. It is especially good if they work with a variety of friends to round out their education. In the afternoons after service they can work on art, music, reading, working ahead or catching up in math, taking a math test, or another subject they need to work on. They could also take an elective class on this day. Or you could just use it as a make-up day, if you got behind. But generally, I do not schedule any school on this day, they still practice their music on this day, do reading, and other hands-on projects they are personally working on.

Yearly schedule: unless you are in a state with strict attendance rules you should be able to be more flexible with your schedule. Here in Florida we have to turn in an evaluation once per year. This gives us an entire 12 months to complete assignments or even to move ahead into the next grade. We school year around, this may not be doable for some families, but it works for us. This gives us more opportunities to take breaks in the spring and fall, have a lighter schedule when we auxiliary pioneer, take the week off for the Circuit Overseer's visit, and the District convention, etc. Field trips, camping trips, RBC, or vacations can then come at anytime without fear of falling behind. The public school schedule tends to put one under extra stress to accomplish a certain amount within a certain time frame. If you are in it for the long haul, being more flexible will help you to stick to it.

Another option for those who can't quite get through a day's work in a day: Follow the schedule in order (going down the grid) checking off each assignment as you complete it. On the following day start where you left off and continue on into the next day as far as you can get. Continue in this method until you get through the school year, remember you have 12 months to get through it all.

Using the Manual

This manual is a guide only- you are in control, hopefully it gives you lots of ideas and resources, feel free to adjust this for your family.

SAMPLE

Booklist for 3rd Grade

Textbooks

What your 3rd Grader Needs to Know by ED Hirsch Jr. Revised and Updated Edition

MCP mathematics level C, 2005 edition

G.U.M. Drops Grade 3 (Grammar, Usage, & Mechanics)

Sequential Spelling level 1 or 2 (or other spelling program)

MCP Plaid Phonics Level C workbook (copyright 2003)

Beginning Cursive Writing Book D Universal Publishing

Draw Write Now Book 6 Animals and Habitats- On Land, Ponds & Rivers, Oceans by M. Hablitzel

First Encyclopedia of Science Internet-Linked by Usborne

Usborne: *The Story of Inventions* (optional supplement)

Scholastic *Success with Maps* Grade 3 \$4.99 ebook:

<http://teacherexpress.scholastic.com/catalogsearch/result/?q=success+with+maps&name=Search>

OR Map Skills for Today Grade 3 by Scholastic workbook

Usborne *Understanding Your Brain* (optional supplement)

Children Activities from www.jw.org

Library books from the children's department use what is available at your library; I will give some title suggestions but it is best to just use what your library has.

Reading List for 3rd Grade

RA= a good read aloud by parent

RA *Mouse and the Motorcycle* Beverly Cleary (series)

Boxcar Children Gertrude Warner (series)

Childhood of Famous Americans (series)

My America and Dear America books (series)

McBroom's Wonderful One Acre Farm Fleischman

RA *Doctor Doolittle* Hugh Lofting

Tales of Robin Hood Usborne

Daniel Boone (we read Heroes of America Illustrated Lives version)

The Adventures of Young Buffalo Bill Kimmel (series)

RA *Little House* books Wilder (series)

Captain Kidd's Cat; Mr. Revere and I Robert Lawson (several books)

Rabbit Hill Robert Lawson

The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame

RA: E.B. Whites books: *Charlotte's Web, Stuart Little, The Trumpet of the Swan*

Any out of print Step Up book you can find

RA *Sarah, Plain and Tall (and sequels)* MacLachlan

Bears of Hemlock Mountain Dalgliesh

Courage of Sarah Noble Dalgliesh

Tree in the Trail Holling C Holling (any Holling C Holling book)

And more.....

Abbreviations:

RA: read aloud (by parent)

3rd Grader: *What your 3rd Grader Need to Know* book

ELT: *Every Living Thing* by Cynthia Rylant

h.w.- hand writing workbook

West Brooke Curriculum

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Internet sites: Linked internet sites are not affiliated with West Brooke Curriculum. West Brooke Curriculum is not responsible for broken links or changes to websites. Parents should check links first. If a link is broken use a search engine to find something similar.

Week 1	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Bible: Joseph	Bible Character Cards: Joseph and Potiphar. Ill. Bible Story: Joseph in Land of Egypt	Teach Your Children: Are you Ever Jealous? Joseph's Brothers were	Picture Activities: Joseph is sold into slavery or The Baker's Dream	(see reading)
<i>MCP Phonics</i>	pg 5-8	Pg 9-10	Pg 11-12	Pg 13-14
PE (about 20 each day, fill in what you do here)				
Math: (5 days a week)	This week cover lessons 1.1- 1.5	→	→	→
Spelling				
Language 3	Language 3 Sentence worksheet (below) A & B	<i>GUM Drops Complete Sentences</i> pg 1-2	→	Language 3 Worksheet c: 3 spelling words written in complete sentences
Parent Read Aloud	<i>ELT</i> : Slower than the Rest	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Poem: By Myself <i>ELT</i> : Retired	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Elements of Music- Reading and Writing Musical Notes <i>ELT</i> : Boar out There	Poem: On the Bridge <i>ELT</i> : Papa's Parrot
Student Reading		<i>3rd Grader</i> : Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Finish Alice in Wonderland	Audio Drama: <i>Preserving Life in Time of Famine</i>
Writing	Copywork	River Imagination		<i>Draw Write Now</i> : Ponds and Rivers
Social Studies	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Rivers of the world & Rivers of Asia	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Rivers of Africa	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Rivers of Europe and Australia	<i>3rd Grader</i> : Rivers of South America & North America
Science	<i>Encyclopedia</i> - What is Science? Rivers	Rivers	Rivers	Rivers

Week 1

Saying of the Week: Actions speak louder than words

Bible: Joseph Go to www.jw.org to download these activities under the Children section.
Bible Character Cards: Joseph and Potiphar. Illustrated Bible Story: Joseph in Land of Egypt
Teach Your Children: Are you Ever Jealous? Joseph's Brothers were
Picture Activities: Joseph is sold into slavery or The Baker's Dream

Spelling: *Sequential Spelling* days 1-4 or enter your spelling words for the week:

If you are unfamiliar with Sequential Spelling's method, read over the first part of the book that explains how to implement this study. Sometimes we use the dry erase board, sometimes we fold a sheet of notebook paper in half long-ways and take the list down the page, using the same sheet 4 times without them being able to see the previous day's words. Your student may or may not be able to do a new list everyday. If your student misses a lot of words for the day review the pattern with them and repeat again the next day. Move through *Sequential Spelling* at the pace appropriate for each child.

Parent Read Aloud: *ELT means Every Living Thing* by Cynthia Rylant

Language 3: review pages 95-97 of *What your Third Grader Needs to Know* on Sentences
review pages 101-103 of *What your Third Grader Needs to Know* on Punctuation

Writing Ideas:

Note: Parents you know how much your child can handle from the whole paragraph to just part of it; also whether they copy in print or cursive, you may have to model it for them for cursive, write leaving an empty line under the one you wrote so that they can copy each line correctly.

2 pages of cursive

Study Activity: Bible Characters like Joseph www.jw.org

Copywork: from *My Book of Bible Stories* story 24

“Now Joseph sees his brothers coming. He is very happy to see his younger brother Benjamin. Of course, none of them know that this important man is Joseph. Joseph now does something to test his 10 half brothers.

He has his servants fill up all their bags with food. But without letting them know, he also has his special silver cup put into Benjamin's bag. After they all leave and have gone a little distance on the road, Joseph sends his servants after them. When they catch up with them, the servants say: ‘Why have you stolen our master's silver cup?’”

Draw Write Now Book 6: choose one or two to complete from the section Ponds & Rivers

River Imagination: Imagine you are visiting a river for a field trip, what do you see, hear, smell, and taste? Write a descriptive paragraph about your experience.

Notebooking pages: <http://notebookingpages.com/free-resource-center/>
<http://www.historyscribe.com/>

We have used notebooking pages on and off throughout the years. It is a great way to reinforce comprehension of science and history. A lot of the pages give the student a place to draw/label and a section to write about what they learned. It makes for a nice looking portfolio. What is notebooking? Read this tutorial:

<http://notebookingpages.com/notebooking/>

Science- Rivers:

First Encyclopedia of Science- What is Science?

The Salmon's Efficient Swimming Style Awake Dec. 2010

The Mighty Amazon—A Lifeline for Millions 11/8/03 *Awake* pg 13-17

Murchison Falls—Uganda's Unique Piece of the Nile 9/11 *Awake* pg 16-17

Rivers- Read library books from the children's department (use what you can find at your library)

Parents: see page 42 Draw Write Now for more suggestions

Suggestions: *Mississippi River* by Kids Discover magazine

The Magic School Bus Ups and Downs

The Magic School Bus goes Upstream

Minn of the Mississippi by Holling C Holling (good read aloud, may take a week or more)

Fish do the Strangest Things a Step Up book by Hornblow (out of print- a gem if you can find this book or any in the series)

Books about buoyancy

By Pond and River Arabella Buckley

A Log's Life, by Wendy Pfeffer

River Beds: Sleeping in the World's Rivers, by Gail Langer Karwoski

Parent Read Aloud: Poem:

On the Bridge

By: Kate Greenaway

If I could see a little fish—
That is what I just now wish!
I want to see his great round eyes
Always open in surprise.
I wish a water-rat would glide
Slowly to the other side;
Or a dancing spider sit
On the yellow flags a bit.
I think I'll get some stones to throw,
And watch the pretty circles show.
Or shall we sail a flower boat,
And watch it slowly—slowly float?
That's nice—because you never know
How far away it means to go;
And when tomorrow comes, you see,
It may be in the great wide sea.

Map Study: Major Rivers of the World

Print this map and draw and label: http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/world_cont.pdf

Mississippi River

Amazon River

Nile River

Niger River

Rio Grande

Tigris and Euphrates

Indus and Ganges Rivers

Yangtze River

Art to choose from:

What Your Third Grader Needs to Know: Elements of Music- Reading and Writing Rhythm

Draw Write Now Book 6: Ponds and Rivers

Landscape of River drawing, color with markers, paints, or colored pencils

Draw Joseph's Silver cup

And more.....

A **sentence** is a group of words that express a complete thought. A sentence always begins with a capital letter and ends with punctuation such as a period. (see pgs 65-67 of 3rd Grader)

A. Read the paragraph below and underline the sentences that are complete.



as

Joseph wanted to see his brothers. Felt hurt at heart. He knew that he could not reveal to them who he really was yet. One day. It pained him to trick his brothers, but he had to see if they had changed. Wanted to see his father. Overjoyed at their obvious change.

B. Circle the letter of the group of words that form a complete sentence.

a. First day of school.

b. This is my first day of school.

a. I am daydreaming about the summer, and all I want to do is go swimming.

b. Daydreaming about the summer, go swimming.

a. I like to do my math on the computer; the lessons are easy to understand.

b. The computer math lessons.

C. On a separate sheet of paper write 3 complete sentences using spelling words from this week.

Week 2	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Bible	Genesis chapter 1	RA: 1-2 pgs from Yearbook	Listen to an article from magazines	(see writing)
<i>MCP Phonics</i>	Pgs 15-16	Pg 17	Pg 18 Mini-book?	Pg 21-22
PE				
Math	This week cover 1.6; both chapter 1 tests- 2.2	→	→	→
Spelling				
Language 3	Language 3 Kinds of sentences worksheet A & B (below)	<i>GUM Drops</i> Sentence Types pg 3-4	→ Pg 5	See Lang. 3 Kinds of Sentences Worksheet (below) do C
Parent Read Aloud	<i>ELT: A Pet</i>	<i>3rd Grader: Poem Catch a Little Rhyme & ELT: Spaghetti</i>	Poem: The Sea & <i>ELT: Drying Out</i>	<i>ELT: Stray</i>
Student Reading	Books on Rome & novel from list	→	→	→
Writing	<i>Draw Write Now:</i>	Copy work	Phonics writing	Picture activity: Jehovah Makes humans in his image
Social Studies	7 Continents	<i>3rd Grader Needs to Know: Ancient Rome- Religion Roman Style</i>	<i>3rd Grader: Rome's Powerful location- Who's got class?</i>	Review 7 continents & <i>3rd Grader: Rome & Provinces- Latin lives!</i>
Science	<i>3rd Grader: Classifying Animals</i> Genesis ch. 1	<i>3rd Grader: Fish & library books & boxfish article</i>	Library books label fish	Library books Great Sea Monsters

Week 2

Saying of the Week: His Bark is worse than His Bite

Writing Ideas:

Draw Write Now: choose one or two from ponds and rivers or Oceans section

1 to 2 cursive pages

copy work: Genesis 1: 21

Picture Activity to print and do from www.jw.org Click on children at the bottom of the web page

Language 3: review pages 95-97 of *What your Third Grader Needs to Know* on Sentences

Social Studies: Review the 7 Continents, student fills in blank map

http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/world_cont.pdf

3rd Grader Needs to Know: (you may want to skip the legend of how Rome began)

Choose several Books from the Library on Ancient Rome, suggestions:

Roman Empire Kids Discover Magazine

DK Ancient Rome

See Inside a Roman Town

Science: *3rd Grader Needs to Know* Classifying Animals- classifying the vertebrates

Acronym: King Phillip Comes Over For Good Soup

Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species

Read Genesis chapter 1

The Energy Efficient Boxfish *Awake* July 2009 pg 10

Great Monsters of the Deep Sea *Awake* December 2009 pg 15-17

Why is the Sea Salty? *Awake!* 7/06 *Awake!* Pg 16-18

A Living light show beneath the Waves *Awake* 9/22/04 pg 31

Various Books from the library about fish & Oceans

Parents: see page 62 of Draw Write Now for more suggestions

Classification Clues, by Catherine Stephens

Kingdoms of Life: Classification (Come Learn with Me), by Bridget Anderson

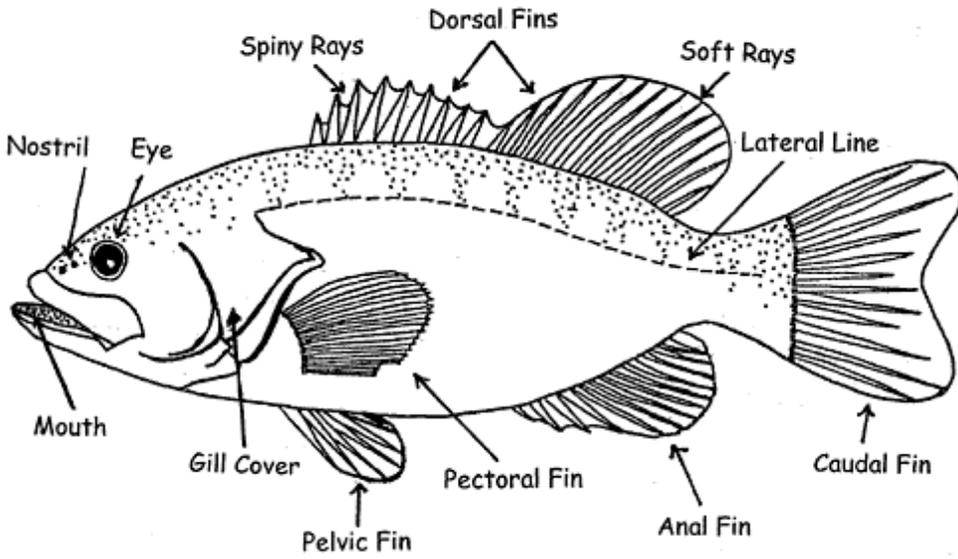
Fish Do the Strangest Things

Lakes Kids Discover magazine

Sea Creatures by Jen Green

And more.....

Draw and label the parts of a fish.



Parent Read Aloud: Poem:

The Sea

Behold the wonders of the mighty deep,
Where crabs and lobsters learn to creep,
And little fishes learn to swim,
And clumsy sailors tumble in.

Anonymous

Art activities:

3rd Grader: Music: Keeping time & rests

Draw Write Now Oceans section

And more.....

This is a sample only.

SAMPLE