
West Brooke Curriculum

5th Grade



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 16 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.

The last 3 weeks are scheduled for Test Preparation, you can use these 3 weeks for this or for catching up on subjects you have fallen behind in, or you can just do a unit study of your choice. These are open weeks for the discretion of the teacher.

Spelling

2017 edition of this manual schedules Spelling Workout

Bible

2016 schedule to coincide with our new *Christian Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook*
Reading from the current yearbook
Reading from current magazines or online content
Note: After Bible discussions, we do PE for 30 minutes.

Science

Science will use *The Usborne Science Encyclopedia* and the *WTBTS books and bound volumes*. Please see the note on the Textbook list.

Usborne Mysteries & Marvels of Science

The Usborne Complete Book of the Human Body

For this grade we also grew a garden which is great hand-on learning. This year we planted and harvested: Silver Queen Corn, Tomatoes, Okra, Green Beans, Black Eye Peas, Eggplant, Yellow Squash, my son had his own personal crop of Sugar Pumpkins, he also had a person flower pot with various flowers in it. In previous years we also have grown: Zucchini, herbs, Jalapenos, Bell Peppers, and a mild yellow pepper. Consider doing this if you can, even if it is just flowers, herbs, strawberries, or tomatoes in a pot.

Nature study is observation of life around you. This can be in your own backyard, in the field out back, at the park, or when you are on a trip. Anytime you know the proper name of a plant, insect, animal, mushroom, moss, etc. use it, eventually your kids will know them too. They can also draw and label natural things in a Nature notebook like John James Audubon did.

Use post it notes to mark these pages of evolution (as off limits) in the *Science Encyclopedia*:

The Universe Pages 154-155

The Early Earth pages 178-179

Life on Earth pages 186-187

Fighting for Survival page 286 has one paragraph on natural selection

Evolution pages 338-339

Language Arts

A list is provided to pick from, choose at least 6 books for the year, although it would be better if the student read more; you are in school for approximately 9 months and one a month would put you at 9 books; counting the summer would be 12 books. It would be nice to schedule them all but I know that some do not like to read, and I hope we fix that, others have learning disabilities and so not everyone can handle reading a lot of books. 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. We will also write in varying subjects. There will be reports, stories, letters, etc. Also you will see some links next to the book list of some free study guides. Feel free to substitute some writing assignments with ones from these guides to go along with the book the student is currently reading. 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.

Grammar- you choose from Easy Grammar Grade 5 (traditional full Grammar program) or GUM Drops Grammar Grade 5 (a light Charlotte Mason Style Grammar program).

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 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 any time 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 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 is a download- so you can go green if you want and use it just on your computer the first page of the week is a grid schedule and the next page(s) are notes for that week. There are links within the manual so you will need to keep a copy on the computer for this even if you print it. You should make a back up for the manual as well. One year we went through 3 computers- you don't want to lose it.

If you want to print this manual, you can print one week at a time to give to your child, or you can print it up for the year.

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.

Booklist for 5th Grade

Textbooks

Math:

Teaching Textbooks 5 <http://www.teachingtextbooks.com/>

Language Arts

Easy Grammar Grade 5

Reproducible Teacher edition contains worksheets/explanation pages & answers

Student Workbook contains worksheets/explanation pages

You could cover ½ of the book this year and finish it next year; do 4-5 worksheet pages/week

To cover the entire book do 8-10 worksheet pages/week (scheduled) **and/or**

G.U.M. Drops Grammar Grade 5- answer key in back, only 90 pages long, more of a Charlotte Mason method of study. Use along with Easy Grammar or use instead. (scheduled)

Spelling Workout level E (or other level if needed)

D'Nealian Grade 5 Handwriting - **optional**

Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare

Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink

Wild Animals I Have Known by Earnest Thompson Seton

Story Starters: Help Children Write Like Never Before by Karen Andreola (**optional reference** for grades 4-12) This is an old fashioned kind of book with old fashioned pictures and story starters, she gives a good introduction to a story and then a few questions for you to think about and the student writes the rest of the story. This is a great investment for multiple kids and grade levels, the stories are in an old fashioned style.

Poetry books you can use for the year:

Random House Book of Poetry by Prelutsky

Favorite Poems Old and New by Helen Farris

Books by Shel Silverstein

Test Prep book for grade 5 for those of you who need to do this, get one that includes several subjects, Spectrum & other companies make these, or you may want one specific to your state standards (**optional**)

History /Geography

Children's Encyclopedia of American History by David C. King DK book 2003 edition or 2014 revised and updated edition (this 2016 edition of the manual has been updated to the 2014 revised & updated edition)

States & Capitals Student Study Guide & Teacher Guide

Don't Know Much about the 50 States by K. Davis and/Or

National Geographic Ultimate U.S. Road Trip Atlas

Jesus The Way, The Truth, The Life by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society

Optional resources:

Five-State Rummy card game by School Zone

States and Capitals flash cards by School Zone or any company

Science – *The Usborne Science Encyclopedia* internet linked

Watchtower Bible and Tract Society books/bound volumes. You can use the CD Rom but you will not have the illustrations and pictures that the book/bound volume has.

Usborne Mysteries & Marvels of Science

The Usborne Complete Book of the Human Body

SAMPLE

Reading- Choose at least 6 novels for the year however 9+ would be better. I encourage LOTS of historical Fiction reading this year, this is how you will really get a base for American History that will stay with you.

Parents: This is still a good year to choose a few good books to read aloud to your student(s)

Ben and Me by Robert Lawson HF

Little house on the Prairie by Wilder HF (series)

Little Town on the Prairie by Wilder HF

Farmer Boy by Wilder HF

Carry On Mr. Bowditch by Jean Lee Latham HF RA

Moccasin Trail by Eloise Jarvis McGraw HF

The Great Wheel by Robert Lawson

Bound for Oregon Leeuwen HF

Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule Robinet HF

By the Great Hornspoon by Sid Fleischman HF

<http://www.edhelperclipart.com/clipart/books/BYTHEGREATHORNSPOON.pdf>

The Matchlock Gun Edmonds HF

Childhood of Famous Americans (series)HF

The Adventures of Young Buffalo Bill E. Cody Kimmel (series) HF

Strawberry Girl Lois Lenski HF

Caddie Woodlawn Carol Brink HF

The courage of Sarah Noble Alice Dalgliesh HF

And more

List of Abbreviations used in this manual:

RA- Read Aloud suggestion- by the Home Teacher to the student

WT- *Watchtower magazine*

TT5- Teaching Textbooks 5

pg- page

pgs- pages

*see note page

mtg= meeting

HF- Historical Fiction

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Disclaimer: This manual is sold with the understanding that the author is not engaged in rendering educational services. This is sold as a guide only with the understanding that it is the parent's responsibility to educate their own children. The author disclaims any liability incurred as a consequence directly or indirectly of the use and application of any of the suggestions or contents of this manual. Parents are responsible for complying with all homeschooling laws within their state/country.

Internet websites: this manual will reference websites on the internet. I am not affiliated with any of them and not responsible to changes to the page or for removal of pages. Please check the links before allowing children to do so. If one is broken, use a search engine to find something similar.

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<http://westbrookecurriculum.com/>

Not affiliated with The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.

Week 1	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasures from God's Word <input type="checkbox"/> Apply Yourself to the Field Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Living as Christians <input type="checkbox"/> Reading from the current magazines <input type="checkbox"/> Reading or watching videos from jw.org <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6 pages from the current Yearbook			
Math TT5	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4
Spelling Workout	Lesson 1: Pre-test Words in Action Spelling Practice pt. 1	Spelling Practice pt. 2	Spelling & Writing	Test
Vocabulary		Abolish Abnormal Absurd Abuse Access accomplish		Review
Easy Grammar Student book	review capitalization pgs 239-240	Pg 241-243	Pg 245-246	Pg 247
G.U.M. Drops	Pg 1-2			
Writing	Ice Cream	Copy the scripture from today's text	Story Starter*	→
D'Nealian Handwriting-optional	Pg. 6	Pg. 7		Pg. 8
US History	Look over your history book: <i>Children's Encyclopedia of American History</i>	Introduction pg 8-13 <i>Encyclopedia of AH</i> study timeline at bottom of pg 12-13; you may wish to make your own and add to it throughout the year	Exploration & Conquest pg 14-15 <i>Encyclopedia of AH</i>	Leif Eriksson—Discoverer of America? 9/22/01 Awake! pg18-21
States & Capitals	First Lesson (see intro in Student or Teacher guide for details)		Landforms Lesson	(see intro in Student or Teacher guide for details, Landform maps/worksheets in back of Student study guide)
Science	<i>Science Encyclopedia: The Skeleton</i> Pg 346-347	What your Peers Say <i>Belief in God</i> video on jw.org & <i>Complete Bk of Human Body</i> : pp. 16-19	Kids Health: bones <i>Complete Bk of Human Body</i> : pp. 20-21	Skeleton worksheets*
Reading Selection	Read from poetry books today.	Choose any book(s) from the list including: <i>Childhood of Famous Americans</i> (series)		
<i>Jesus The Way, The Truth, The Life</i>	Introduction	1	2	3

Notes for Week 1

Bible:

Study for the meeting using the current *Our Christian Life and Ministry Meeting Workbook*. Study with parent if needed, focus on learning to prepare for meetings this year, so that by next year you will be able to do so on your own. Split up the preparation over 2-3 days.

Language Arts:

Vocabulary- use the vocabulary lists to discuss vocabulary, looking up ones you do not know. At parental discretion how much you do with the words. You may also choose to add words from readings. Review the words at the end of the week.

Grammar- *Easy Grammar student workbook Grade 5-* All pages have been scheduled to complete the book in one school year; this requires 8 – 10 pages per week. Cover 4-5 pages a week to finish ½ of the workbook in the school year.

G.U.M. Drops Grammar Grade 5: only 90 pages long. This is more of a Charlotte Mason method of learning grammar using whole literature for the lessons. Use this book along with Easy Grammar or for a lighter year of grammar use this instead.

Writing options- Ice Cream- write a paragraph about an imaginary old fashioned ice cream shop that is your favorite. Tell about the store, where it is located and what your favorite treat is. Be descriptive!

Copy the scripture from today's text.

Story Starter, as suggested in the introduction of this manual we used *Story Starters* by Karen Andreola if you do not have this reference for today, try out this sample.

Reading- When there is not a specific book scheduled you may read of your choice from the book list or other book of your choice. Endeavor to read at least 30 minutes per day. In this section of the schedule write down the title and author of the book you are reading for your portfolio records. (same directions for each week)

*Teachers- 5th grade is a good year for RA (read –alouds) choose a couple for the year that you can read to all of your students.

History:

Teachers- for history (for the year) on some lessons I highlighted important facts and had my sons copy them into their notebooks. We used a notebooking method to keep up with history, including written down facts, drawings, timelines, maps, etc. You can use some of the worksheets here for this <http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/index.jsp>

Or use history scribe: <http://www.historyscribe.com/>

Or use free or purchased notebooking pages you find online. We used a notebook that we put our timeline information in (we did it sections like the two text books are laid out in eras of time) and then behind each era of time we would add pages of notes/drawings, quotes, charts, maps, etc.

We also made Daniel Boone outfits, camped in backyard (like early settlers), we used Modge Podge to glue and coat a paper map onto a piece of muslin that they could roll up and take with them on “adventures”, we made dandelion tea & hard tack, we made possible pouches out of fake leather, we put together a kit that made a Conestoga wagon, played the video game: Oregon Trail, girls could make bonnets and aprons and bake biscuits.

Read selections from textbook on your own. Discuss what you have learned with your teacher. Your teacher may want you to keep a timeline for American History this year. Look up some options/ideas online. You can simply tape paper longways together to form a banner to go across a wall and add times, events, and people as you study them.

Science:

What your Peers Say *Belief in God* video on jw.org

Your science book is internet linked- take advantage of this feature throughout the year!

Answer these questions in your notebook:

What are the 4 main types of bones? And define these.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

What are the 4 types of joints? You could draw a diagram showing these if you like.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

What are living bone cells called?

Supplemental article: *Was it Designed? Bone A Marvel of Strength* in the January 2010 Awake!

Supplement study of human body with printable worksheets. Use them for labeling and coloring. It is also nice to draw and then label sections of the body, this helps the student focus on details. Use these sites for the year or you may find some of your own.

Why no 5th day?

You will notice that only 4 days a week are scheduled; this is so that you can have a day for the Field Ministry.

We schedule this day on Wednesdays but it can be any day of the week you have scheduled for service. Do not worry, you are still learning, plus you are gaining skills using your Bible, Public Speaking, and Social Skills.

Afternoon Ideas:

Music lessons, art, homework, multiplication practice, catch-up day, chores, reading, sports, PE- Have a Break Day!

Referenced Articles: you can now use wol.jw.org to find referenced articles back to the year 2000. From 2013 on articles have pictures included. From 2008 and newer, articles can be listened to in audio.

Week 2	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasures from God's Word <input type="checkbox"/> Apply Yourself to the Field Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Living as Christians <input type="checkbox"/> Reading from the current magazines <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study Activity (writing) <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6 pages from the current Yearbook			
Math TT5	Lesson 5	Lesson 6	Lesson 7	Quiz 1
Spelling Workout	Lesson 2: Pre-test Words in Action Spelling Practice pt. 1	Spelling Practice pt. 2	Spelling & Writing	Test
Vocabulary		Achievement Acquaint Adequate Adjoining Aggressive		Review
Easy Grammar Student book	Pg 249-250	Pg 251-253	Pg 254	Pg 255-257
G.U.M. Drops	Pg 3-4	Pg 5		
Writing	A View of Windsor Castle*	→	Write down 3-5 points learned from Northwest Passage article (history) Bible Study Activity	Muscle and Tendon Cooperation
D'Nealian Handwriting-optional		Pg. 9		Pg. 10
US History	"The New World" 500 Years Old 3/8/92 Awake! pgs 3-13	Exploring the New World pg 16-17 <i>Encyclopedia of AH</i>	The Northwest Passage—A Dream Come True? Awake! 11/22/03 pg21-24	Ponce de Leon & La Salle*
States & Capitals	New England region	Maine		New Hampshire
Science	<i>Science Encyclopedia:</i> Muscles Pg 348-349	Was it Designed? The Horse's Leg 10/14 Awake! Pg. 16 & <i>Complete Bk of Human Body:</i> pp. 22-25	<i>Complete Bk of Human Body:</i> pp. 26-28	Muscle Worksheets*
Reading Selection				
<i>Jesus The Way, The Truth, The Life</i>	4	5	6	7

Week 2 Notes:

Writing options- * Go to this link and study this piece of artwork. Then write a story as if you were sitting in the boat and this was your first view of Windsor castle. Be descriptive. How do you feel? What do you hear?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Creswick_Thomas_A_View_Of_Windsor_Castle.jpg



Choose a Bible Study Activity to print and do from jw.org today. Look under children tab or teenager tab.

After reading, write down 3-5 points learned from “Northwest Passage” article.

(after science)- *Muscle and Tendon Cooperation* – copy the first paragraph under this subheading from the Awake article on Muscles.

Science- After reading the lesson on muscles; answer the following in your notebook:
About how many muscles are in the human body?

What is the difference between voluntary and involuntary muscles? Name a few of each kind.

Draw a picture of a smooth muscle tissue (fiber); and one of Cardiac muscle tissue (fiber).

Supplemental article: Muscles—Masterpieces of Design 4/8/1999 Awake! pg 20-24