

LITERATURE K

Instructors: Ms. Hobbs, dhobbs@ahsmail.com, Mrs. Strong, lstrong@ahsmail.com.

Course Description: In this course, students will learn how to define literature and identify the qualities of literature. We will concentrate on the following literary pieces:

1. Bible: The students will learn that the Bible holds the highest standard of literary excellence. They will identify types of Biblical literature. We will define a psalm and read and memorize Psalm 100 through studying the author, King David, and identifying the theme of offering praise and thanksgiving.
2. Poetry: We will define poetry and identify qualities of poetry, rhyme and rhythm. We will study the life and poetry of two poets: Christina Rossetti and Isaac Watts. Students will memorize Christina Rossetti's poems, "Clouds," "What Can I Give Him," "The Wind," and "Precious Stones." They will also read several of Isaac Watts' poems from *Divine Songs in Easy Language for the Use of Children*. Furthermore, they will memorize his poem, "Kind Deeds." In addition, we will read and do activities with a variety of Nursery Rhymes.
3. Fairy Tales: We will discuss fairy tales as a type of literature and describe the qualities of a fairy tale. Fairy Tales teach discernment through the conflict between good and evil.
4. Children's Classics: *Winnie the Pooh* by A. A. Milne; *Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter, *Bambi* by Felix Salten, and *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Through each classic, we will study the individuality and contributions of each author. We study animal tales by identifying the character qualities of key animals and by discussing the morals and principles learned from the stories. Using the notebook approach, the students will learn the literary elements, such as setting, plot, and characters of each classic. Students will learn through listening to the teacher read the pieces of literature; oral class discussions to identify morals, themes, and literary elements; notebook work; and classroom celebrations of the classics. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through recording simple sentences created as a class on their individual notebook pages, and drawing illustrations. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the weekly newsletters sent home with your child. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to keep up with the class in writing the sentences on their notebook pages. To support your student, please make more selections from the above authors and poets. Another support would be your willingness to help at home or in our classroom with our Literature celebrations.

Key Texts: Tudor, Tasha, The Tasha Tudor Book of Fairy Tales. (No ISBN number); Fujikawa, Gyo, Fairy Tales and Fables. (ISBN: 13:978-1-4027-5698-6); Potter, Beatrix, Giant Treasury of Peter Rabbit. (ISBN: 0-517-31687-0); Wallner, Alexandra, Beatrix Potter. (ISBN: 0-8234-1181-8); Felix Salten's Bambi, adapted by Janet Schulmam. (ISBN: 0-689-81954-4); Wilder, Laura Ingalls, Little House in the Big Woods. (ISBN: 0-06-44001-8); Milne, A. A., Winnie-the-Pooh. (ISBN: 0-14-036121-9); Divine and Moral Songs for Children by Isaac Watts (No ISBN number).

Publishable or Significant Projects: Peter Rabbit Tea Party Celebration; Winnie the Pooh Picnic Celebration; Shakespeare Celebration; John Moyle Park Field Trip to correlate with Little House in the Big Woods.

Memorizations: Smith, Joseph, “First Article of Faith”; Slater, Rosalie, “Starting With Me”; Johnson, Anna, “Child of Royal Birth”; Smith, Joseph, “Second Article of Faith”; “Psalm 100”; Rossetti, Christina, “Clouds”; and “What Can I Give Him?”