

The Five Most Neglected Subjects

1. What are our goals? To teach them to know Right from Wrong; To Learn to Think, and to be able teach themselves by reading a book.

What are the “regular subjects”? Bible, Math, English, History, Science, Physical Education, Music or Art. How can we possibly fit more into their schedules? In my opinion, we must not overwork them.

Young children can do an entire year’s worth of schooling with one or two hours a day. Later on, about age 8, they can do school three hours a day.. by age 13, move on up to five hours per day.

The subjects that are most neglected can be taught, for the most part, in 30 minutes a week, one each day.

2. What is the Base of our education? Is it the Bible or the Great Books?

St. John’s University. – Great Books

Naval Academy – Engineering

Which one will prepare a student to get a great job? My son David, who is a Navy pilot, said that engineering is most important. He is even beginning to teach his 7 year old son math, and rocketry. Great Books are interesting, but do not teach a marketable skill. In today’s economy, too

many students graduate from college with no prospects of a good job.

When you design your curriculum, consider the Maturity Level of Student.

Primary grades – Teach them facts, rules of any subject. For example, if they are learning to read, they need to learn the sounds that letters or diphthongs can have. If they play the piano, they have to begin by learning how to find each note on the piano, and read the notes in sheet music.

Adolescents – learning to think and question. At this time be prepared for lots of questions. Why did this happen? How do you know what is true? How are colors mixed to make new colors? When did this happen?

Nearly grown up – learning to express oneself and make plans for the future.
Can they write and deliver a coherent speech?
Can they write a term paper with no grammatical or spelling errors?

Here is a list of the five supplementary subjects which will only take 30 minutes each week to cover. You can do these throughout their schooling and they will be real experts!

A. Why Logic? To detect fallacies and false statements

Logic for Primary grades K – 3

Sorting: Buttons according to number of holes, sizes, colors.

- Arrange crayons according to colors and shades of colors.
- Checkers
- Play cards: Old Maid, Go Fish, Chutes and Ladders
- Math: Use manipulatives , money, M&M's, even spoons

Logic for Grades 4 – 6

Add:

- Chess, maybe a chess club
- Graph data on a chart, maybe Excel.
- Keep track of money; make change.
Compare prices on grocery items.

Logic for Grades 7 - high school **fallacies:** **tu quoque. “don’t smoke”. “Don’t tell me what to do. You do it too.”**

- Definitely, start a chess club.
- Do a few geometric proofs, beginning in 7th grade. Especially introduce them to triangles. ASA = ASA
- Make a timeline. Connect facts to principles and time periods.
- Read and discuss Fallacy Detective. Show the book.) Examples of faulty

logic.

(www.triviumpursuit.com)

B. Why Latin? Base of English and all Romance languages; high SAT tests; mental discipline; medical, legal, and technical languages

Latin for Primary grades K – 3

Greetings: “Salve!”

- Teach them the names of animals in Latin. (leo, porcus, cattus, pecus)
- Coloring book

*For a free online Latin dictionary:
google “Words by Whitaker”*

Mica Mica parva stella

Mirror quaenam sis tam bella

Super terram in caelo,

Alba gemma splendido.

Mica Mica parva stella

Mirror quaenam sis tam bella.

Latin for Grades 4 – 6

- Prima Latina
- Latina Christiana I
- Latina Christiana II

Latin for Grades 7 – 11

Latin in the Christian Trivium Levels 1 –

4 Include history.

- Read *A Pillar of Iron* by Taylor Caldwell, which is the biography of Cicero.

Questions available at no cost from

this speaker (latindr3@gmail.com)

If they want to continue with Latin,
AP Latin in the Christian Trivium to
prepare students for the AP Subject test.

- Read the Bible in Latin.
- Read works of the ancient authors:
Augustine, Cicero, Horace, Seneca.

**C. Why Ethics? In Ethics class, we
discuss absolutes and should we should
make decisions based upon absolutes?**

Ethics for Primary Grades K-3

Read Bible stories and/or fairy tales from
Aesop's Fables to them

- Who did the right thing? Who did the
wrong thing? What were the
consequences of their actions?

Ethics for Grades 4 – 5

Stories such as The Little Red Hen

- Questions to ask:
 1. **Who was the good person or
animal? How do you know?**
 2. **Who was the bad person or
animal? How do you know?**
 3. **Who was the friend of the good
person or animal?**
 4. **What was the problem in the
story**
 5. **How was it settled?**
 6. **Can you retell the story to us?**

Ethics for Grades 6 - 8

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
On amazon as either a book or an audio
CD.

Rent the DVD

Ethics for Grades 9 – 12 Story

**about David in the Academy,
Consider Summit Ministries**

**We as a group purchased their DVD's
and workbooks and had one night a week
for them to watch two episodes. Parents
were invited too.**

Choose a topic to discuss, research it
on the internet, or using Josh
McDowell's book *Right from Wrong*,
and present the topic, giving students
the opportunity and responsibility to
discuss it.

Examples include:

Are there Absolutes?

Current Events discussions

What is Islam?

Are there absolutes?

Abortion

Courtship and Marriage

Killing and Murder

War

Psychology or PsychoHeresy?

(*Competent to Counsel*, Dr. Jay

Adams)

Gun Control

The Positives of the Ten Commandments
Identifying various Worldviews

D. Why Public Speaking? ? Even if our students are well educated, but they cannot express themselves well, then the battle will be lost. We are in a spiritual and cultural war.

Public Speaking for Grades K-3

Teach them proper posture, articulation, eye contact.

2. "The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" and then "Wee Willie Winkie".
3. Ask for volunteers to speak in front of a several people (family?) and recite a nursery rhyme you have taught them.
4. Teach them how to be a good audience.

Public Speaking for Grades 4 – 6

1. Discuss public speaking.
2. Teach them the wrong ways and the right ways to articulate, maintain eye contact, have poise, begin and end with confidence, project their voices.
3. Tell them what a recitation is, and that they will be doing them to start.
4. Assign a recitation to present in front of an audience, of family or friends.

Public Speaking for Grades 7 -10

Explain the several types of speeches.

1. Recitation of someone else's work.
2. Affirmative Persuasive
3. Negative Persuasive
4. Persuasive
5. Original Oratory

Public Speaking for High School

Assign student to give one formal speech of their choice to an audience.

Have informal and formal debates. Teach them to be able to present both sides of an issue (probably not a moral issue).

iccinc.org/ (Institute for Cultural Communicators)

They can teach younger students.

E. Why Manners? Manners means consideration for others' feelings. Most Christian students have learned manners at home, but there are always some who have not.

Manners for Primary grades K – 3

1. Greeting
2. Pass out Manners book
3. Look at first pictures. Discuss.
4. "Gentle Words"
5. "Mealtime Manners"
6. Telephone Manners

Manners for Grades 3 – 6

Examples of poor manners, good manners.

Table manners: close your mouth when you chew.

Telephone manners: how to answer the phone.

Remember to say please and thank you.

How to **interrupt** when necessary.

Do something nice for someone each day.

Introduce "Queen Elizabeth" to an adult.

Who is introduced to whom?

Manners for Grades 4 – 8

How to settle conflicts.

Speak civilly even when frustrated.

Have an attitude of gratitude, not the

Entitlement Attitude some have.

Host a tea party. (Girls)

Manners for Grades 9 – 12 **Dr. Jurika's story.**

Boys: opening the car door for ladies; stand when they enter a room.

Plan a formal dinner party, complete with proper placement of silverware, flowers as centerpiece, suggestions for dinner conversation.

Extra tips from an experienced mother:

Teach across the curriculum.

Use primary sources when possible

Travel whenever possible.

