

ELA

## ELA

### **Wit and Wisdom - K-5**

#### **Unlock a World of Knowledge with Wit & Wisdom**

Welcome, parents! As your child embarks on their educational journey, you naturally want them to develop a deep understanding of the world around them, cultivate strong reading and writing skills, and think critically. That's where **Wit & Wisdom**, a K-8 English Language Arts curriculum from Great Minds, comes in.

More than just a reading program, Wit & Wisdom is a knowledge-building curriculum that immerses students in rich and meaningful texts. Instead of simply learning isolated skills, your child will delve into compelling topics through carefully selected literature, informational texts, and art. This integrated approach fosters a love of learning and helps them make connections across subjects, building a robust foundation of knowledge.

#### **What makes Wit & Wisdom different?**

- **Knowledge-Rich Content:** Each module focuses on a specific topic, allowing students to build deep understanding over time. They won't just read a story; they'll explore the historical context, scientific principles, or social issues surrounding it.
- **Complex Texts:** Wit & Wisdom exposes students to high-quality, grade-level appropriate texts that challenge and engage them. This fosters critical thinking and prepares them for future academic success.
- **Integrated Literacy Skills:** Reading, writing, speaking, and listening are interwoven throughout each module. Your child will learn to analyze texts, express their ideas clearly, and participate in meaningful discussions.
- **Emphasis on Vocabulary:** Vocabulary is taught in context, allowing students to understand and use new words effectively.

- **Artful Integration:** Fine art is thoughtfully incorporated into the curriculum, providing another lens through which students can explore and understand the module's themes.

Through engaging lessons and thoughtful activities, Wit & Wisdom empowers your child to become a knowledgeable, articulate, and critical thinker. Explore the sections below to learn more about the curriculum's structure, how you can support your child at home, and what to expect at each grade level. We believe Wit & Wisdom will ignite a passion for learning in your child that will last a lifetime!

### **UFLI - Phonics for Grades K-3**

At Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, we are dedicated to using research-backed methods to teach reading. That is why we utilize UFLI Foundations, a curriculum created by the University of Florida Literacy Institute.

UFLI Foundations is an explicit and systematic phonics program that introduces students to the foundational skills necessary for reading and spelling. The program is rooted in the Science of Reading, ensuring that our instruction aligns with how the brain actually learns to read.

What your child will experience:

- **Systematic Scope and Sequence:** Skills are taught in a logical order, moving from simple concepts to more complex ones.
- **Explicit Instruction:** Teachers clearly model new concepts and guide students through practice.
- **Multisensory Learning:** Students use visual, auditory, and kinesthetic techniques to reinforce learning.
- **Focus on Decoding and Encoding:** Students learn not just how to read words (decode), but how to spell them (encode).

## **Heggerty - Phonemic Awareness for K-1**

To become strong readers, students must first master the sounds of language. We use Heggerty, a rigorous, oral-only curriculum that helps students identify and manipulate sounds in spoken words. By mastering skills like rhyming, blending, and segmenting, our students build the necessary auditory foundation to become fluent readers and accurate spellers.

## **Middle School ELA - EB Academics**

At Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, we are committed to providing a rigorous and engaging literacy experience that prepares our students for high school and beyond. That is why we utilize EB Academics, a research-based ELA curriculum specifically designed to meet the unique developmental needs of middle schoolers.

The EB Academics framework moves beyond traditional rote learning. Instead of standard worksheets, our students participate in active investigations—such as literary "Who-Dunnit" mysteries and collaborative projects—that turn critical thinking into a hands-on experience. This approach ensures that students aren't just memorizing facts, but are learning to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize complex information.

EB Academics uses a writing framework that empowers students to:

- Formulate clear, sophisticated claims.
- Cite specific textual evidence with precision.
- Develop logical justifications that connect their ideas.

# Math

## **Reveal Math K-8 Math**

### **Math instruction looks different today than it did a generation ago.**

If you notice your child solving problems in ways that seem unfamiliar, or if you hear them talking about the "why" behind an equation rather than just the answer, they are likely engaged in *Reveal Math*.

Developed by McGraw Hill, *Reveal Math* is a K–12 curriculum designed to make math accessible, coherent, and enjoyable. It moves away from simple rote memorization and focuses on helping students become active problem solvers.

### **How *Reveal Math* Helps Your Child**

The program is built on the belief that every student can be a "math person." Here is what you can expect from your child's experience:

- **Focus on the "Why":** Students don't just learn *how* to calculate; they learn *why* the math works. This deep conceptual understanding helps them apply math to real-world situations.
- **Productive Struggle:** The curriculum encourages students to tackle challenging problems. It teaches them that getting stuck is a normal part of learning and that persistence leads to success.
- **Math is a Conversation:** You might notice your child talking more during math class. *Reveal Math* encourages students to discuss their strategies and listen to others, building communication skills alongside arithmetic.
- **Digital Integration:** The program uses interactive digital tools to help visualize complex concepts, making abstract ideas concrete.

### **What This Means for Homework**

You may see fewer worksheets filled with repetitive drills. Instead, you might see:

- Open-ended questions that have more than one way to be solved.
- Visual models (diagrams, number lines, and blocks) used to explain thinking.
- Assignments that require explaining the steps taken to reach a solution.

**Parent Tip:** When helping with homework, try asking, "*How did you decide to use that strategy?*" or "*Can you draw a picture to show me what's happening in this problem?*" instead of immediately showing them how you would solve it.

## Religion

### **Faith in Action: Our Religion Curriculum**

At Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, we believe that religious education is more than just a subject on a schedule—it is the foundation of everything we do. Our curriculum is designed to move beyond the classroom, inviting students to encounter Christ in their studies, their service, and their daily interactions.

### **A Strong Academic Foundation**

We utilize rigorous, age-appropriate resources to ensure our students develop a deep understanding of their Catholic faith:

- **Grades K–5:** Students use the **Sadlier We Believe** program, which focuses on building a joyful relationship with God and a solid introduction to Scripture and Tradition.
- **Grades 6–8:** Middle schoolers transition to **Christ Our Life**, a series that challenges them to take ownership of their faith through deeper theological study and moral reflection.

### **Woven Into the School Day**

Our faith isn't confined to a textbook. We integrate Catholic identity into the very fabric of our culture through:

- **Virtue=Strength:** A character-building program that helps students practice "faith in motion" by developing holy habits and leadership skills.
- **Monthly Virtue Ceremonies:** We gather as a community to celebrate students who exemplify our monthly virtues, keeping our eyes fixed on the lives of the Saints.
- **Digital Discipleship:** We utilize the **Hallow App** to guide students in prayer and meditation, teaching them to find stillness in a busy world.

### **Encountering Christ in Community**

We provide tangible opportunities for students to live out their baptismal call through:

- **Service-Oriented Field Trips:** Moving beyond sight-seeing, our trips focus on corporal works of mercy and serving our local community.
- **Weekly Sacramental Life:** Students participate in **Weekly Adoration** and **Weekly Mass**, providing regular encounters with the Real Presence of Jesus.
- **Pastoral Mentorship:** Our parish priests meet weekly with every grade level. These visits allow students to ask questions, build personal relationships with our clergy, and see the priesthood as a vital part of our school family.

## Science & Social Studies

### **Science: Inquiring & Innovating**

Our Science curriculum follows the 2023 Indiana Academic Standards, which emphasize **Computer Science** and **Engineering Design** alongside core scientific disciplines. From Kindergarten through 8th grade, students engage in:

- **Physical Science:** Exploring the laws of motion, energy, and matter through hands-on experimentation.
- **Life & Earth Science:** Understanding biological systems and our planet's place in the universe.
- **The Scientific Method:** Teachers utilize an inquiry-based approach, encouraging students to ask questions, conduct investigations, and use data to solve real-world problems.

### **Social Studies: Building Informed Citizens**

We prepare our students to be active, informed participants in their communities by following Indiana's comprehensive Social Studies domains:

- **History & Civics:** Students explore the foundations of the American government and the history of Indiana, learning how our past shapes our present.
- **Geography & Economics:** Classes dive into global cultures and the physical systems of the Earth, while developing a foundational understanding of market economies and resource management.
- **Cultural Literacy:** Our curriculum fosters a respect for diverse perspectives and a deep understanding of individual rights and responsibilities.

Math

Reveal Math K-8

Here's an excerpt for a website providing parents with information about Reveal Math by McGraw Hill:

## Discover Deeper Understanding with Reveal Math by McGraw Hill

As your child navigates the world of mathematics, you want them to develop not just procedural fluency, but a true understanding of mathematical concepts and the ability to apply them in meaningful ways. **Reveal Math by McGraw Hill** is a comprehensive K-12 math program designed to foster this deeper understanding through inquiry-based learning and real-world connections.

Reveal Math goes beyond rote memorization, encouraging your child to explore mathematical ideas, make sense of problems, and build a strong conceptual foundation. This approach empowers them to become confident problem-solvers and critical thinkers, preparing them for future success in mathematics and beyond.

### What sets Reveal Math apart?

- **Inquiry-Based Learning:** Reveal Math encourages students to actively explore mathematical concepts through engaging activities, discussions, and investigations. This "figure it out" approach promotes deeper understanding and retention.
- **Three-Phase Lesson Structure:** Each lesson follows a consistent and effective structure:
  - **Explore:** Students engage in an activity or problem that introduces the concept and encourages them to think critically.
  - **Develop:** Through guided instruction and examples, students build their understanding of the concept and learn new strategies.
  - **Apply:** Students solidify their learning by applying the concepts and skills to various problems, including real-world scenarios.
- **Real-World Connections:** Reveal Math emphasizes the relevance of mathematics by connecting concepts to everyday situations and careers. This helps your child see how math is used in the world around them, making learning more meaningful and engaging.
- **Focus on Conceptual Understanding:** The program prioritizes a deep understanding of mathematical ideas over simply memorizing rules and procedures. This ensures your child can adapt their knowledge to new situations and solve problems creatively.
- **Problem-Solving Emphasis:** Reveal Math provides ample opportunities for students to develop their problem-solving skills through challenging and engaging tasks. They will learn various strategies and how to persevere in finding solutions.
- **Differentiation and Support:** The program offers resources and tools to support diverse learners, ensuring that all students can access and engage with the material at their own pace. This includes opportunities for enrichment and targeted intervention.

- **Technology Integration:** Reveal Math leverages digital tools and resources to enhance learning, providing interactive activities, virtual manipulatives, and personalized learning experiences.
- **Emphasis on Mathematical Discourse:** The program encourages students to communicate their mathematical thinking, explain their reasoning, and learn from their peers through classroom discussions.

By fostering a culture of exploration, discovery, and application, Reveal Math aims to empower your child to become a confident and capable mathematical thinker. Explore the resources provided by your child's school to see how Reveal Math is being implemented and how you can support their mathematical journey at home by encouraging curiosity and problem-solving.

# Religion

## Guiding Your Child's Faith Journey with *We Believe* by Sadlier Connect

As parents, you play a vital role in nurturing your child's faith. *We Believe* by Sadlier Connect is a comprehensive and engaging Catholic religious education program designed to support your family and your child's understanding of their faith in a dynamic and accessible way.

*We Believe* goes beyond simply learning facts; it aims to foster a personal relationship with God, build a strong foundation in Catholic teachings and traditions, and inspire your child to live out their faith in their daily lives. The integration with Sadlier Connect provides valuable digital resources that enhance learning both in the classroom and at home.

### What are the key aspects of the *We Believe* program?

- **Comprehensive Catholic Curriculum:** Rooted in Scripture, Tradition, and Church teachings, *We Believe* provides a thorough and age-appropriate exploration of the Catholic faith.
- **Focus on Encountering Christ:** The program emphasizes opportunities for your child to encounter Jesus Christ through prayer, Scripture stories, and reflections on their own experiences.
- **Integration of Faith and Life:** *We Believe* helps children connect their faith to their everyday lives, encouraging them to see God's presence in the world around them and to live according to Gospel values.
- **Emphasis on Prayer and Liturgy:** The program introduces various forms of prayer and helps children understand and participate more fully in the liturgy and sacraments.
- **Age-Appropriate Learning:** Content and activities are carefully designed to be engaging and understandable for children at each grade level, fostering a gradual and meaningful growth in faith.
- **Family Involvement:** *We Believe* recognizes the importance of the family in faith formation and often provides resources and activities to encourage discussion and prayer at home.
- **Sadlier Connect Digital Resources:** The integration with Sadlier Connect offers a wealth of online resources, including interactive activities, videos, music, and family support materials that extend learning beyond the classroom. These resources can help you reinforce lessons and engage in faith-based discussions with your child.
- **Focus on Catholic Identity:** The program helps children develop a strong sense of Catholic identity and understand their place within the larger Church community.
- **Emphasis on Social Justice:** *We Believe* encourages children to understand and respond to the call to love and serve others, promoting awareness of social justice issues.

By partnering with you and your child's educators, *We Believe* by Sadlier Connect strives to cultivate a lifelong journey of faith, understanding, and love for God and neighbor. Explore the resources provided by your child's school and on Sadlier Connect to see how this program can support your family's faith formation.

6-8

Science

## Spark Curiosity and a Love of Science with Mystery Science

As parents, you know that children are naturally curious about the world around them. **Mystery Science by Discovery Education** is an engaging and hands-on science curriculum designed to tap into that innate curiosity and foster a lifelong love of scientific exploration and discovery in elementary school students (Kindergarten through 5th grade).

Instead of just reading about science, Mystery Science lessons revolve around intriguing mysteries and questions that pique children's interest. Each lesson guides students through a process of scientific inquiry, encouraging them to ask questions, make predictions, conduct simple investigations using readily available materials, and ultimately solve the mystery.

### What makes Mystery Science so captivating for kids (and effective for learning)?

- **Engaging Mysteries:** Each lesson begins with a captivating question or mystery that immediately draws students in and makes them want to find out more. Examples might include "Why do cats have whiskers?" or "Where does all the garbage go?"
- **Hands-on Activities:** Mystery Science emphasizes active learning through simple, hands-on activities and experiments that students can often do at home with common household items. This direct experience helps solidify their understanding of scientific concepts.
- **Phenomenon-Based Learning:** The curriculum focuses on real-world phenomena, helping children make connections between what they learn in the classroom and the world they experience every day.
- **Clear and Accessible Explanations:** Complex scientific concepts are broken down into age-appropriate language and explained in a way that is easy for young learners to understand.
- **Integration with Literacy:** Many lessons incorporate reading, writing, and discussion, helping to build literacy skills alongside scientific understanding.
- **Teacher-Led with Built-in Support:** While engaging for students, the lessons are designed to be teacher-led, providing structure and guidance. However, they are also flexible and easy for teachers (and even parents supporting learning at home) to implement.
- **Alignment with Standards:** Mystery Science lessons are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), ensuring that your child is learning key scientific concepts and practices.
- **Fosters Critical Thinking:** By encouraging questioning, predicting, and analyzing evidence, Mystery Science helps children develop essential critical thinking skills.

Through its engaging mysteries and hands-on investigations, Mystery Science transforms science learning from a passive experience to an active adventure. It empowers your child to

think like a scientist, ask questions, explore the world around them, and develop a deeper understanding of how things work. Ask your child's teacher about how Mystery Science is being used in their classroom and consider exploring some of the at-home activities to further spark their scientific curiosity!

Science Techbook 4-5

## Empowering Future Scientists with Science Techbook by Discovery Education

As the world becomes increasingly reliant on science and technology, it's more important than ever for your child to develop a strong foundation in scientific concepts and practices. **Science Techbook by Discovery Education** is a dynamic, digital-first science curriculum for grades K-12 that brings science to life through engaging multimedia resources, interactive explorations, and real-world connections.

More than just a textbook, Science Techbook is a comprehensive digital platform designed to immerse your child in the world of science. It leverages the power of technology to make learning interactive, personalized, and relevant, fostering a deeper understanding of scientific principles and encouraging critical thinking skills.

### What makes Science Techbook a powerful learning tool?

- **Engaging Digital Content:** Science Techbook is packed with high-quality videos, interactive simulations, virtual labs, and engaging digital explorations that capture students' attention and make learning more dynamic and memorable.
- **Real-World Relevance:** The curriculum emphasizes the connections between scientific concepts and real-world applications, helping your child understand how science impacts their daily lives and potential future careers.
- **Phenomenon-Based Learning:** Science Techbook often centers around real-world phenomena, encouraging students to investigate and explain scientific concepts through observation, data analysis, and critical thinking.
- **Inquiry-Based Approach:** The platform promotes active learning through inquiry-based activities that encourage students to ask questions, design investigations, collect evidence, and draw conclusions – just like real scientists.
- **Three-Dimensional Learning:** Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), Science Techbook focuses on the three dimensions of science learning: Science and Engineering Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Disciplinary Core Ideas.  
<sup>1</sup> This ensures a well-rounded and interconnected understanding of science.
- [1. www.spainexchange.com](http://www.spainexchange.com)
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- **Personalized Learning:** The digital format allows for differentiated instruction and personalized learning pathways, catering to your child's individual learning needs and pace.
- **Assessment and Feedback:** Science Techbook often includes built-in assessments and feedback mechanisms to help students track their progress and identify areas for growth.
- **Accessibility and Convenience:** As a digital resource, Science Techbook can be accessed anytime, anywhere with an internet connection, making learning more flexible and convenient.
- **Parent Resources and Support:** Many schools using Science Techbook provide resources and information for parents to understand the curriculum and support their child's learning at home.

By leveraging the power of digital media and a hands-on, inquiry-based approach, Science Techbook aims to ignite your child's curiosity, build a strong foundation in scientific literacy, and prepare them to be informed and engaged citizens in a scientifically and technologically advanced world. Ask your child's teacher about how Science Techbook is being used in their classroom and explore any available parent resources to further support their scientific exploration.

# Social Studies

K-1 - McGraw Hill Impact

2-3, 5 - Savvas MyWorld

4th - Indiana

6-8- Savvas