

What is Classical Christian Education?

Classical Christian Education is built upon the Latin word *trivium* - "three roads."

The three roads are: grammar, logic, and rhetoric.

Grammar:

Grades: K-6

Skill in comprehending the facts

Logic:

Grades: 7-9

Skill in reasoning out relationships between these facts

Rhetoric:

Grades: 10-12

Skill in wise, effective expression and application of the facts and their relationships

In the elementary school, YCS focuses on the Grammar phase of the trivium. This phase focuses on mastering the basics of reading, writing, and spelling which are presented with multi-sensory reinforcement of the rules of spelling, penmanship, and decoding. These skills are then applied as students are introduced to other facets of the curriculum including arithmetic, music, and the humanities.

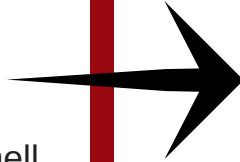


Pre-Grammar Phase

Grades K-2/ Ages 4-8

Student Characteristics:

1. Obviously excited about learning
2. Enjoys games, stories, songs, projects
3. Short attention span
4. Wants to touch, taste, feel, smell, see
5. Imaginative, creative



Teaching Methods:

1. Guide discovering
2. Explore, find things
3. Use lots of tactile items to illustrate point
4. Sing, play games, chant, recite, color, draw, paint, build
5. Use body movements
6. Short, creative projects
7. Show and Tell, drama, hear/read/tell stories
8. Field trips

Grammar Phase

Grades 3-6/ Ages 9-11

Student Characteristics:

1. Excited about new, interesting facts
2. Likes to explain, figure out, talk
3. Wants to relate own experiences to the topic, or just tell a story
4. Likes collections, organizing items
5. Likes chants, clever, repetitious word sounds
6. Easily memorizes
7. Can assimilate another language well



Teaching Methods:

1. Lots of hands-on work, projects
2. Field trips, drama
3. Make collections, displays, models
4. Integrate subjects through above means
5. Categorize, classify
6. Recitations, memorizations, catechisms
7. Drills, games
8. Oral/ written presentations