



# PINNACLE PREP

## CATALOG FOR ONLINE CLASSES

### Grades PK-4<sup>th</sup>

#### ▶ *PK and KG*

- The PK and Kindergarten program includes phonics, math, science, and social studies.

#### ▶ *Math | Grades 1<sup>st</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Math, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Math, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Math, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

#### ▶ *ELA | Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade ELA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade ELA, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ELA, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

#### ▶ *Science | Grades 1<sup>st</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Science, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Science, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Science, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

#### ▶ *Social Studies | Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Social Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Social Studies, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Social Studies, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

### Grades 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

#### ▶ *Math | Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-calculus

#### ▶ *Science | Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, Biology

#### ▶ *Social Studies | Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies, 6<sup>th</sup> Social Studies, Texas History, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies, World Geography, United States History

#### ▶ *English Language Arts | Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA, English I, English II, Novel Studies

#### ▶ *Spanish | Grades 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>*

- Intro to Spanish, Spanish I, Spanish II

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# CATALOG FOR ONLINE CLASSES

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** This course focuses on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students are introduced to basic reading skills, as well as close reading strategies to use in short stories, a short play, poetry, and fables. Students learn to read digital text. Special attention has been paid to teaching students advanced word decoding skills. Students' understanding of sentence structure will lead to hands-on experience with complete sentences and writing complete paragraphs. Students will use graphic organizers to follow the writing process to write for a variety of genres. Students will be given the opportunity to use their verbal communication skills in a variety of projects, in addition to learning strategies for research and gathering information.

**Math:** This math course focuses on number skills and numerical literacy. In it, students will gain solid experience with number theory and operations, learning how to apply these in measurement situations. This course also integrates geometric concepts and skills throughout the units, as well as introducing students to statistical concepts.

**Social Studies:** This third-grade course is an exploration of the history and geography of the United States. The intent of the course is to give the student an overview of the United States. The student will learn map terminology such as latitude, longitude, and compass rose. These and other geographical terms, along with an overview of the geography of the United States, will help the student discuss and understand the geography of the United States.

**Science:** This course is intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in the physical universe. This course provides a broad survey of the major areas of science. Some of the areas covered in this Science course include the human body, plants, animals, health and nutrition, matter, sound waves, earth science, and heat energy. The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to understand and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on children's natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Collectively, this should help students develop a subject-matter knowledge base.

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** This course focuses on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will continue to build fluency and independent reading skills by further developing comprehension strategies via a wide variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Students will write for a variety of genres, include fictional stories, poetry, and informational text, using a more complex paragraph structure and integrated application of their speaking skills.

**Math:** This math course focuses on number skills and mathematical literacy. In it, students will gain solid experience with number theory and operations, including decimals and fractions. This course also integrates geometric concepts and skills throughout the units, teaches measurement skills, and introduces students to statistical concepts.

**Social Studies:** This course focuses on World Geography, describing the surface of the earth and its natural features (biomes). It also teaches about cultural distinctions, placing special emphasis on North American geography and culture. Then, expanding on instruction, it presents a survey of earth and space explorations. These areas of focus target three major content strands: Geography, History, and Social Studies Skills.

**Science:** course intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in the physical universe. This course builds on concepts taught the previous year, providing a broad survey of the major areas of science. Some of the areas covered in this class includes the study of plants and animals, ecology, work and simple machines, electricity and magnetism, properties of water and matter, weather, the solar system, and the different spheres of earth. The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to understand and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on children's natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe, and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Collectively, this should help students develop and build on their subject-matter knowledge base.

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** This course continues to build on the sequential development and integration of language arts skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Special attention is placed on reading non-fiction texts. Students identify text features and explain how graphic elements lead to comprehension and continue to build grammar skills in support of clear communication. Speaking skills are built upon in this course through memorization and recitation of the powerful Gettysburg Address. Students also learn what good communication is and how to practice this in all areas of their lives.

**Math:** This math course focuses on number skills, mathematical literacy, and geometric concepts. Students will gain solid experience with number theory and operations, including whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. In addition, students will develop their understanding of measurement and two- and three-dimensional figures. This course also integrates mathematical practices throughout the units, as well as introducing students to algebraic, statistical, and probability concepts.

**Social Studies:** This course focuses on two major areas, American History and Geography. The course covers American History from early exploration through the Reconstruction, with special emphasis given to inventions and technology of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and geography of the Americas, with special emphasis on Mexico, Canada, and U.S. regional geography. These areas of focus target four major content strands: History, Geography, Government and Citizenship, and Social Studies Skills.

**Science:** This course is intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in the physical universe. This course expands on previous courses, providing a broad survey of the major areas of science. Some of the areas covered in Science 500 include the study of cells, plants and animals, ecology, energy, geology, properties of matter, and the natural cycles of life. The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to understand and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on the students' natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe, and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Students at this level should begin to understand interrelationships between organisms, recognize patterns in ecosystems, and become aware of the cellular dimensions of living systems. Collectively, this should help students develop and build on their subject-matter knowledge base.

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** Students will delve into texts that span the genres of narrative fiction, poetry, literary nonfiction, and informational texts to build reading, writing, and thinking skills. Students will also develop their writing skills as they focus on the six traits while producing narrative, argumentative, and explanatory compositions, as well as creative pieces including poetry. The course concludes with students completing a full research report. With a strong emphasis on close reading instruction, writing and thinking activities, as well as speaking and listening tasks, this course will help students expand their understanding of literature while building 21st century skills. Multimedia and interactive elements are built into every lesson to ensure a high-level of student engagement.

**Math:** This math course focuses on number skills and numerical literacy, with an introduction to rational numbers and the skills needed for algebra. In it, students will gain solid experience with number theory and operations, including integers and rational numbers. This course also integrates ratio relationships and proportional reasoning throughout the units, as well as introduces students to geometric and statistical concepts.

**Social Studies:** This course focuses on broad themes in geography, culture, technology, history, government, and economics. The student will learn about the geography of the world, the various cultures represented across the globe, and the influence of technology and art on people and places. Lessons will also cover important government and economic concepts. After completing the course, students should be able to answer a variety of social studies questions and demonstrate a number of social studies skills.

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Continued:

**Science:** This is a basic intermediate course intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in the physical universe. Some of the areas covered in Science, Grade 6 include the study of plant and animal systems, plant and animal behavior, genetics, the structure of matter, energy, kinematics, planet earth, the solar system, and astronomy.

The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to understand and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on children's natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Students at this level should begin to understand interrelationships between organisms, recognize patterns in ecosystems, and become aware of the cellular dimensions of living systems. Collectively, this should help students develop and build on their subject-matter knowledge base.

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## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** English Language Arts and Reading 7 is a thematic study of literature that explores accounts of earth, space, and survival. Throughout this course, students will delve into texts that span the genres of narrative fiction, poetry, literary nonfiction, and informational texts. Students will demonstrate their understanding of various works by analyzing how common themes like exploration, innovation, and courage are able to transcend diverse time periods and genres. They will also develop their writing skills as they focus on the six traits while producing argumentative, narrative, and expository compositions. With a strong emphasis on close reading instruction, research activities, and speaking and listening tasks, this course will help students expand their understanding of literature while building 21st century skills.

Students will build on the sequential development and the integration of communication skills in four major areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will expand a foundational understanding of the structure of language and grammar, and use this knowledge to write narratives, technical text, speeches, and research projects. In addition, students will read and comprehend a variety of literature, including poetry and a variety of nonfiction text. As a result of the reading, writing, speaking, and listening students will do in this course, they will grow their vocabulary and their understanding of how to communicate effectively by making skillful choices when expressing themselves with language.

**Math:** This math course focuses on strengthening needed skills in problem solving, number sense, and proportional reasoning. It also introduces students to operations with rational numbers, solving multi-step equations and inequalities, and geometric concepts. Students will begin to see the "big picture" of mathematics and learn how numeric, algebraic, and geometric concepts are woven together to build a foundation for higher mathematical thinking.

**Social Studies:** This course focuses on Texas History. Texas History explores the history of the state from prehistoric times to the present. Students will learn about Texas' earliest inhabitants and examine the effects of European exploration, colonization, and statehood. Students will study the consequences of both American and world history events on the state of Texas and its people. Additional units of instruction introduce students to subjects such as Texas geography, and economics. The characteristics and functions of state, county, and local governments will be explored.

**Science:** This course is intended to introduce students to several different sectors of science. Some of the areas covered in Science, Grade 7 include the scientific method, overview of the four major areas of science, mathematics in science, the solar system, the atmosphere, natural cycles, weather and the earth, biology and genetics, and careers in science.

The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to be aware of and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on the students' natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Students at this level should show understanding of interrelationships between organisms, recognize patterns in systems, and expand their knowledge of cellular dimensions of living systems. Collectively, this should help students develop and build on their subject-matter knowledge base.

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**ELA:** English Language Arts 8 is a survey of literature that explores the work of various writers of different time periods through an historical lens. Students should enter this course with a foundation in analyzing, through a close study, various genres of literature and making connections with historical perspectives and the arts. In this course, students will build on these skills by studying a range of classic and contemporary literature to convey themes of American History, Natural History, World Civilization, and Air and Space. Students will also develop their writing skills while producing informative, argumentative, and narrative compositions. Supported by a balance of fictional and informational texts, students will learn and practice close reading, modeled reading, writing, speaking, and listening strategies.

Students will continue to build on the sequential development and the integration of communication skills in four major areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will expand an increasingly advanced understanding of the structure of language and grammar and use this knowledge to write academic-level essays, short stories, literary analyses, and focused research projects. In addition, students will read and comprehend a variety of literature, including poetry and a variety of fiction and nonfiction text. As a result of the reading, writing, speaking, and listening students will do in this course, they will grow their vocabulary and their understanding of how to communicate effectively by making skillful choices when expressing themselves with language.

**Math:** This math courses an introductory algebra course designed to prepare junior-high school students for Algebra I. The course focuses on strengthening needed skills in problem solving, integers, equations, and graphing. Students will begin to see the "big picture" of mathematics and learn how numeric, algebraic, and geometric concepts are woven together to build a foundation for higher mathematical thinking.

**Social Studies:** This course focuses on the history of the United States from European colonization through Reconstruction. Major areas of study are History, Geography, Economics, Government, Citizenship and Culture. Social studies skills, science, technology, and society will be studied. Lessons will focus on wars, U.S expansion, constitutional controversies, and Reconstruction. Also of importance is the study of the Industrial Revolution and its importance in shaping the United States as a powerful nation.

**Science:** This course is intended to expose students to the designs and patterns in the physical universe. This course expands on Science, Grade 7, providing a set of basic scientific skills and a broad survey of the major areas of science. Some of the areas covered in Science, Grade 8 include the structure and properties of matter, measurement and mathematics of science, geology, oceanography, natural cycles and resources, science today and tomorrow, and astronomy.

The curriculum seeks to develop the students' ability to be aware of and participate in scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects to capitalize on the students' natural curiosity. The students will explore, observe and manipulate everyday objects and materials in their environment. Students at this level should show understanding of interrelationships between organisms and the environment, recognize patterns in systems, and expand their knowledge of cellular dimensions of living systems. Collectively, this should help students develop and build on their subject-matter knowledge base.

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## High School Courses

### MATH:

**Algebra I:** Algebra I is a full-year, high school credit course that is intended for the student who has successfully mastered the core algebraic concepts covered in the prerequisite course, Mathematics, Grade 8. Within this course, the student will explore basic algebraic fundamentals such as evaluating, creating, solving, and graphing linear, exponential, and quadratic functions.

**Geometry:** Geometry Fundamentals is a full year, high school math course for the student who has successfully completed the prerequisite course, Algebra I. The course focuses on the skills and methods of linear, coordinate, and plane geometry. In it, students will gain solid experience with geometric calculations and coordinate plane graphing, methods of formal proof, and techniques of construction.

**Algebra II:** Algebra II is a full-year high school course that is intended for the student who has successfully mastered the core concepts covered in the prerequisite course, Algebra I. Within this course, students will broaden their knowledge of quadratic and exponential functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities. In addition, students will study logarithmic, square root, cubic, cube root, absolute value, rational, and inverse functions and their related equations. Students will connect functions to their inverses and associated equations and solutions in both mathematical and real-world situations. Lastly, students will extend their knowledge of data analysis and numeric and algebraic methods. Students must have taken Algebra I as a prerequisite to this course.

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### ENGLISH:

**ENGLISH I:** Students should enter this course with a foundation in fiction, drama, poetry, mythology, and nonfiction. This course will provide them with the opportunity to build on that foundation. They will engage in in-depth analysis of more complex literature, view that literature from its historical perspective, and connect it to other arts. They will write literary analyses, logical arguments, informational/explanatory texts, narratives, and focused research projects. These writing tasks will be both formal and informal. Additionally, they will engage in speaking and listening activities that use and incorporate media and technology. As a result of the reading, writing, speaking, and listening students will do in this course, they will grow their vocabulary and their understanding of how to communicate effectively by making skillful choices when expressing themselves with language.

To become critical consumers of text, students will be exposed to increasingly more complex texts to which they apply those skills. The content is both rigorous and relevant and includes high-quality contemporary works as well as the classics of literature. Students will be enriched as they expand their skills and confidence in English language arts through a comprehensive study

**ENGLISH II:** English II students will study literature that spans centuries, continents, and genres. Each of the thematically integrated units encourages close study of this literature and its context. Students will gain valuable cultural insight as they read and write about works depicting the social, personal, religious, and political struggles and triumphs faced by people all over the world and all through history. Students will continue to build their literacy skills by engaging in focused reading, composition, speaking and listening activities, vocabulary study, and research. By the end of the course, students will have gained a broader perspective and will be well prepared to apply that perspective to the study of American literature in English III.

To become critical consumers of text, students will be exposed to increasingly more complex texts to which they apply those skills. The content includes classic myths and stories from around the world, America's founding documents, foundational American literature, and Shakespeare. Students will be enriched as they expand their skills and confidence in English language arts through a comprehensive study.

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

**World Geography Studies:** World Geography Studies will challenge students to explore the world and understand the physical and human geography of various regions. Many areas of the social sciences will be studied, including geography, culture, history, government, economics and citizenship. Science and social studies skills will be studied, as well as technology. Students will study regions of the world and the political, economic, and cultural characteristics in each area.

**United States History:** United States History Studies Since 1877 examines American history from 1877 to the present day, placing special emphasis on the major political, economic, and social movements of the twentieth century. In addition, the first unit reviews important information and ideas about the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

**World History:** This year-long course discusses the people, events, and ideas that have shaped the course of history. Throughout the course, students will learn about a variety of topics, including: the important reasons we study history, the early civilizations of the world, the important political and social ideals that originated in classical Greece and ancient Rome, the major religions that have developed throughout the world, the major empires throughout history, interaction and exchange between the peoples of the world, major political, cultural, and religious revolutions, the impact of world war and its repercussions, important events of the 20th century.

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## SCIENCE:

**Biology:** Biology is intended to expose students to the designs and patterns of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. In preceding years, students should have developed a foundational understanding of life sciences. Expanding on that, this Biology course will incorporate more abstract knowledge including the micro and macro aspect of life. The major concepts covered are taxonomy, the chemical basis of life, cellular structure and function, genetics, microbiology, plant structure and function, animal structure and function, and ecology and the environment.

Students at this level should show development in their understanding of scientific inquiry. The units contain experiments and projects that seek to develop a deeper conceptual meaning for students and that actively engage them. The continued exposure of science concepts and scientific inquiry will serve to improve the students' skills and understanding.

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## SPANISH:

**Spanish I** is an entry level high school foreign language course that explores the Spanish language through communication, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Spanish I introduces students to the mechanics of the Spanish language, acquaints them with the cultural differences of Hispanic countries, and helps them gain a keen awareness of their own culture.

Course materials are designed to support students as they work to gain a basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Spanish, and in cultural competency. In addition to the default course program, Spanish I includes extra alternate lessons, projects, and tests for use in enhancing instruction or addressing individual needs.

**Spanish II** is a high school foreign language course that builds upon skills and concepts taught in Spanish I, emphasizing communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. This course gives students practice using the mechanics of the Spanish language, acquaints them with the cultural differences of Hispanic countries, and helps them gain a keen awareness of their own culture.

Course materials are designed to support students as they work to gain a basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Spanish, and in cultural competency. In addition to the default course program, Spanish II includes extra alternate lessons, projects, and tests for use in enhancing instruction or addressing individual needs.