



FOUNDATIONS

THE FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM is for mothers (or fathers) and all their children 12 and under.

We encourage mothers by forming friendships among women who want to train themselves and their children to think classically.

This simple, yet complete program enables a mother to teach her children to master a subject easily and efficiently.

Once a week, for 24 weeks, mothers and children meet at one location where the students are placed in groups of 8 students by age/grade. Students participate in art projects, science experiments, oral and written presentations, and in a rigorous memorization program. A parent must attend and is welcome to bring her pre-school children.

Our Goals:

- To provide foundational instruction for K-6th graders to enable them to know God and to make Him known
- To participate in a rigorous memorization program capitalizing on the young child's ability to absorb facts
- To instill a comprehensive understanding of Providence by mastering a timeline of significant historical events
- To teach students to draw and label continents from memory
- To develop a strong science vocabulary, to participate in science projects, and to teach the scientific method

To support and encourage parents of K-6th grade homeschools using the Christian, classical model of education.

- To help students develop oral and written presentation skills
- To model for students a respect for God's Word, the USA, and one another
- To memorize the major grammar rules of the English language
- To demonstrate how to learn Latin
- To master common math tables, conversions, squares, and cubes

- To encourage women to form friendships and provide accountability for educational excellence

Course of Study:

The Foundations Program is divided into three cycles, one cycle per year for three years. Each cycle consists of 24 weeks of study. Students that enter in 1st grade go through each cycle twice, each time developing greater understanding and mastery of the concepts. K-6th grade students may enter at any age and will benefit from participating for even one year. Students are presented new material each week, which they continue to study at home during the following week. Third through sixth grade students will be encouraged to read, research, and record what they learn about the subjects studied and then present their findings to their class. Parents of K-2nd Graders are encouraged to focus on teaching reading skills at home. Par-

ents should choose their own math curriculum to use with their students each week.

Overall Schedule:

12 weeks in the fall (Post Labor Day–Thanksgiving)

12 weeks in the spring (January–early April)

A Student Awards Ceremony culminates the program each April.

"Every subject needs to be attacked by a student like a foreign language, for every subject has its own lingo, jargon, or grammar."

—Leigh Bortins

The Classical Model

Classical Education trains students to learn any information through a 3-step process:

- 1) Memorize vocabulary and rules (also called grammar);
- 2) Process new concepts (also called dialectic or logic);
- 3) Clearly, persuasively and logically use grammar knowledge to influence others (also called rhetoric).

—Leigh Bortins

from her book *Echo in Celebration: A Call to Home-Centered Education*

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Community-Day Schedule:

- 9:00** **Large Group Opening** Student/parent-led prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, Scripture memory recitation, family presentations and Director announcements
- 9:30-12:00** **Classes** Students receive instruction in core subjects, participate in hands-on fine arts and science projects, and give a presentation. For older children, the presentation is generally on a history topic they researched the previous week. For younger children, presentations are similar to show-and-tell.
- 12:00** **Lunch** Children play outdoors with a parent monitor while the other parents converse about their own home school.
- 1:00-3:00** **Foundations Essentials Program**

*"I am so encouraged that I can really teach my children. You have provided the missing link (major chain!) in our school."
—Kerry, SC*

	CYCLE 1	CYCLE 2	CYCLE 3
HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY	WORLD: HISTORICAL EMPIRES, PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES (ANCIENT THROUGH MODERN)	PRE-REFORMATION WORLD THRU TODAY	U.S.: COLUMBUS TO CURRENT EVENTS
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY, EARTH SCIENCE, RELATED EXPERIMENTS	ECOLOGY, ASTRONOMY AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE	ANATOMY, CHEMISTRY
TIMELINE	CREATION TO MODERN AMERICA		
ART	MASTERS, DRAWING	IMPRESSIONISTS, DRAWING	AMERICAN MASTERS, DRAWING
MUSIC	COMPOSERS, MUSIC THEORY		
ENGLISH	VERBS, PREPOSITIONS	PRONOUNS, ADVERBS, CONJUNCTIONS	PARTICIPLES, IRREGULAR VERB TENSES, AND CLAUSES
LATIN	NOUN ENDINGS (DECLENSIONS)	VERB ENDINGS (CONJUGATIONS)	TRANSLATE JOHN I
MATH	MULTIPLICATION TABLES, CONVERSIONS, GEOMETRIC FORMULAS		
BIBLE MEMORY	EXODUS 20 (10 COMMANDMENTS)	EPHESIANS 6	JOHN 1:1-7

What is a Cycle?
Over a period of three years, we study either Old World History (Cycle 1), New World History (Cycle 2), or U.S. History (Cycle 3). All other subjects (geography, science, fine arts, etc...) correlate with these time periods when applicable. The cycle is not related to grade. Sixth graders cover the same material as Kindergarteners except they are expected to do more with the material covered. Students who begin Foundations in first grade will go through the Cycles twice, assuring preparation for our Challenge Programs.

To find a Foundations Community near you, to start a Foundations Community, or to learn more about participation costs, visit our web site and click on the "Communities" link. For resources and materials needed to participate in our Foundations Community, visit our online book store.