

Delaware County Christian School
Newtown Square, Pennsylvania

CORE LEARNING GOALS
(all disciplines)

BIBLE

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Understand and love God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), through saving faith in Jesus Christ.
2. Value the Bible as the inspired Word of God and apply it as truth in all of life.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of Bible content.
4. Understand that God is the Creator, Sustainer, and Lord of the universe.
5. Realize that human beings are created in the image of God and for that reason distinct from the rest of creation.
6. Understand that sin marred the image of God in man, and brought both physical and spiritual death upon him and his posterity.
7. Maintain an active and interdependent relationship with other Christians, working to promote the unity of the body of Christ through loving, encouraging, and serving its members.
8. Clearly articulate the Gospel of Jesus Christ and provide an informed rationale for a Christian worldview.
9. Understand how they can serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action, and choose to do so.

***DC acknowledges that the spiritual changes implicit in some goals require the Holy Spirit's work in a student's heart.**

FINE ARTS

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Acquire knowledge and develop technical skills in the fine arts.
2. Develop a life-long appreciation and enjoyment for the arts.
3. Apply the fine arts skills they have developed to express their Christian faith.
4. Communicate effectively and knowledgeably about art and artists, both visual and performing.
5. Acknowledge and respect one another's efforts and talents, recognizing God as the author of creativity.
6. Understand how society and the arts affect each other.

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GENERAL LEARNING SKILLS

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

- Take responsibility for his or her learning in a timely manner.
- Learn to effectively manage multiple responsibilities.
- Read and follow multi-step instructions in chronological order.
- Read and comprehend both concept and content related texts.
- Effectively take notes from written and oral communication.
- Develop good test taking skills.
- Generalize learned skills, concepts and strategies to new situations.
- Evaluate his or her performance in completing learning tasks.
- Develop habits that enable optimum performance in a group learning setting.
- Understand interrelatedness of learners in a group learning situation.

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GUIDANCE

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. View themselves as created in the image of God and responsible to be faithful stewards of the resources God has given them (e.g., aptitudes, personality, experiences, etc.).
2. Be challenged to build relationships that honor God, characterized by respect, willingness to resolve conflict, and sexual purity.
3. Consider how biblical principles relate to personal and interpersonal values, choices, and behaviors.
4. Apply biblical wisdom and faithfulness to their academic and personal decision making and future planning.
5. Understand how to use human and technical resources for decision making.
6. Contrast thinking Christianly with popular worldviews about college and career planning and work values.

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LANGUAGE ARTS

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Be familiar with important spelling rules and key elements of English grammar (e.g., parts of speech, punctuation rules, etc.).
2. Use a variety of resources to find answers to questions about spelling, grammar, mechanics, and appropriate word choices.
3. Produce, in their individual “voices,” well-crafted and creative sentences, paragraphs, five-paragraph essays, and other written products.
4. Proficiently communicate his and others’ understandings of the human condition, orally and in writing.
5. Understand that God gave humans imagination to communicate ideas and feelings that cannot be expressed adequately through other means, and be able to effectively use imagination’s tools: figurative language, symbol, allusion, rhythm, rhyme, etc.
6. Appreciate the aesthetics of written and spoken language.
7. Value communication skills for their importance in academic and job success, as well as in helping others both inside and outside of the church.

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LITERATURE

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Study both secular and Christian literary works, in order to see how God has revealed the human condition to Christians and nonchristians alike.
2. Understand the reliance on classical and Christian thought in British and American Literature.
3. Use a variety of thinking skills (e.g., comparison and contrast, inference, logic) to appropriately analyze different types of literature.
4. Distinguish biblical understandings from competing ones in regards to truth, beauty, goodness, equality, justice, and ethics.
5. Understand how grammar, diction, syntax, and connotation communicate meaning in literature.
6. Develop a broad vocabulary, in order to be proficient and advanced learners.
7. Develop a life-long enjoyment of literature.

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MATHEMATICS

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Recognize that as part of God's creation, mathematics reflects God's nature.
2. Exhibit good number sense and use mathematical operations with understanding.
3. Use measurement, estimation, and computation to solve problems.
4. Communicate mathematical ideas using appropriate vocabulary and symbolism, and apply those ideas to other areas of study.
5. Use mathematical reasoning to investigate and justify mathematical statements.
6. Develop spatial reasoning and use the properties of geometric figures to analyze and solve problems.
7. Write and use algebraic functions and graphs to model real-world relationships and solve problems.
8. Implement the ideas of probability and statistics to make inferences and critique statistical claims.
9. Use technology in meaningful ways to investigate mathematical concepts, to gather data, and to assist in solving problems.
10. Value mathematics as a tool for managing the creation, and seek to extend their skills through life-long learning.

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Develop a knowledge and skill base for sports and activities that can be enjoyed throughout life.
2. Appreciate the body God has given them and understand their stewardship responsibilities, including the development of healthy habits and life-long fitness.
3. Think biblically and critically about issues in our culture related to sports, competition, and physical fitness.
4. Respect individuals' different physical abilities and skill levels.
5. Experience character-building challenges through team competition and collaboration, and learn how to win and lose graciously.

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READING (Grades PreK-6)

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Use their knowledge of phonics and word structure to decode unfamiliar words.
2. Recognize and use cumulative vocabulary.
3. Demonstrate comprehension and thinking skills using a wide variety of literary elements and devices.
4. Evaluate the message of any written text from a biblical perspective.
5. Analyze and synthesize a text so that an author's intended message is understood.
6. Demonstrate reading fluency, including proper cadence in oral reading.
7. Develop a life-long enjoyment of reading.

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SCIENCE

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Understand that God reveals important truths through the Bible and nature, both of which can be misinterpreted as a result of human fallibility.
2. Recognize that natural processes are a part of God's creation, and under His control.
3. Understand that accepted scientific theories are tentative conclusions supported by a great deal of observational evidence.
4. Participate in scientific investigations.
5. Recognize ways in which change and interdependence are characteristics shared by most natural objects and processes.
6. Think about the social and personal (including spiritual) relevance of scientific information.
7. Gain a deepening understanding of the structure and function of the physical creation, as a foundation for future study, for informed participation in a scientific society, and for life-long enjoyment of the natural world.

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SOCIAL STUDIES

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Recognize that God works through nations and people groups to move history toward the achievement of His purposes for His glory, including significant historical turning points, and that this divine action continues today.
2. Understand that God has established three institutions as foundations of society: family, government, and church; therefore, leaders in these institutions are to be respected and obeyed.
3. Understand that though secular worldviews may offer insights into truth, many of their assumptions contradict foundational Christian principles.
4. Understand some of the factors that have repeatedly shaped historical events (e.g., power and authority, religion and ethical systems, economics, cultural interactions).
5. Explore the historical results of humanity's obedience and disobedience to God.
6. Understand the nature of democracy, including its uniqueness and the social factors upon which it depends.
7. Explore what it means to be citizens of God's kingdom, as well as citizens of this world.
8. Discover forms of occupation and community involvement by which Christians can serve God and impact the world through biblical thought and action.
9. Understand the shaping factors and distinct natures of historical cultures, and be motivated by this knowledge to support missions activities today.

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TECHNOLOGY

CORE LEARNING GOALS

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC students will:

1. Develop a Christian understanding of important issues that arise in a technology-based society.
 - Understand and exhibit appropriate behavior in the use of technology (e.g., regarding matters like cyber bullying, posting of personal information on the Internet, etc.).
 - Become proficient in the use of key computer technologies to access, analyze, interpret, synthesize, apply, and communicate information (e.g., word processing, spreadsheets, Power Point).

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WORLD LANGUAGES

CORE LEARNING GOALS

Note: DC language students are required to complete level III.

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC **beginning** language students (levels I-II) will:

1. Be able to ask for and give information, describe daily activities, and express preferences and opinions in the learned language.
2. Comprehend spoken and written language.
3. Recognize elementary differences in the type of language appropriate to various social settings (e.g., level of formality).
4. Begin to recognize distinctions in the way ideas are expressed in a second language.
5. Begin to recognize relevant geo-political divisions on a map.
6. Better understand and appreciate differences among diverse Christian cultures and their place in the global Christian community.

In an age-appropriate way, *all DC **intermediate** language students (levels III-AP) will reinforce knowledge acquired at the beginning level, and will:

1. Learn vocabulary and structures necessary for more sophisticated communication and for comprehending a wide spectrum of oral and written materials.
2. Learn to recognize differences between written and spoken language.
3. Apply a Christian worldview when discussing texts.
4. Use appropriate social responses in a variety of situations.
5. Deepen their knowledge of geo-political issues relevant to the learned language.

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