

Safe Harbor Hybrid Frequently Asked Questions About Curriculum

Why is the ISBN number on books important?

Sometimes there are versions of books that look very similar, but they have differences. Sometimes those differences are small and sometimes they are big and can cause problems keeping up with the lessons. If you are not sure about a particular book, reach out and ask and we'll do our best to let you know if an exact match on the ISBN is important.

Why are some of the prices different from the spreadsheet when I am purchasing books?

Many of these book publishers change their prices and have sales throughout the summer. At the time we write our lists, we try to give you the link to the best prices available. You are always welcome to get the book elsewhere, but just make sure it will arrive in time.

Do I have to purchase the book at the website listed on the curriculum guide? You are welcome to purchase the books wherever you like. New or used is fine! *Please check the ISBN numbers to make sure you are purchasing the correct book.* The website listed is the best price available at the time the curriculum guides were made.

Why do we ask you to print supplemental documents?

Supplemental documents are monthly documents that we add to our lesson plans. They often fall into one of the following categories:

- Digital items we've purchased the right to use that are significantly less costly for families if we use printable versions of them.
- Lessons that we have created ourselves to supplement our current curriculum.
- Lessons that we have purchased and refined in order for our specific needs.

We will only ask you to print items that cannot be found in a better form elsewhere and/or for less cost elsewhere. You can expect to print anywhere from 20-40 pages per month, so you will want to make sure that you have a reliable printer in your home.

Pre-K

Pre-K has no at home curriculum required. Pre-K will be following along with the same social studies themes as grades K-2. They will also be covering the same science topics as grades K-5. In the classroom, they will be using All About Reading Pre-Reading level ([Link here](#)), and Heggerty Pre-K level ([Link here](#)). If you wish to purchase these to use at home alongside the classroom days to reinforce concepts, you are more than welcome to!

Elementary

What does “family choice” mean for K-5 science?

As young families strive to accomplish all subjects for multiple students, we saw the need to lighten the load and link families together in learning. The simplest plan to do so was to offer unit-based learning in science. Each quarter will offer a new topic for all K-5 students. In this

manner, families may choose to purchase curriculum they love or load up at the library with correlated books. Classroom goals will be communicated to offer more information and focus. Ask your child's teacher for more information. Grade 3-5 will be providing science work on one campus day and at home days so there is no need to purchase any additional curriculum but there is some freedom to add onto if your child has a passion for an area of science they would like to explore. K-2 at home science resources will be more "choice board" fun learning experiences, which we all love for our littles learning style.

Why is there no printed item to purchase for first through fifth grade writing?

Writing in these first grades is so formative and vital to your child's development. It is highly beneficial for young writers to be building their writing muscles through connected phonics, spelling, grammar, handwriting, and writing. Simplify Writing is a flexible and comprehensive program. It does not have a written product, but can be printed at home. There will be ways to limit printing and your child's teacher will be able to explain more at orientation. However, please expect to print a larger number of pages at home than other grades may be requiring.

Why isn't spelling being done on campus?

In our experience, some families have felt strongly about using a curriculum they adore for spelling and have attempted to opt out on campus days. Instead of polarizing the different families on this topic, we observed everyone can use their home time for spelling as they see fit. Additionally, as we sought to make room for electives, we found that omitting spelling enabled a more connected campus time to dedicate to the shared experience of an elective class. Our teachers will be happy to share spelling curriculum options if you'd like help.

Middle & High School

Which calculator should I use? Any scientific calculator in the TI-30 series is great for 7th and 8th grade. As you start moving up levels in math you are going to need to complete more functions and need a higher level calculator. Algebra 2 will definitely need a more advanced scientific calculator and will be learning how to use the scientific calculator throughout the year. We suggest the TI-80 because it is currently approved for use on the ACT. The TI-80 can be used as early as you like if you only want to purchase one calculator that will last throughout your student's time in MS and HS, but is more of an investment, so you are welcome to wait until high school, especially if your student is one that loses things!

Why aren't all required courses of history or science being offered in high school?

As many know, this is our soft launch of Harbor High. Our goal is to find classes that all high school students will need. The beauty of history and science in Tennessee is that there is a list of what is required, but no order in which they have to be taken. Our current focus is finding classes that meet the needs of most of our high school students that have already applied. We encourage you to look at your umbrella program's website to find a template for planning out your high school years. Our goal for next year is to have more options so that everyone can have the classes they need by the time they graduate.

What if I want my student to be a math mover?

We have a process for that! Send an email to catherine.keyston@safeharborhybrid.com and we will send you a form for requesting math movement. Math movement is based on available space and making sure that students are adequately prepared for the next level of math and

can keep up for the whole year. Math movement is a privilege, so all math movers are expected to keep up with course work and ask for help when needed! We believe math movement is most effective when students have buy-in, so please make sure your son/daughter is on board. We are happy to talk you through whether or not your son/daughter would benefit from math movement if you are not sure. Just email catherine.keyston@safeharborhybrid.com.

In some cases math study hall is also an option, but it also depends on available space. Typically math study hall is for someone who isn't able to participate in our curriculum for pre-agreed placement reasons and is not because of curriculum preference.

Why are you offering a specific genre of literature instead of grade specific literature for 11th and 12th grade? This helps us fill classes better for our soft launch. We kept grades 9 and 10 grade specific because we felt the literature and writing were appropriate for those ages. The writing for 11th and 12th is very similar, so we felt we could do those together well. Many of our students had already completed the books that we will use next year for 11th grade. The books for British literature are appropriate for both 11th and 12th grade and don't worry...it's not all Shakespeare, which is what some might imagine when they hear British literature. All of the books are by British authors, but there are a wide variety of titles and types of literature. Next year we will offer US History alongside an American Literature class and those will pair well together if you choose to take both of them. You can see all of the books we are using on the curriculum list.

What are the differences between academic and non-academic electives? Optional Academic Electives are high school classes that are required for graduation, but are not part of our Safe Harbor Core Curriculum. We offer them so that students can meet graduation requirements if they choose to do so with our program. We recommend that you check with your umbrella program to see if they require them to be taken in a certain order. Non-Academic electives are classes that can possibly be counted for credit (*again...check in with your umbrella program*). We are offering them for fun and community!

When can I learn about middle & high school Non-Academic Electives? We will have those listed soon! We needed to make final decisions on our core curriculum first and then we will be working on the extra electives! We sent an interest form to families who have applied to Safe Harbor.

What are the high school Optional Academic Electives?

We have a few optional academic electives. These are electives that are required for graduation, but may not be needed right now for everyone, so we wanted to make them optional. The suggested grade levels are listed below, but if you need the course at a different grade level (high school only), please reach out and we will see if there is room!

World History - Suggested grades are 9th and 10th

Government & Economics (1 semester each) are open to all grades, but priority will be given to 11th and 12th for graduation purposes

Personal Finance & Health (1 semester each) are open to all grades, but priority will be given to 11th and 12th for graduation purposes

Biology: Suggested grades are 9th and 10th.

Anatomy & Physiology: Suggested grades are 11th

US History: Suggested grades are 9-12

Why is 12th grade using the 11th grade book for Essentials in Writing?

The 11th and 12th grade books are very similar and we felt that the 11th grade book was stronger. We will change topics so that students are not writing the same papers as last year, but are getting practice on various types of essays. Families who used the 11th grade program last year can reach out to Essentials in Writing via phone or email and they will extend your video subscription free for another year. Essentials in writing will also allow parents who have already purchase a grade level to purchase it again at a much cheaper price. If you have purchased 11th grade EIW, reach out by email and they will help you. In the past the cost went from \$119 to \$35 for another paper copy of 11th grade.