



CHRISTIAN LIGHT
EDUCATION

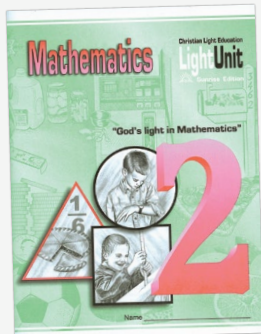
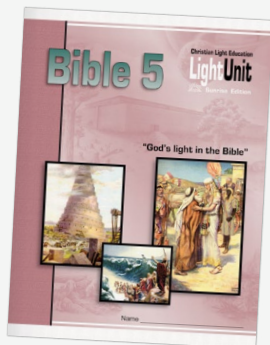
Curriculum

USER GUIDE





Definitions



♦ **LightUnit**

LightUnits are self-contained study booklets that include the lesson text, daily activities, quizzes, and a final test. Ten LightUnits equal a full one-credit course; five LightUnits equal a half-credit course. After Grade 2, students with average reading ability should be able to do many of the LightUnit exercises independently.

♦ **Sunrise Edition LightUnits**

Sunrise LightUnits are divided into daily lessons, including two quizzes and a test. Each LightUnit contains fifteen to seventeen days of work. Before issuing a LightUnit to the student, remove the test from the center and the quizzes from the back or center of the book. Give these to the student as directed in the LightUnit.

Nearly 75 percent of Christian Light's materials are available in the Sunrise format. Some courses are available in Sunrise 2nd Edition; these courses have been revised with improved lesson content and reviews.



◆ Non-Sunrise Edition LightUnits

These LightUnits are divided into sections with Self Checks and a LightUnit test. Christian Light is working to replace these LightUnits with Sunrise LightUnits. The test is in the center of the LightUnit and should be removed before giving the LightUnit to the student.

◆ Study Guide LightUnits

Study Guide LightUnits are structured like LightUnits but provide exercises, quizzes, and tests for the material in a textbook or reader. Tests are in the center and quizzes are perforated in the back. Both should be removed before giving the LightUnit to the student.

◆ Worksheets

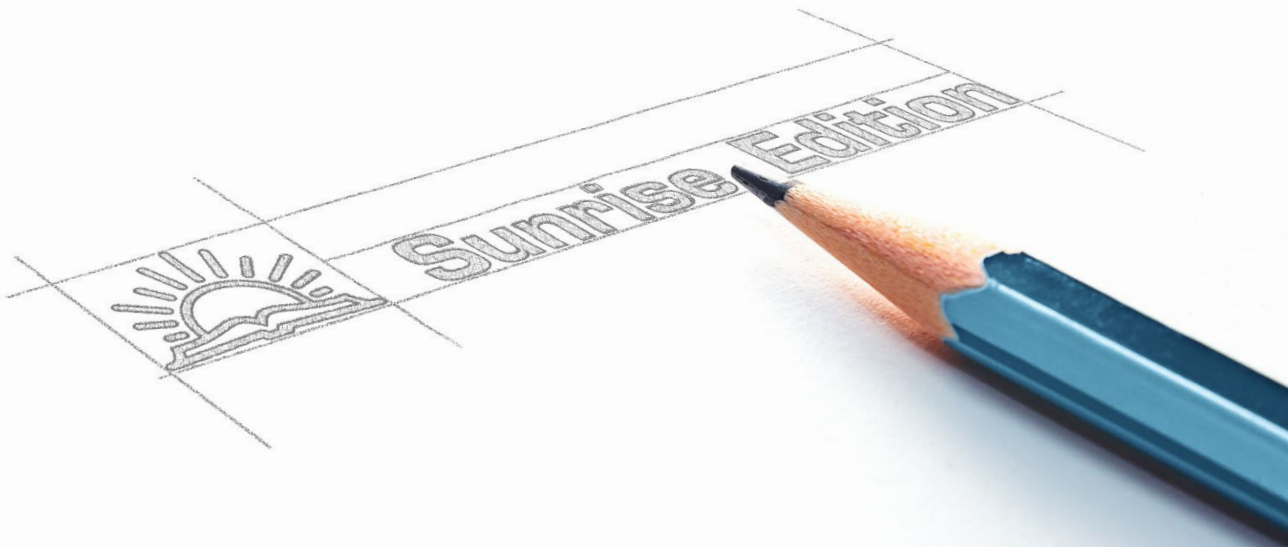
Worksheets accompany a textbook or reader and serve as an alternative to LightUnits for conventional classrooms. They are designed for teachers who give lectures, teach lesson material, and provide oral review. Christian Light is developing worksheets for reading and social studies. Quizzes, tests, and reviews come in a separate packet.

◆ Answer Keys

Answer keys come in several formats. Sunrise 2nd edition answer keys are reproductions of the LightUnit pages with answers, either in actual LightUnits or in a spiral-bound book. Older courses have answer keys that only list the answers.

◆ Teacher's Guides

Teacher's Guides vary between grades and subjects. In lower grades, Sunrise Edition Teacher's Guides contain helps for teaching the lesson, extra activities, a scope and sequence of the course, and alternate tests. Sunrise 2nd Edition courses and math Teacher's Guides contain student pages with answers and/or solutions filled in.



Design of Sunrise Edition



Introducing concepts incrementally and reviewing them continuously and systematically is key to successful learning. When developing Sunrise Edition, we incorporated the following elements.

Incremental learning

In language arts, math, and reading, new material is introduced in small steps, making the learning process less overwhelming and more efficient as students gradually comprehend the concept.

Students' daily work is based on a 30-to-70 ratio, with approximately 30 percent of the exercises being new material and 70 percent being review material. This approach is effective but requires careful attention to curriculum procedures. The learning of a concept is simple in the beginning and expanded in later lessons so that learning is cumulative.

Picture a train winding up and around a mountain. For example, the fraction train starts in Grade 1 with cars

carrying a light load of simple fractions. As the train winds up and around the track, it pauses at stations, filling the cars that were partially filled with more difficult concepts about fractions and adding new cars carrying small loads of new concepts. The train chugs to the top a few years later with cars filled with facts and concepts.



Systematic continuous review

Part of the incremental approach is a system of continuous, comprehensive review. After a concept is introduced, students review it multiple times through exercises in the following lessons. Students gain mastery of concepts through continuous review.





Essential Concepts and Procedures

Several concepts and procedures are essential for incremental learning and continuous review. They apply to all Christian Light curriculum and particularly to language arts, math, and reading.

Correcting mistakes



Because concepts are introduced and reviewed with a limited number of exercises, students must correct their mistakes to be successful. This is part of the learning process.

No daily scores

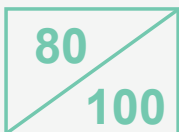


Since students work through the exercises and then make corrections, daily scores are not considered necessary. Christian Light recommends recording only quiz and test grades and using these to determine final scores.



Reviews and drills

With the incremental and cumulative structure, students must do all the reviews and drills. Closely follow each day's work as outlined in the Teacher's Guides, especially in the lower grade levels.



Eighty percent mastery on quizzes, Self Checks, and LightUnit tests

Students of average ability should not advance until they have demonstrated at least 80 percent mastery of the material. A grade lower than 80% on a test or quiz indicates they have not mastered the material. If a student scores 70-79% on a LightUnit test in content subjects (Bible, science, or social studies) or 75-79% in skill subjects (math, language arts, or reading), he may review the concepts he is weak in. Verify that he knows the material by quizzing him or giving a remedial assignment. You may upgrade his final score to 80%. If his score is lower than the given benchmarks, he may need to do more extensive remedial work before retesting.

When a student scores lower than 80%, consider what the cause may be. Perhaps the student was careless or did not follow directions. Perhaps he did not understand what the questions or directions were asking. In content subjects, consider whether the student could be given the test orally to bypass reading and determine his actual knowledge of the subject.

If all controls are followed, including sufficient review, and the student still consistently fails to achieve 80%, consider underlying causes. What is the student's natural ability? Can he be expected to achieve 80% or above? These students may need to be evaluated by a trained person or to have one-on-one assistance.



Diagnostic tests

Students switching to Christian Light curriculum need to be evaluated to determine their level of competency. They should not be placed in grade levels they cannot master. The continuous review of concepts will advance them from their beginning points to where they need to be.

The diagnostic tests function as placement tests, not as achievement tests. Language arts and math diagnostic tests are available and are designed to find areas where Christian Light's scope and sequence differs from the student's previous curriculum. Because new concepts are introduced incrementally, they are sometimes introduced at an earlier level in Christian Light curriculum than they are in curriculum that employs a chapter or mastery approach.

Language arts practice sheets, math skill development sheets, and other tools are available to aid in a student's transition and to help fill in the learning gaps.

Conclusion

Incremental learning and systematic continuous review give Christian Light curriculum a unique approach in education. Understanding the methods and following the appropriate teaching procedures will yield positive results.



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