



WHAT'S IN YOUR TOOLBOX?

BY CINDI BANSE

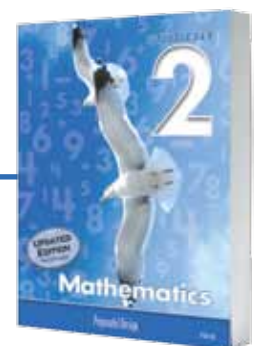
Have you ever set out to complete a task only to discover that the tools you brought were inadequate for the job? A dull saw for a carpenter is problematic. A textbook is a tool in the hands of a classroom teacher. It is *not* the curriculum. Rather, it is a resource (a tool) for the skilled classroom teacher to use to accomplish instructional objectives for the day, the week, the month, and the school year. In the same way that a carpenter needs a sharp saw, every classroom teacher needs a quality textbook that does not script or prescribe each step of the instructional process. Instead, the textbook should be designed so that the teacher—skilled and trained—can shape every lesson to address the unique needs of each student in the classroom.

PURPOSEFUL DESIGN MATHEMATICS

Purposeful Design Mathematics (grades K–8) aligns well with the National Common Core Standards and the NCTM guidelines. The series is designed to teach critical thinking skills, to model math concepts through the use of manipulatives, to weave algebra and geometry into all grade levels, to direct instruction that teaches to all learning styles, to shape lesson plans that offer enrichment, recovery, and reinforcement, and as well as to drill for fact memorization. Problem solving is integrated throughout the series; students apply each concept to real-world situations. Unlike many math textbook series, Purposeful Design textbook developers understand the

That is what you will find in each and every textbook that bears the Purposeful Design Publications logo. Lessons are not scripted as with some publishers. Careful research and development has gone into each lesson in every textbook. There will always be an abundance of content along with multiple instructional options for the teacher. Purposeful Design textbooks are prepared by teachers—for teachers. Don't get caught trying to deliver instruction with textbooks that are inadequate for the job.

Here is what you will find in the Purposeful Design Publications textbook series:



importance of math comprehension for building a strong mathematical foundation. They also understand the pitfalls of math instruction that over-emphasizes the memorization of algorithms. Purposeful Design Mathematics has all of the positive components of other popular math series (strong use of manipulatives, concept mastery, and emphasis on problem solving) and makes it easy for parents to be able to work with their child. Purposeful Design also offers a series of short math instructional videos to assist both students and parents.

From the most recent administration of the *TerraNova 3*, students using Purposeful Design outscored students using math books from the two other prominent Christian publishers. An administrator in Woodbridge, Virginia, had this to say.

Based on God’s principles of the order of creation, Purposeful Design Mathematics is a comprehensive math that balances conceptual understandings of mathematics with appropriate drill and practice and allows students to practice the conceptual skills they have learned with meaningful, real-life problems.

PURPOSEFUL DESIGN SCIENCE

Purposeful Design Science (grades 1–6) also aligns with the current national standards, prepares students for STEM coursework, and follows a similar philosophy to that of mathematics. Students experience science from a biblical worldview perspective through an engaging, inquiry-based instructional model. Lessons are structured to offer hands-on activities engaging students in discovery, exploration, and investigation of God’s purposefully designed world. Textbook developers at Purposeful Design believe that science is not just reading a textbook, learning science words, and answering questions. Lessons have been developed to take advantage of the natural curiosity of students. Students using Purposeful Design Science, according to the recent administration of the *TerraNova 3*, outscored students who use science from the two other prominent Christian publishers.

A teacher in Largo, Florida, shared this after the school where she teaches had used the Purposeful Design Science for just one year:

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE SCIENCE FROM A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW PERSPECTIVE THROUGH AN ENGAGING, INQUIRY-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL.

PROBLEM SOLVING IS INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT THE SERIES; STUDENTS APPLY EACH CONCEPT TO REAL-WORLD SITUATIONS.

When used as designed, Purposeful Design Mathematics will bring about mathematical proficiency and proper preparation for the next level of math, and your students will find that math is both doable and useful.



The Purposeful Design curriculum gave the fifth-grade science teacher the tools to challenge her students and help them develop their critical thinking and analytical skills. The students are able to logically work through and answer scientific questions independently. In the past those skills have not been developed until second semester for the average sixth-grade student. It is exciting for me to finally have a science curriculum available that is based on God’s Word and causes each student to develop critical thinking skills.

Purposeful Design Science takes the investigation of the world God created to a whole new level. Your students deserve a rigorous, challenging science instructional program, and *Purposeful Design Science* is just the science program they need.

PURPOSEFUL DESIGN ELEMENTARY BIBLE

Purposeful Design Elementary Bible (grades P–6) textbook series is our most popular series, and we intend to keep it that way. This series has been completely revised. Input from hundreds of teachers in ACSI member schools was collected, evaluated, and then implemented into the revision.

We were careful to keep all of the content and features of the series that were the most essential and impacting. And the emphasis on the centrality of God’s Word remains unchanged. Bible study, prayer, and worship are essential for spiritual growth, and they are prominent components of this newly revised series. We have taken a very good Bible instructional series and have made it even better.

The revised series has an expanded focus on evangelism, missions, stewardship, service, and a biblical

Christian worldview. Each day’s lesson provides meaningful activities and personal application opportunities.

This Bible-rich series gives classroom

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CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW.**

You owe it to yourself and your students to take a look at the Purposeful Design Elementary Bible series; it is second to none.



teachers lessons that engage students to think about and develop in their faith. Added features include four chapel programs and stand-alone lessons for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter at each grade level. Music CDs and full-color visual aids are also a part of the series for the primary grades. Every grade level has a Resource CD. Another feature of this series is that it can be used with any of the major translations of the Bible.

PURPOSEFUL DESIGN SPELLING

Purposeful Design Spelling (grades 1–6) has been developed to enhance literacy programs through explicit and sequential spelling instruction. The series utilizes a five-day instructional approach with well-researched

word lists organized around phonetic and structural principles. Each word list has been designed to enable students to see relationships and patterns within words. The lists also include a number of nonphonetic sight words frequently used in writing. Guided practice makes it possible for students to learn the basic phonetic structure of most English words and spelling generalizations so that they are able to spell words accurately in their writing. Weekly assessment allows teachers to monitor student progress.

Both teacher and student editions contain a spelling dictionary for reference. Biblical truth is naturally integrated into the lessons and suggestions are provided for

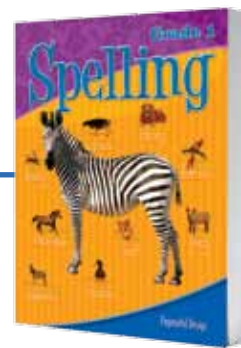
cross-curricular applications, which include literature connections and writing challenges. A list of suggestions for differentiating instruction to

**EACH WORD LIST HAS
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ENABLE STUDENTS TO
SEE RELATIONSHIPS AND
PATTERNS WITHIN WORDS.**

meet the needs of all learners is included in each lesson.

Students in fourth through sixth grades learn the Greek and Latin roots of many common English words, enabling them to learn both the spelling and the meaning of list words as well as many other related words. Writing assignments provide a purpose for spelling.

In the most recent administration of the *TerraNova 3* to ACSI member schools, students who used Purposeful Design Spelling scored higher than the students who used spelling texts from the other two prominent Christian school book publishers.



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