SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY:

Saint Francis of Assisi is represented by the abbreviation SFA. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week’s daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the DAY 1, DAY 2, DAY 3, DAY 4 and DAY 5 abbreviations.

The chapter study questions, chapter vocabulary and glossary are located in the Elementary Literature Study Question booklets available for purchase from Kolbe Academy. Answers should be given in complete written or oral sentences.

There are no chapters in Saint Francis of Assisi, just 20 very short stories, so assign the work by the title of each story.

Characters:

Lady Pica, Francis of Assisi’s mother
Peter Bernadone, Francis of Assisi’s father
Gautier de Brienne, a great knight who was to fight the Germans
Bishop Guido, the bishop of Assisi to whom Peter Bernardone took Francis
Sister Clare, a noble woman of Assisi who followed Francis
Pacifica, Clare’s cousin to whom Clare told that she was going to follow Francis
Cardinal Pelagio, the cardinal who warned Francis not to go speak to the Moslem sultan
Sultan Malik-al-Kamil, the chief sultan of the Moslems
John Velita, a friend of Francis who allowed Francis to use one of his caves to make the first Christmas crèche
Brother Illuminato, the friar who went with Frances to talk to the sultan
# WEEK 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Weekly Breakdown</th>
<th>Goals and Notes for the Week</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SFA</td>
<td>Canticle of the Sun &amp; Pages 6-23</td>
<td>Review the vocabulary words with the student prior to reading. If any are unfamiliar, have the student look up the vocabulary words in the glossary. You may want to have the student write each one in a sentence. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed.</td>
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### Notes

### Student Daily Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>SFA Canticle of the Sun, The Christening in Assisi, and The French Troubadours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Have the student read Canticle of the Sun. The student may need some help in reading this poem. The poem is in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His creation including the sun, the moon, stars, wind, and water. The Christening in Assisi. Peter Bernardone, Francis of Assisi’s father, was in France on business when he was born and baptized. His mother, Lady Pica, named him John after St. John the Baptist. Peter had been so successful in France that he changed his name to Francis. The French Troubadours. Peter Bernadardone was upset with Francis because he had become a wild young man who spent money carelessly on rich clothes and parties with the rich nobles. They disturbed everyone in town. Some French troubadours came in town and sang of King Arthur. This made Francis decide to become a knight to help the poor. Although his father expected him to work in the shop, he was pleased that he was popular with the rich young men.</td>
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<tr>
<th>DAY 2</th>
<th>SFA The Beggar in the Shop, The Duke Decides, The Battle Resumes, and The Impoverished Knight</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Have the student read The Beggar in the Shop. Francis was waiting on a rich man in his father’s shop when a poor beggar came in asking for help. He ignored the beggar, made a great sale to the customer, and felt very proud of himself. Then he remembered that a knight would not ignore a beggar. He ran through town until he found the man and gave him the bag of gold the customer had paid him. It made him so happy that he vowed he would never refuse to help the poor. The Duke Decides. The townspeople of Assisi rebelled against the cruel duke who was oppressing them. They burned down his castle and he and his German garrison fled along with the nobles who</td>
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### Notes

**St. Francis of Assisi**

SSF2
had forced the commoners to be their slaves. The merchants decided they would govern and protect the people themselves. Francis helped them take stones from the castle and build a wall around Assisi so no cruel duke could ever rule them again. It was the first time Francis had ever worked hard, and he liked it. He wondered if God is more like the community than like the duke because in building the wall the citizens grew strong and loyal to each other. **The Battle Resumes.** The Perugians started a war with Assisi, and Francis joined in the battle. The Perugians killed the Assisians but not the knights whom they imprisoned hoping to get ransom. Francis, who was locked in the dungeon with the other knights, was not upset. He said he would become a famous knight and be famous. After a year the men were ransomed and allowed to go home, which made Francis’ father happy because Francis was such a good salesman. **The Impoverished Knight.** Francis decided to leave his father’s shop and join Gautier de Brienne, a famous knight, and fight against the Germans because he wanted to be knighted and become famous. His father didn’t like it but ended up giving him a bag of gold with which Francis bought a horse and all of the equipment he needed for battle. On his way back home he saw a poor knight who was headed out to join de Brienne. Francis gave the knight all of the equipment he had just bought for himself. Francis felt good about what he did because he “..felt the love of God rising in his heart.”

**The Dream of a Lifetime.** Francis started out to become a knight with a young squire riding behind him. When they camped out that night, Francis couldn’t sleep. He dreamed that Our Lord spoke to him and told him he should go back to Assisi and He would tell him what to do. In the morning when they got back to Assisi the townsfolk made fun of the “brave knight”. He wasn’t embarrassed and said he was called to a greater purpose. **The Cave.** Francis had lost all interest in selling cloth so he walked in the hills wondering what God wanted of him. He found a little cave in the mountains and went in. He realized that he had wasted his time in parties and rich clothes and thought God was punishing him. He thought of the beggar who had been in his father’s shop and the poor knight who had reminded him of Jesus and realized that Jesus was poor to help the poor and sick and to show that God is love. He decided he was Christ’s knight and Poverty was his lady. He would show the world that God is love. **The Pilgrimage to Rome.** Francis walked on a pilgrimage to Rome dressed in expensive clothes. While there a beggar asked him
for help. He traded his clothes for the beggar’s ragged, smelly ones and headed back to Assisi. He was very happy because he had acted like Christ’s knight. On the way he saw a leper. At first he ran away then realized that God loved the leper as much as himself. He went back and hugged the smelly leper, apologized, and told him he wanted to be his friend.

**Written Assignment:** Tell about the way Francis changed and what he learned because of his change.

| DAY 4 | SFA Written Assignment | Have the student complete the written assignment in a minimum of 1 paragraph, due Monday. |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Include ✔</th>
<th>(A) Points Earned</th>
<th>(B) Possible Points</th>
<th>A/B x100 =% (C)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Study Questions</td>
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<td><strong>Week 1 Average</strong></td>
<td>Add up column C &amp; divide by number of included ✔ assignments =</td>
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## COURSE PLAN

### WEEK 2

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<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Weekly Breakdown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SFA</td>
<td>Pages 24-46</td>
<td>Review the vocabulary words with the student prior to reading. If any are unfamiliar, have the student look up the vocabulary words in the glossary. You may want to have the student write each one in a sentence. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed.</td>
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#### Notes

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<th>STUDENT DAILY ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>PARENT DAILY GUIDELINES</th>
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<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
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<td>SFA</td>
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<td>The Church of San Damiano and The Friars</td>
<td>Have the student read The Church of San Damiano. When Francis got back to Assisi in the beggar’s ragged clothes, his father was upset with him saying no one would buy from him with him wearing rags. He left and went to the church of San Damiano, which was crumbling and prayed in front of the crucifix. Jesus told him to rebuild His house. He hurried back, got his father’s horse, loaded it up with his father’s goods, and sold even the horse. He gave the bag of money to the priest at San Damiano to repair the walls of the church. The priest did not want to take the money because it belonged to Peter, his father. He spent the night in the church. Peter was furious and was after Francis so Francis ran into the forest, dug a hole in the ground, and stayed there for a month. He was so thin and weak that he prayed to God for a knight’s courage, and went back to face his father. His father locked him in the house dungeon and told Pica to keep him there. Francis told Pica what he had been doing and that he had to rebuild Christ’s house. She let him out and gave him food and money, and he went back to the church. When Peter came back he captured Francis and took him to the bishop who told Francis he was wrong. Francis stripped himself naked and gave the expensive clothes to his father. His father never spoke to him again. Francis found a scratchy brown gardener’s robe and tied a rope around it. He only wanted God’s wealth. Bishop Guido told Francis that he reminded him of John the Baptist because of his love for God. The Friars. Francis rebuilt San Damiano with a lot of help from others. Everyone wanted to be around him because he was joyful, sang about God’s love, and was kind to everyone. He soon realized</td>
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<td>DAY 2</td>
<td>SFA Sister Clare, The Sermon to the Birds, Francis Rescues the Turtle Doves, and The Wolf of Gubbio</td>
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<td>that God wanted him to tell people to know God is love. Soon men permanently joined Francis, wore brown robes, and went barefoot. They wanted to take care of the poor and imitate Jesus. They called themselves friars because it means brothers. They went around to villages to sing and preach about God’s love. The Franciscan Friars spread all over Italy and France, living in poverty so people could see the life of Jesus and the love of God. Have the student <strong>read Sister Clare</strong>. Clare was a beautiful noblewoman of Assisi who heard Francis speak about God and His love for all creation. Through him she fell in love with God and wanted to live as he did. Her cousin Pacifica helped Clare go to meet Francis and the friars by sneaking out at night to take vows and dedicate her life to God. She knew her rich parents would not allow her to do it. Clare got rid of her expensive clothes and wore a plain brown robe. She knelt down in front of Francis and made a vow to live in poverty and never marry so she could pray more and help the poor. Francis cut off all of her hair, and when her father’s men came to stop it she told them the only marriage she wanted was to love God and serve the poor. <strong>The Sermon to the Birds</strong>. Francis walked all over Italy preaching, and people followed him because they wanted to hear everything he had to say. He gave a sermon to the birds that flew around him and even landed on him. He told them to thank God for everything and that they all give glory to God. They seemed to be happy that God was their friend. Francis understood all of the animals and the friars agreed that he was like Adam. <strong>Francis Rescues the Turtle Doves</strong>. Francis saw a little boy with a cage full of turtle doves, which he was going to sell. Francis begged him to let him have them. The boy gave them to Francis who made nests for them and talked to them. The boy watched in amazement. Francis told him that one day he would become one of his friars, which he did when he grew up. <strong>The Wolf of Gubbio</strong>. A wild wolf was terrorizing the people in the town of Gubbio. Francis told them he would talk to the wolf so they could all live in peace, but they were afraid the wolf would attack him. He talked to the wolf and let him know he was to leave the people in peace and they would feed him. The wolf was tamed; the people fed him every day; and when he died they were sad.</td>
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### DAY 3

**SFA**
- Francis and the Sultan of Egypt,
- The First Christmas Creche,
- The Stigmata,
- The Call to Repentance

Have the student **read** Francis and the Sultan of Egypt. The Moslems had taken over the Holy Land so Christian knights from all over were fighting them. Francis thought the crusade was not holy so he decided to go speak to Sultan Malik-al-Kamil to end the war. Cardinal Pelagio warned him not to go because he would be killed, but Francis said he was Christ’s knight and would fight for peace with love and truth. He and Brother Illuminato sailed to Egypt and walked into the enemy camp where they were captured, beaten, and then taken to the sultan. Francis told the sultan that he was there to tell him about the love of Christ. They became friends, and the sultan let him go but wanted him to come back again because he knew Francis was a holy man, and he wanted to know God’s will. Francis was the only knight who tried to end the war without fighting. **The First Christmas Creche.** Francis had an idea that he wanted to help people better understand the meaning of Christmas. His friend, John Velita let him use one of his caves where Francis made the first crèche. People came from all over to see the stable of Bethlehem with animals and a manger and to hear Francis tell about the Lord of the universe Who came to us as a helpless baby. **The Stigmata.** Francis became ill and was almost blind when he went to a mountain top alone. He realized that he was getting close to death and ready for heaven, and he prayed that he could know the sufferings of Jesus. An angel appeared to him, and he received the wounds of Jesus in his hands, feet, and side. Two year later he died. He had shown that God is our very best friend. **The Call to Repentance.** This is a lovely poem written by St. Francis of Assisi. Read the poem to your child, and explain it to him. It might be good to read it together occasionally as a night prayer.

### DAY 4

**SFA**
- Written Assignment

Have the student **complete** the written assignment in a minimum of 1 paragraph, due Monday.

**Written Assignment:** Pretend that you lived in Gubbio when the wolf was attacking and killing the animals. How did you feel? What happened when St. Francis came to Gubbio? How did you feel later?

### Week 2 Grade Book

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Include</th>
<th>(A) Points Earned</th>
<th>(B) Possible Points</th>
<th>A/B x100 =% (C)</th>
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<tr>
<td>SFA</td>
<td>Written Assignment Review Exam</td>
<td><strong>Written assignment:</strong> Congratulations! You have finished reading <em>Saint Francis of Assisi</em>. Now you need to write a nice book report on the story.</td>
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### Student Daily Assignments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>SFA Written Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Assignment. Work on your book report. Review your paper to make sure everything you have written supports your thesis statement, and the entire paper has a gentle flow from one supported idea to the next. Check for spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors. Rewrite the paper neatly if you are writing it in long hand.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 2</th>
<th>SFA Review</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have the student <strong>study for the Exam.</strong> Review all your Study Questions.</td>
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<tr>
<th>DAY 3</th>
<th>SFA Exam</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have the student <strong>take the Exam.</strong></td>
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### Week 3 Grade Book

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<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>Other:</td>
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**Week 3 Average**

Add up column C & divide by number of included ☐ assignments = %
WEEK 1:

Written Assignment:
Tell about the way Francis changed and what he learned because of his change.

Answers will vary but should include some of the following:

- He was only interested in partying at first.
- When he was a prisoner in the dungeon, he decided he would become a famous knight.
- When Jesus spoke to him he went back to Assisi to see what Jesus wanted of him.
- He decided he would become Christ’s knight.
- He became interested in helping people instead of becoming a famous knight.
- He became happy after giving his clothes to a beggar and accepting the leper as a friend because of his love for God.

WEEK 2:

Written Assignment:
Pretend that you lived in Gubbio when the wolf was attacking and killing the animals. How did you feel? What happened when St. Francis came to Gubbio? How did you feel later?

Answers will vary.
Part I. Plot Elements (30 points).
Arrange the following statements in order by numbering them according to the correct order of events.

1. _____ The followers of Francis are called friars.
2. _____ Francis steals his father’s horse and goods for money to rebuild the church at San Damiano.
3. _____ Francis tames the wolf in Gubbio.
4. _____ Francis wears a gardener’s brown robe.
5. _____ Francis receives the wounds of Jesus in his hands, feet, and side.
6. _____ Francis gives a bag of his father’s gold to a beggar.
7. _____ Francis takes a Pilgrimage to Rome.
8. _____ Francis decides to become Christ’s knight.
9. _____ Sister Clare takes vows to live in poverty and never marry.
10. _____ Francis is captured by the Perugians and put in a dungeon.

Part II. Character (30 points). Fill in the blanks.

Lady Pica  Peter Bernardone  Gautier de Brienne  Bishop Guido  
Sister Clare  Pacifica  Cardinal Pelagio  John Velita  
Brother Illuminato  Sultan Malik-al-Kamil

1. A noblewoman of Assisi who followed Francis ________________________________
2. The father of Francis _____________________________________________________
3. Francis’ father took Francis to ____________________________ after he stole the horse and goods.
4. The cousin of Clare _____________________________________________________
5. __________________________________ went to Egypt with Francis.
6. The leader of the Moslems _____________________________________________
7. Francis’ mother ________________________________________________________
8. He warned Francis against going to Egypt _________________________________
9. A great knight who fought the Germans _____________________________
10. The friend of Francis who let him use one of his caves for the crèche _____________________________

Part III. Vocabulary (20 points). Write “true” if the italicized word is used correctly, and “false” if it is not.

1. The serene child is always making a lot of noise.
2. Francis wanted to fight for the oppressed.
3. Francis’ parents were aristocrats.
4. The travelers smelled the stench of the beautiful roses.
5. God has immense love for all of his creatures.
6. The ravenous wolf had plenty to eat.
7. The crèche was built on a craggy hilltop.
8. Francis looked for the elusive beggar.
9. The mason baked cakes for a living.
10. Francis felt compassion for the poor and sick.

Part IV. Essay Question (20 points).

Write a good paragraph giving examples of how Saint Francis treated animals and how they reacted to the way he treated them.
Part I. Plot Elements (30 points). Arrange the following statements in the correct chronological order.

1. 7 - The followers of Francis are called friars.
2. 10 - Francis steals his father’s horse and goods for money to rebuild the church at San Damiano.
3. 8 - Francis tames the wolf in Gubbio.
4. 7 - Francis wears a gardener’s brown robe.
5. 2 - Francis receives the wounds of Jesus in his hands, feet, and side.
6. 4 - Francis gives a bag of his father’s gold to a beggar.
7. 1 - Francis takes a Pilgrimage to Rome.
8. 9 - Francis decides to become Christ’s knight.
9. 3 - Sister Clare takes vows to live in poverty and never marry.
10. 5 - Francis is captured by the Perugians and put in a dungeon.

Part II. Character (30 points). Fill in the blanks.

1. Sister Clare
2. Peter Bernardone
3. Bishop Guido
4. Pacifica
5. Brother Illuminato
6. Sultan Malik-al-Kamil
7. Lady Pica
8. Cardinal Pelagio
9. Gautier de Brienne
10. John Velita

Part III. Vocabulary (20 points).

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. True
8. True
9. False
10. True

Part IV. Essay Question (20 points).

Write a good paragraph giving examples of how Saint Francis treated animals and how they reacted to the way he treated them.

*Answers will vary but the student should give examples from the stories told, i.e. The Sermons to the Birds, Francis Rescues the Turtle Doves, and The Wolf of Gubbio*