

Welcome Teachers and Parents!

We are thrilled that you will be teaching Greek to some younger students. There is a growing interest in teaching Greek around the English-speaking world, and even an interest in teaching it to young children. Why? Well, Greek is recognized as being foundational to much of modern learning, particularly science and medicine. It is also the basis for approximately 20 percent of English vocabulary. Naturally it is the language of many classical writers (e.g., Plato, Aristotle, Herodotus, and Thucydides to name a few) as well as the language of the Greek New Testament. In addition, young children are particularly suited to learning language, and even learning a language such as Greek is a delight to a well-taught primary student. This text is designed to create a taste and love for the Greek language that will give the growing student confidence and an abiding interest in the ongoing study of Greek.

Song School Greek is a basic introduction to the Greek language and aims to teach students the Greek alphabet, basic decoding skills, 135 vocabulary words, and some conversational Greek. As the title of the book implies, we seek to teach Greek to younger students using both text and song. The CD that accompanies the student text contains thirty child-friendly songs that enable students to easily memorize their Greek vocabulary while enjoying a memorable song. There is a song keyed to each chapter in the book.

Using the DVD

We have included an instructional DVD (bound into the book) for teachers in order to give new teachers of Greek chapter-by-chapter guidance as they prepare and teach their students. We encourage teachers to view the video for each chapter prior to teaching that chapter.

Pacing and Schedule

Students should be able to go through one chapter a week, on average, easily completing the book within a September-to-May time frame. There are review chapters built into the text about every five weeks so that students can take a week and lock in the content of the previous five chapters. The text can normally be mastered by spending about ten to fifteen minutes per day in the workbook, four days per week. You will likely need more time during the first five to six chapters (as students are learning the strange, new, and fascinating alphabet) than they will during the remaining chapters. It is fine to take an extra week as necessary to study the content of a chapter that might need more time and reinforcement. We encourage parents to play the CD in the car and around the home so that students learn and reinforce their Greek vocabulary throughout the week and not just during class time. Most students will do so with delight and learn their vocabulary quite well.

If you would like to spend more time teaching the Greek alphabet, we recommend *Greek Alphabet Code Cracker*, which is a creative eight-chapter text dedicated to teaching only the Greek alphabet. *Greek Alphabet Code Cracker* is not necessary for teaching *Song School Greek*, but may prove to be an enjoyable supplement. Samples of *Greek Alphabet Code Cracker* are available online at www.ClassicalAcademicPress.com.