

# THE TRIVIUM

**GRAMMAR STAGE:** The focal years of elementary school when the building blocks of all other learning are laid. This stage includes the tasks of memorizing, learning facts and rules of reading, writing and spelling, mathematics, science, history and geography, art and music. Core Knowledge K-8 provides this great foundation.

**LOGIC STAGE:** The capacity for abstract learning begins to mature in the middle school years. The student begins to learn algebra and logic and begins to apply logic to all academic subjects. He is learning how to support what he has learned in the grammar stage. Debate is a part of this stage. The teacher guides the student to ask, “who, what, when, why, how?”

**RHETORIC STAGE:** This “expression” stage builds on the first two stages and is developed more fully in high school and beyond. The student uses the knowledge and the logic he has learned to write and to speak with skill. The goal here is to produce an articulate learner—one who can express himself persuasively with clarity, force and elegance. This is also the time for the student to explore the branches of knowledge that appeal to him with goal of developing into a well-rounded life-long learner.