

Prima Latina (A Latin precursor for young children)

*Prima Latina* is a preparatory course for Cheryl Lowe's *Latina Christiana*. It is intended for teachers with no background in Latin and was developed for children in first through fourth grade. The course was designed for students who are still becoming familiar with English grammar. Its goal is to teach and reinforce an understanding of the basic parts of speech while teaching beginner Latin. This provides a solid foundation in grammar before moving on to more advanced language and Latin skills. *Prima Latina* is an ideal precursor to *Latina Christiana*, as the vocabulary and format are taken directly from the *Latina Christiana I* text. The book is accompanied by an audio tape. *Latina Christiana I Flash Cards* are an ideal study aid for *Prima Latina* and a great investment for the parent or teacher who intends to use *Latina Christiana I* and *II* as successor courses.

*Prima Latina* uses the clear and systematic format developed in *Latina Christiana* to introduce Latin to young students. The course teaches children in grades K-3 seven parts of speech, 125 Latin vocabulary words, numbers 1 through 10, basic constellations, and simple introductions to tenses, derivatives, conjugations, and declensions. Each of the 25 new lessons consists of a new grammar skill, five vocabulary words that correspond with the lesson, a practical Latin phrase, and one line of a prayer that is learned in totality by the end of the chapter. The exercises that accompany each lesson are thorough and provide constant review of materials learned throughout the course. The book includes five review lessons, five tests, an appendix, and an answer key.

I hope that Prima Latina inspires in your child a love of the Latin language and a foundation that proves helpful in many areas of study. I wish you the best of luck as you begin what will hopefully be an enjoyable and fruitful study of Latin.

Ora et Labora,



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- 1. Learn basic Latin alphabet and pronunciation of vowels and consonant sounds.
- 2. Pronounce, spell and translate approximately 125 Latin words.
- 3. Learn 25 practical Latin expressions and 4 prayers in full.
- 4. Learn numbers 1 through 10.
- 5. Learn names of popular constellations.
- 6. Understand concept of derivatives, English words that are derived from Latin.
- 7. Grammar
  - A. Learn to identify basic parts of speech including verbs, nouns, prepositions, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, and conjunctions.
  - B. Recognize that conjugating is associated with verbs.
  - C. Recognize that declining is associated with nouns.
  - D. Memorize 1<sup>st</sup> declension noun endings.
  - E. Memorize 1<sup>st</sup> conjugation verb endings.