

PREKINDERGARTEN OVERVIEW

Objectives and Goals



CLASSROOM STRUCTURE

Self-contained. Basic skill areas.

TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO

20:2/Includes a Teacher and an Educational Assistant

SCHOOL DAY

Half Day Academy Pre-K AM 8:35 - 11:35

ELC Full day Pre-K 8:45-3:30

Half Day Academy Pre-K PM 12:35-3:35

Recess - 20 minutes

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SPIRITUAL LIFE

Bible: Weekly Bible lessons take children through the "Jesus Storybook Bible" supplemented by the "Children's Discovery Bible", introducing Old and New Testament stories and characters with in-depth focus on Jesus and Christian Holidays. In addition, children are taught weekly Bible verses to correspond with each week's lessons.

Chapel: Students are active participants in chapel each week, singing and praising God. They also enjoy learning more about Him and His Word from NCC/NCA staff or guest speakers. The speakers teach on character qualities and Bible truths.

ACADEMIC LIFE

Reading: Emphasis is on learning the letters of the alphabet and their sounds.

Writing: Using age-appropriate, tactile and kinesthetic methods, students are introduced to the mechanics of writing, and proper uppercase letter and number formation.

Language Arts: Emphasis is on providing rich literary experiences for the children in the form of Bible stories, poetry, age-appropriate non-fiction, and children's fiction to expand the student's vocabulary and support early reading skills.

Math: Emphasis is on learning concrete mathematical concepts - patterning, sorting, comparing sets, simple measurements, predictions, and calendar mechanics. Students count to 100 with one-to-one correspondence, and by fives.

Social Studies: Emphasis is on experiencing holidays with a Christian perspective. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Resurrection Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day all provide rich opportunities to examine and share our Christian traditions. In February or March we celebrate "Missions" with a study of the cultures, languages of other countries.

Science: Emphasis is on experiencing science in an exciting hands-on format. Students participate in planting and harvesting, discover their five senses, notice seasonal changes and observe the life cycles of frogs and butterflies.

Art: Art experiences and age-appropriate crafts are incorporated into every subject. Emphasis is on the "process" rather than the outcome, creating an environment where exploratory learning is key.

Foreign Language: We introduce Spanish during Circle Time with numbers, colors, days of the week, and simple words.

Music: Miss Katy brings a special music time to our classrooms twice monthly.

ACTIVITIES

Field Trips: Two each year. Our trip to the Pumpkin Patch in October is a favorite! Spring field trips vary depending upon student interest and opportunities available in the community.

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Concerts: Our Christmas program is a highlight of the year! Pre-K children dress in various costumes to represent the nativity and perform a combination of traditional and contemporary Christmas music before a large audience of family and friends in the main auditorium.

Classroom Highlights: Children love our field trips! In addition, we love to reward excellent behavior and cooperation with a variety of small incentive parties; these may include a pajama day, popcorn and movie day, pizza party, ice cream party, etc. Our year culminates in a Crowning Ceremony where each child is awarded a crown bearing the name of a spiritual gift that God has made evident in his/her life.

Other events students enjoy at our school:

Moments with Mom
Walk-A-Thon



TEXTBOOKS

Bible: *The Jesus Storybook Bible; The Children's Discovery Bible*

Reading/Language Arts: *Alpha Tales and Moncure Letter Books*

Math: *Every Day in Pre-kindergarten Math, Math Their Way*

Social Studies: Educator-developed materials

Science: *Exploring God's World Through Simple Science* and Delta Education Discovery Kits

Art: Educator-developed materials

Handwriting: *Handwriting without Tears – Pre-K "Get Set for School"*

PREKINDERGARTEN READINESS

Children should be able to:

- Separate easily from parents
- Listen to and follow at least two simple directions at one time
- Speak clearly enough to be understood by the teacher
- Notice and talk about changes in his/her environment
- Enjoy listening quietly to stories and can comprehend age-appropriate materials
- Use the toilet independently and fasten articles of clothing with minimal assistance
- Have a cooperative attitude
- Be engaged in a single activity for at least 5 minutes at a time
- Obey clearly defined rules and respond well to re-direction and/or positive discipline when necessary
- Use words or ask for help to resolve conflict with peers
- Be interested in and excited about starting school

OBJECTIVE

Provide exceptional early learning experiences so that children develop a love of learning and are well prepared for a successful Kindergarten year.

