



Kindergarten Curriculum

Kindergarten is the stepping stone that takes children from the rich and social environment of preschool to the academics of first grade. The Kindergarten program is designed to meet children's needs and to stimulate learning in all developmental areas including physical, social, emotional, and intellectual. Daily activities are chosen to help develop children's self-esteem and to nurture positive feelings toward learning.

Though the use of age appropriate texts and thematic units, children are provided with many opportunities to relate all curricular areas to their own life experiences. Language, literacy learning, and basic skills become a meaningful part of the program through the children's exposure to stories and poems, field trips, beginning reading and inventive writing practice, the application of beginning math skills with concrete materials, simple science experiments, and the exploration of other cultures and the world around them.

The Kindergarten environment is prepared to help children learn through active exploration and interaction with adults, other children, and materials. At times, the focus is upon developing the basic skills. Teacher-directed activities lead the children from introduction and practice to the review and reinforcement of various areas of the curriculum. At other times, children are allowed to select their own activities from a variety of learning areas such as dramatic play, blocks, puzzles, books, art, and music. Both types of activities are necessary to encourage children to become lifelong, active learners.

The following areas, with their accompanying objectives, are those we consider important at this stage of your child's development. We are providing you this information not only for you to be able to check frequently on your child's progress in learning, but also so that you can help reinforce at home what your child is learning here at school. We are confident that if the school and home work together in partnership, every child will have a successful school experience and achieve academic success.

- Show a basic recognition of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Good Friday, and Easter as special celebrations of the life of Jesus.
- Recognize that the church celebrates the lives of holy people called saints
- Will give the sign of peace during Mass
- Will help prepare a class liturgy
- Will participate in school prayer services.

CHRISTIAN LIVING

- Understand that we are gifts from God
- Know that God wants us to love ourselves and others
- Exhibit how to respect others
- Identify the importance of caring for God's creations
- Show the beginning of rightly formed conscience by distinguishing right from wrong
- Know the Jesus teaches us to love others as we love ourselves.

PRAYER

- Show basic understanding that prayer is talking and listening to God
- Express the importance of prayer
- Know the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and Grace before meals
- Will be introduced to forms of prayer: praise, petition, sorrow, and thanksgiving
- Will recognize objects that can lead to prayer

CHURCH AND PARISH LIFE

- Identify Church as a community of faith that come together to worship God

- Know the name of our parish
- Identify the pastor and any assistants when present
- Name some of the people who help us at Mass
- Become familiar with the various parts of the church

VOCATION AND ECUMENISM

- Show basic understanding that God calls us to love and serve Him
- Know the God asks us to share our gifts and talents with others
- Identify parents, teachers, and other adults as God's helpers in our lives
- Participate in school/parish food, clothing, and gift drives
- Show basic understanding that God loves all people
- Know the God calls us to love and respect people who are different from us
- Summarize

COMPREHENSION SKILLS

- Set purpose for listening or reading
- Preview text and text features
- Understand characters and connect text to self or experience
- Recall details and retell stories and main ideas
- Determine cause and effect
- Respond to text
- Compare/contrast text or pictures
- Recognize plot
- Distinguish between reality and fantasy
- Understand setting and its importance
- Associate pictures with words, sentences, of stories
- Recognize rhythm, rhyme. and repetition
- Recognize and understand dialog

FLUENCY

- Read with accuracy and expression with appropriate stress
- Read rhythmically, at an appropriate rate with proper phrasing
- Observe punctuation
- Use typographical clues

STUDY SKILLS

- Identify the part of a book
- Record knowledge of a topic
- Practice test taking skills
- Use expressive writing
- Follow oral and written directions
- Interpret information from graphs, charts, and diagrams

GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL SENSE

- Identify and compare by attributes-circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, Diamond, cube, cone, sphere, rectangular box prism, cylinder
- Explore geometric shapes in our surroundings
- Describe relative location of objects using positional terms correctly: on, above, inside, outside, beside, between

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- Collect, record, and interpret data and/or information on simple graphs
- Interpret bar or picture graphs to identify same, more, least
- Sort and classify objects on a pictograph
- Develop and use language to describe and compare amounts on a graph

SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

POLITICAL SYSTEM

- Describe the purpose of rules and the consequences of breaking them
- Name our current president and country
- Recognize some of our national symbols and icons
- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- Show the importance of taking responsibility for one's choices and actions
- Understand that people in the government, community, school, and home make and enforce laws

ECONOMIC SYSTEM

- Identify occupations of people at home, in school, and in the community
And how each worker helps others
- Begin to understand trade and ways people trade money for goods and services
- Describe how people use resources
- Distinguish between producers and consumers
- Recognize how we depend on farmers, factory workers, truck drivers and grocery store workers to get food to families

HISTORICAL EVENTS AND MOVEMENTS

- Name past presidents that influenced our country
- Describe how things change from day to day
- Distinguish between the past, present, and future
- Identify some national and patriotic holidays and the people honored by them
- Recognize that everyone has a family heritage

GEOGRAPHY

- Identify a globe and a map as models of the earth
- Identify different kinds of land, environments, and bodies of water
- Identify types of weather and sequence the 4 seasons and the changes that occur in natural vegetation due to them
- Compare and contrast urban and rural life
- Names of some of the earth's resources and how we can conserve them