

Overview of Kindergarten Curriculum

Extending our Christian philosophy of an integrated, balanced approach to learning from our preschool programs into our Kindergarten classes, the curriculum we have chosen allows students to experience learning in many different ways. Although students are introduced to a structured environment, much learning takes place by active involvement in the educational process. The students have opportunities to develop creative thinking and problem solving skills as they use manipulatives to understand math concepts, develop science experiments, or recreate a period of our country's history. A Christian worldview is integrated throughout all areas of the Kindergarten program, allowing the students to see the touch of His hand in all of creation.

Language Arts, including Phonics, Handwriting Spelling and Reading

Wilson Foundations lays the groundwork for life-long literacy. Students in kindergarten receive a systematic program in critical foundational skills, emphasizing:

- Phonemic awareness
- Phonics/ word study
- High frequency word study
- Reading fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension strategies
- Handwriting
- Spelling

Social Studies and Science: Abeka Publications: In science, Kindergarten students learn about God's plan for seeds, animals, the seashore, health, weather and seasons. Social Studies units include community helpers, our country, and children of the world. These subjects will come alive through hands on experiments and interactive projects.

Mathematics: Abeka Publications: Based on God's principles of the order of creation, Mathematics K is a comprehensive math curriculum that balances conceptual understandings of mathematics with appropriate drill and practice and allows students to practice the conceptual skills they have learned with meaningful, real life problems. The use of manipulatives is viewed as critical and necessary to the study of Mathematics. As students involve themselves in hands-on activities, they grasp the mathematical concept being presented. At the kindergarten level, students are introduced to classifying and sorting, exploring patterns, counting and matching, identifying, writing and understanding numerals at least through 30, beginning geometry, counting and understanding money, understanding the calendar and telling time, addition and subtraction, equal parts (beginning fractions) and measurement. Each lesson reviews previously learned concepts. These activities provide opportunities for the students to model and explain their work.

Bible: Exploring God's Word: Bob Jones University Press: *K5 Bible* helps early learners begin to develop a biblical worldview. It not only helps students examine Scripture but leads them through the process of applying biblical truths to life. Students will learn more about their Creator and His Word, and they will see how the principles taught in Scripture can shape their lives.

Also:

Music: In weekly music classes, students are taught the fundamentals of rhythm and music theory. Students will also be involved in one school musical program each year.

Physical Education: Our physical education teacher helps the students develop large motor skills and knowledge of games with rules.

Art: Students have an art class in addition to the art that is integrated into the daily program. Students learn about different techniques and about working with different media, as well as receiving an introduction to Art History. They are introduced to famous artists, and see how Bible stories and concepts have been illustrated through the ages with art.

Library: All elementary students have the opportunity to visit the school library each week for a literacy lesson. They are also able to borrow books on a weekly basis.

Social Skills: Students meet with the school counselor to learn about self-awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills.

Spanish: Students learn basic conversational Spanish and common vocabulary words.

Chapel: The entire elementary school joins together in the church chapel for a short service each Wednesday morning. This is a time of worship, prayer, and testimonies. Classes take turns presenting the weekly lessons. Christ Chapel Academy pastors are frequent visitors.