



THE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

We offer a full day and a half-day kindergarten program:

Half Day Program--Monday through Friday, 8:00-11:10

Full Day Program--Monday through Friday, 8:00-3:00

Phonics, math, handwriting, Bible, and music are all taught in the morning. The full day program emphasizes learning enrichment activities in the afternoon such as art, science, and social studies. Weekly chapel, extra-curricular classes, and field trips are special activities for all kindergarten children.

Our kindergarten curriculum is an outstanding curriculum that provides our students with a strong academic and biblical foundation. A further description is found (on the next pages) of this handbook.

ADMISSIONS

Admission to kindergarten at Grace Academy is contingent upon the following procedures: evaluation interview with the elementary principal, proof of age, completion of an application, tuition contract, health record, emergency information, and payment of the registration fee.

Kindergarten Evaluation

Each student will be evaluated prior to enrollment. This simple test measures the readiness of each student for kindergarten. A parent interview with the principal will also take place at this time.

Proof of Age

Kindergarten students must be five years old by October 1 of the current year.

Medical Requirements

In order to comply with the Washington State Immunization Law, a signed certificate of Immunization Status must be on file at the school. Parents must fill out the form, including the month and year of the immunizations. If there is a medical reason for the student not to have immunizations, a physician must sign the certificate. The parent may sign a statement opposing immunization on religious grounds.

A description of any special medical conditions must be submitted to the school. Any medication taken by the child to correct a medical condition must also be submitted to the school office.

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

What Your Child Will Learn

At Grace Academy, we introduce children to age-appropriate material, and then provide an opportunity to master these concepts. Challenging opportunities are provided for the children, allowing them to maximize their potential even at this early, tender age. We mix "seat work" with hands-on activities.

Daily Bible lessons and Chapel

Each week a Bible verse is memorized and discussed. A chapel with Kindergarten through 3rd grade is scheduled every week with many special presentations and a wonderful time of worship. The daily Bible lesson follows the Association of Christian Schools curriculum.

A Beka Phonics Instruction

Initial consonant and vowel sounds are emphasized in the first three months of school. Reading groups are established after Christmas. Single vowel concepts are firmly established, followed by the two-vowel concept. Also, consonant blends, such as "pr" in "pray" and "st" in "stop", are learned. These blends and vowel rules make it possible for the average kindergarten student to leave our program with solid reading skills.

Bob Jones Number Instruction

Our kindergarten classes learn the basic concepts of numbers, money, time, counting, and addition, through a variety of interesting and stimulating activities.

Handwriting with A Beka Writing with Phonics

Manuscript handwriting is practiced daily using the same letters being learned in Phonics. Numbers and the child's name are also practiced in handwriting.

A Beka Social Studies

Lesson units include *Community Helpers*, *Our Great Country*, and *Children Around the World*.

Science

Sample units include: apples, pumpkins, leaves, seasons, planting seeds, penguins, bugs, dinosaurs, colors, and taking care of our bodies.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES:

Music Appreciation

Music instruction is an important part of our program. The love for singing and the appreciation of music is emphasized in music class. They perform concerts each year where they learn to share the "song in their hearts". A basic foundation of music and love for music is emphasized.

Computers

Computers are a part of our school program, using tools such as educational software to develop familiarity with the computer and keyboarding skills. Progression of these skills is emphasized in each grade level.

Physical Education

In providing a well-rounded program, P.E. is offered one day each week, teaching the students activities that encourage coordination, cooperation and problem-solving as well as plenty of exercise.

Spanish

Students are introduced to the Spanish language as they begin learning common words and phrases. Lessons emphasize development of vocabulary, listening comprehension and verbal communication skills.

Art

Students are introduced to the world of art as they beginning drawing using basic shapes (circle, straight line, rectangle, etc.). They also learn about pattern, texture, and color using a variety of mediums. These skills are developed throughout the years as they create various art projects. Students enjoy their time in this enrichment class.

Library

Students are introduced to elements of the library system, with increasing research skill progression in subsequent grade levels. Students are able to check out books each week. Family members are all welcome to use the library!

Field Trips and Classroom Community Visitors

Bringing the subjects alive through field trips and community visitors helps to make learning fun. Parents or friends with occupations such as a police officer, fire fighter, veterinarian, dentist, or doctor, or others are encouraged to set up a time with the teacher to visit the classroom.

Social Development Opportunities

All throughout the day, the students have many opportunities to learn how to share, help, forgive, ask forgiveness, cooperate, and solve problems with others. Recess, lunchtime, and the afternoon activities give your child safe, fun opportunities to interact with other children their own age. All of this is surrounded by the strong Christian philosophy of love, kindness, and obedience.