

Good Shepherd Christian Academy

Kindergarten

*Full Day Kindergarten

Course of Study

Reading and Phonics

By learning to read, students will be able to understand the world in more detail. Students will be able to read signs, posters, advertisements, books, literature, and most importantly God's word. Learning and understanding the English Language will provide the students to appreciate other languages more and provide the students with a tongue for other languages.

Text: A Beka Curriculum

Course Content: The student will be able to:

- recognize letters
- associate letters and sounds (basic blends)
- associate more complex letters and sounds (advanced blends)
- read basic 3-4 letter words
- recognize and read various common sight words
- read simple sentences in books/booklets

The student will receive instruction and review in these areas during the school day. He/she will have various seatwork papers that will be completed some as a class and (most) individually to reinforce these concepts. The student will be tested periodically on paper as well as orally. These will be used to help form the phonics-related grades on the report card.

The students will memorize and recite a few simple poems, which will help them gain knowledge of rhyme and imagery, as well as memorization skills and a sense of self-confidence. Copies will be sent home at the appropriate time for review and assistance.

Mathematics

As our students learn basic mathematic skills, they will take this in to the real world to use in everyday situations. Students will learn to tell time, count money, add, figure out patterns, learn shapes, and subtraction. We use hands-on manipulatives so the students can easily touch and learn that there is value associated with an object.

Text: A Beka Curriculum – number skills k5

Support Materials: tanagrams, counting bears, learning links, coins for counting, personal clocks, and rulers.

Course Content: The students will learn various math concepts such as:

- recognizing numbers zero to one hundred
- counting from zero to one hundred by ones, twos, fives, and tens
- before and after numbers
- recognizing various coins
- the value of coins
- counting various coin denominations including pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters.

This will be accomplished through classroom instruction, and various seat work papers, manipulatives and learning games on a daily basis. Extra review at home, especially of the money skills, tends to be very beneficial to the student.

There will also be instruction on the proper formation of numbers, including songs to help the student as well as specific numbers papers to be done in class. As the students learn these, they will be expected to use them on their papers and tests. As the year progresses, if the students do not form their numbers correctly, the result could be points off on their tests.

Bible/Chapel:

The Bible is the basis for all learning within the classroom. Through the year, the student should acquire a general knowledge of the book of Genesis and the Life of Christ, our Savior.

This will be accomplished through daily classroom Bible lessons and prayer, and weekly Chapel lessons and prayer presented by Father Anthony. There will also be worship music and songs included. Typically, each week, the student will receive a new selected Bible verse. It will be reviewed daily in class and the verse will be sent home for reinforcement and assistance in memorization. The students will need to recite the verse in class, which will count towards their grade in Bible. This is an activity the students really enjoy. They are very proud of themselves when they are able to say their verse each week, which helps increase their self-confidence.

Science

In Science, we will be studying God's world. We will learn why this is His world, and our role in taking care of His world and being good stewards. Students will also learn about themselves through their senses and why they are special to God. We will study structure in this world and how God created everything for a reason including: food chains, the water cycle, and watching caterpillars turn in to beautiful butterflies. Students will learn to observe, categorize, collect data and hypothesize.

Text: A Beka Curriculum – God's World

Course Content: water cycle, seasons, difference and importance of night and day, growing caterpillars and watching them morph into butterflies, the types of matter, and our five senses. The student will learn that God made the universe and all things in it. Throughout the year, we will be discussing the weather and the change of seasons. The student will learn about nature through plant and insect observation which may include items such as bean plants, butterflies and/or ladybugs. This subject is typically studied after the social studies unit is completed, later in the academic year.

Other Materials: Globe, thermometer, pictures, charts, and field trips throughout the year.

Social Studies

As a Christian student growing up in this world, but not of this world, it is important for our children to learn about different roles in the family, community, school, as well as learn about children from all over the world. Students are encouraged to learn about other cultures and appreciate the differences that God has given individuals all over the world. We will study different countries other than America including: Italy, England, Peru, Mexico, China, Japan, Australia, Israel, and Kenya.

Text: A Beka Curriculum – Social Studies K5

Other Materials: poster and picture discussions, stories, art activities

Writing:

The student will learn the correct form of cursive writing for each letter of the alphabet, both uppercase and lowercase throughout the year. There will be frequent seatwork papers to help practice these skills. The student will also work on writing his/her own name in cursive. Emphasis is made on proper pencil grip and good posture. After the first few weeks of school, the students will be responsible for putting their name on the top of each seatwork paper that they complete. Printing will be acceptable until the student can complete his/her name in cursive.

Specials Classes:

Art

Computer

Foreign Language – Arabic or Spanish

Music

Physical Education

Library

Other Activities:

Fieldtrips (varies year to year)

Cox Farms

Theatre Works

Burke Lake Park

Activities

Fire Department Puppet Show

Teddy Bear Day

Welcome Spring Week

Thanksgiving Luncheon

International Day

100 Day Celebration