

Curriculum

For

Presbyterian Children's Center

Kindergarten: based on a balanced literacy program

Wee Learn Curriculum: This Curriculum is activity based, provides choices, allows physical activity, encourages creative expression that is biblically based and makes learning fun and exciting.

Texas Essential and Skills: Specific topics and ideas in all subject areas required for all public school classrooms in Texas, our teacher – certified to teach by the State of Texas will cover all facets of the TEKS.

Reading: The kindergarten program includes a balanced literacy approach to reading. A comprehensive reading assessment allows the teacher to assess the students and establish organized reading groups. Children will experience read to's, shared reading, and guided reading, with a goal of independent reading.

Writing: Writing activities complement the reading program as a part of a balanced literacy approach. Students will experience write to's, shared writing, guided writing, and will begin independent writing.

Spelling and Vocabulary: Teaching phonics and whole language is an important part of learning to read and write. Spelling tests and recall advances during this school year. Vocabulary is increased constantly through an integrated subject matter approach to teaching.

Mathematics: Kindergarteners learn best through doing. Mathematics will be taught using a hands-on approach, manipulatives, and gradually moving into more abstract thinking. Problem solving, and learning multiple ways to solve a problem will be taught. From counting to patterning to addition and subtraction – kindergarteners will practice it all! The outdoor raised garden will also be used to enhance mathematic skills and to integrate math with science activities.

Nature/Science: Children love learning about the world around them. Sound, water, and air will be explored through the use of books called, “The Wonder of God’s World,” and simple scientific experiments. The children will investigate the world of science through the use of the book, “Beginning Science,” and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.” The National Wildlife Federation books are another source of information. There will be time spent learning about nutrition, physical health, dental care, and gardening. Throughout the year conservation will be discussed. Your child will learn and understand the phrase, “reduce, reuse, and recycle.” The class will be taught that we must care for the earth on which we live.

Social Studies: Students learn about their families, friends, communities, city, state, our country, and the world. History, current events, and geography provide many topics of interest for kindergarten students. Field trips and weekly newsletters – such as Weekly Reader - are often used to enhance social studies topics.

Fine Arts: Music and movement help children appreciate music, learning melodies, harmonies, and various tunes. They explore through gross motor and fine motor activities. Children will mature emotionally and socially as they engage in this learning process and will create a basis for a lifelong love of music. Art class is a weekly favorite for many kindergarteners. At PCC we believe that children should have opportunities to develop their own creative expression and so we provide many different mediums for them to explore. In addition, students will have opportunities to work on crafts, group projects, and styles of illustrators they have come to know through their library time.

Chapel: The children will attend chapel each week of the school year. A bible story will be presented to the children along with songs and activities to enhance each story. The bible story lessons will be continued in the classroom throughout the week. Vacation Bible School will be provided during the summer.

Computer Lab: Children will learn computer terminology and the basics of how to start the computer, finger placement and finger stroke, and working on age appropriate programs for children. This multi-sensory approach teaches children to read and write by engaging the visual, auditory, tactile, and kinesthetic modalities. The program “Read, Write, Type” uses a phonetic approach to reading.

Library/Storytime: Kindergarten children will be able to select books at the library on a regular basis. There will be story time, puppets, and time allotted for them to peruse and select the perfect book they want to take home for the week.