

Kindergarten Curriculum

Our kindergarten program strives to develop and relate the whole person to God, spiritually, physically, emotionally and intellectually. We will work in harmony with you to provide a sound, well-balanced, Christ-centered education for your child.

The Kindergarten Program

SGCS provides a full-day kindergarten (8:05 a.m. to 2:40 p.m., five days a week). Our program is designed to meet the needs of your child in five major areas:

- **Spiritual:** Children attend a weekly chapel, have daily Bible lessons with application, and memorize a Bible verse each week. Prayer is an integral part of the daily schedule.
- **Intellectual:** Our kindergarten has a sound academic curriculum. Instruction is provided to the whole class, small groups, and individual children as needed. Experiences are varied to maintain pupil interest and enthusiasm. A variety of teaching techniques is used to reach each type of learner. Students also participate weekly in enrichment classes such as library, and music.
- **Physical:** Three recess periods and a nap/rest time are scheduled each day. Children attend Physical Education classes twice a week to learn skills and activities which promote large muscle development and coordination.
- **Social:** Children interact socially during recess, free play in the classroom, group discussions, and cooperative learning projects. Communication and conflict resolution skills are modeled and taught. Children have many opportunities to share themselves and their interests with others.
- **Emotional:** Your child will be recognized as a unique individual, created by God, with his/her own gifts and needs. It is our policy to provide a warm and nurturing environment and treat every child with love and respect.

The Student Will:

Reading

- Recognize both upper and lower case letters of the alphabet and the primary sound associated with each. (Short and long vowel sounds are taught.)
- Recognize and pronounce initial letter sounds.
- Blend sounds together to form simple words.
- Recognize a base vocabulary of frequently used sight words.
- Read simple stories.
- Develop print awareness: front to back, top to bottom, left to right.
- Literature
- Be exposed to a wide variety of children's literature.
- Listen to stories, retell them in sequential order.
- Identify the parts of a story: title, author, illustrator, setting, characters.
- Listen to stories which enrich all areas of curriculum.
- Develop reading strategies such as predicting possible outcomes and drawing conclusions.

Writing

- Learn to hold a pencil correctly and practice correct letter formation.
- Copy simple words and sentences.
- Identify punctuation marks.
- Begin to translate thoughts into written words.
- Develop beginning journaling skills.

Math

- Read, order, and write numerals 0-31.
- Match numerals with the correct number of objects.
- Count using one-to-one correspondence.
- Compare groups of objects using less/more and equal/unequal.
- Recognize one half, one third, and one fourth of an object.
- Identify and copy simple geometric shapes.
- Recognize and continue patterns.
- Classify objects by attributes.
- Identify positions such as top, bottom, left, right.
- Identify types and parts of clocks. Tell time to the hour. Describe order of events.
- Estimate and compare length, height and weight.
- Identify the value of pennies, nickels and dimes.
- Draw and interpret a picture graph.
- Add and subtract groups of objects.
- Identify calendar information (days, dates, months).
- Count by rote to 100.

Social Studies

- Learn the rules and responsibilities of being a member of a school classroom.
- Recognize the attributes of people and their own uniqueness as a child of God.
- Recognize the importance of special people and holidays as they relate to our country's history.
- Recognize places on a simple map.
- Know their own address including name of city and state.
- Find California on a United States map.
- Construct a simple map.
- Recognize flags as symbols of our country and faith. Memorize the pledges for the American and Christian flags.

Science

- Know safety rules.
- Learn about zoo animals and insects.
- Discover how seeds sprout and plants grow.
- Learn about the seashore environment.
- Learn about the seasons and different types of weather.
- Learn how God created people.
- Learn how to care for one's body.

Bible

- Study the major stories, characters, and events in the Old and New Testaments.
- Learn weekly Bible memory verses, Psalm 100, and the Bible pledge.
- Apply Scriptures to daily life.
- Attend and participate in weekly chapels.

Physical Education

- Participate in coordination building activities designed to develop large motor development.
- Learn basic fitness activities.
- Learn rules and skills for group games/activities.
- Discern differences between indoor and outdoor activities.
- Develop a spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship.

Music

- Participate in beginning rhythm activities.
- Learn to follow tones with their voices.
- Participate in choral music activities.
- Develop a song repertoire.
- Develop performance skills

Eligibility For The Kindergarten Program

For the most successful school experience, our teachers highly recommend that your child be five years old by September 1st of the year you plan to enroll him/her in kindergarten. Only occasional exceptions are made to this policy. Teachers will evaluate each child's readiness during an individual testing session. Preschool/nursery school experience will help prepare your child for the more formal structure of our program.

Application For Kindergarten And Testing

You will be required to submit an application form, a non-refundable application fee and a recommendation from your child's preschool (on a form provided by SGCS). This can be done as early as November of the year prior to kindergarten entrance. When all application materials have been received, an appointment for testing will be set up for your child. You may also want to schedule a visitation time, so that you can see the school campus and observe a kindergarten class in

session.

SGCS uses the Developmental Readiness Scale, a screening device for 4-and 5-year olds, to determine your child's readiness for our program. The Scale reports your child's developmental levels in the following areas: fine motor, gross motor, visual motor, numbers, concepts, body image, language and personal-social skills.

Testing begins in February and continues until all openings are filled. There is a fee, to be paid at the time the test is administered. A qualified teacher will administer the test on an individual basis to each prospective kindergartner. It takes about one hour to complete; you will be notified of test results in approximately two weeks.

Occasionally, testing determines that a child is not developmentally ready for our kindergarten program. Should this be the case, we will recommend another year of preschool or a half-day kindergarten program with a less-demanding curriculum before applying to SGCS the following year. A list of activities to strengthen any areas of developmental delay will also be furnished, so that you may work at home with your child.

Thank you for your interest in San Gabriel Christian School. We look forward to working with you and your child.