



Discovery Kindergarten

At Grove City Christian School, it is our mission to partner with Bible-believing parents, and strive to provide an excellent spiritual and academic setting for each student. Students in our Discovery Kindergarten class are valued as important members of our cooperative learning community. Utilizing positive reinforcement, high expectations and hands-on learning and technology, we establish a place where all students can learn and develop. By creating a positive atmosphere, we create a classroom which is conducive for students to learn new skills and concepts, become problem solvers, overcome obstacles, learn to work with others and learn about God and His world. It is essential that all students, regardless of ability, are given the tools and confidence they need to develop a lifelong love for learning, and a willingness to love and serve the God who created and loves each of them.

Curriculum Overview

This class is a transition between preschool and kindergarten. We utilize a hands-on and engaging approach to teach concepts and skills. Throughout the day, students participate in both small and large group teacher directed learning activities, classroom centers and structured play time.

Discovery Kindergarten is an exciting beginning for young children who will be age appropriate for Kindergarten the following school year. It is the start of our little ones' educational journey. In this year, your child's learning will blossom and become the foundation by which he or she continues to grow and learn.

Students at this level will come to school for full days Monday through Friday. The school day lasts from 8:20am until 3:20pm, giving teachers ample time to work with children and guide them in developing their skill sets.

Your involvement in your child's education is essential for a school experience. Please work with your child at home on the skills listed in this curriculum. We hope the ideas listed here will help you understand the milestones your child will be pursuing throughout the year and the ways you can help your child achieve much success.

Discovery Kindergarten will follow the mission and standards of Grove City Christian School. Ohio Standards for Early Education for 4 and 5 year-olds not in Kindergarten is a guide for our benchmarks. These are designed to guide instruction for children in this age group. A Biblical worldview is integrated in each of our subject areas.

There are five domains outlined within the standards including:

- Health and Physical Development
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language Development and Communication
- Approaches to Learning
- General Knowledge and Cognition

Within these domains are sub-domains that give developmental expectations and key examples of evidence of growth in each area.

Daily Skill Development

- Using scissors and glue with control
- Using proper pencil grip
- Coloring within the lines and creating own original artwork
- Listening to stories
- Participating in classroom activities
- Using manners

Large Motor Skill Development

- Use of the Play Place and school playground for large motor activity
- Physical Education
- Brain Gym activities

Working and Living In The Classroom

- Sharing, getting along and respecting others
- Learning to converse with peers and adults
- Listening attentively
- Following oral directions
- Following school rules
- Expressing needs
- Dressing self independently
- Dressing self independently

Reading

- Identify front, back, title page, author and illustrator
- Follow words from left to right and top to bottom
- Name all upper and lower case letters and know all letter sounds
- Recognizing capital letters
- Recognizing lower case letters
- Listening to stories
- Introduction to sight words
- Introduction to early learning leveled books
- Sequences events in the correct order
- Going to library class weekly - checking out library books

You can increase your child's understanding of reading concepts by:

- Reading daily
- Discussing parts of the book
- Asking your child key questions about the setting and characters in a book
- Showing your child a word or a letter within a story
- Finding letters within the text of a story
- Using flash cards to review letters in isolation

Language Arts-Writing

- Writes name using the correct letter formation
- Writes numbers
- Writes alphabet letters

You can increase your child's understanding of writing concepts by:

- Coloring in one direction and staying in the lines
- Writing the letters in the alphabet
- Writing their first and last name using upper and lowercase letters
- Writing using manuscript print

Math

- Patterning, sorting, classification
- Understanding positional concepts (under, over, beside, etc.)
- Differentiation between same and different
- Opposites
- Counting up to 30
- Sorting like objects
- Understanding 1:1 correspondence
- Counting sets of 1-20
- Recognizing shapes: circle, star, triangle, square, rectangle, oval, heart and diamond
- Sequencing
- Adding and subtracting with objects up to 10
- Recognizing numerals in and out of sequence 1—10
- Working puzzles
- Computer experience

You can build your child's math skills at home by:

- Making counting part of your daily life (count cars at the stoplight or steps when you are walking)
- Helping your child notice and name simple patterns in clothing
- Using the words more and less, above and under, in and out, between and beside
- Finding and identifying various shapes in your home (circles, squares, rectangles, triangles, ovals)

Science

- Classify living & nonliving things
- Identify parts of a plant and what plants need to survive
- Identify the five senses and how people use their senses
- Identify the body part/organ associated with each sense
- Identify the day and night sky: i.e. earth, moon and sun
- Identify and describe some internal and external body parts: i.e. heart, stomach, brain, lungs, skin.
- Identify colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, white, black, gray and brown
- Identifying colors in their environment

Social Studies

- Identify the country and state in which we live
- Identify some holidays
- Learn about people from other countries and cultures
- Know that work has value
- Know that money pays for services and needs
- Identify differences between needs and wants
- Learn to develop self-control and identify and manage feelings
- Learn to defer to the needs of others
- Identify community helpers and the tools they use

Technology

- Use computers and iPads, and Kindle Fire for stories, educational games and research
- Learn, use and demonstrate knowledge of computer parts and terms
- Use equipment on their own and care for it respectfully

Bible

Bible concepts and verses will be integrated in all subject areas.

Discovery Kindergarten students will:

- Recite Bible verses that correspond to letters A-Z
- Know that they are created by God, and they are loved and valued by Him
- Learn about favorite heroes and events from the Old and New Testament
- Learn, apply and demonstrate the Biblical values of kindness, love, obedience, respect and truthfulness
- Learn and sing Biblical songs and hymn stories
- Participate in story-telling and dramatization of Bible stories
- Attend chapel each week

Enrichment Opportunities

Physical Education, Chapel, Art, Library, Music and Technology specials will be coordinated throughout the year in collaboration with Grove City Christian School.

Discovery Kindergarten Themes

The alphabet is introduced with a Bible verse which begins with the initial letter presented. When possible, that concept for our Bible lessons and stories are drawn from that verse. It is taught as it applies to our Science or Social Studies theme for the week as well.

Theme	Letter
School is Cool Rules-Friends-Mind Your Manners	Aa
All About Me and My Family	Bb
Body Awareness	Cc
Apples	Dd
Plane Shapes	Ee
Action Heroes	Ff
Fall/Owls	Gg
Safety	Hh
Western Week	Ii
Pumpkins	Jj
Opposites	Kk
Five Senses	Ll
Native Americans/Popcorn	Mm
Pilgrims/Turkeys	Nn
Traditions	Oo
Christmas	Pp
Christmas	Qq
Bears-Fantasy and Fact	Rr
Fun in the Snow	Ss
Freedom and Friendship	Tt
Community Helpers	Uu

Arctic-Animals in Winter	Uu
Valentines	The Letter Review
Presidents of America/Symbols of America	Vv
Dental Health	Ww
Dr. Seuss and Reading	Xx
Dinosaurs	Yy
Animals	Zz
Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to review the alphabet with more emphasis on the phonetic dynamic • Put three letter words together and work with reading simple texts • Continue to work with developing writing and reading skills
Easter	
Chef Combo	
Ponds and Streams-Turtles and Frogs	
Oceans-Rivers-Lakes	
Mothers	
Farm	
Bugs	
In the Garden	

Discovery Kindergarten Schedule

Morning

8:00-Meet children in the Play Place

Brain Gym

8:20-Enter classrooms

Prayer, attendance, lunch count and pledges

Circle time with Smartboard interaction

Bible verses, application, lesson and activity

Guided play as work is complete

Specials: Music, Physical Education, Chapel, Art, Library

Language Arts and centers: guided phonics, literacy, and technology centers

Math concepts and Math activities: Smartboard interaction, manipulative use and learning center work

Afternoon

Lunch

Recess

Modeled reading and retelling with puppets and plays

Science, Health or Social Studies: Smartboard interaction or project

Rest time: 20-30 minutes

Story time

3:10-Ready for dismissal

