

## **PURPOSE**

Students in Kindergarten Prep receive a Christ-centered education. With an emphasis on academic and spiritual development, the prekindergarten program is designed to support young students who may not be age-eligible, socially ready, or academically ready for a traditional kindergarten program. Another year in preschool allows students to enter kindergarten in a position of strength. Together, with the family, we prepare our students for success in the classroom and beyond by encouraging a deep understanding of God's great love for them.

At St. Lorenz Lutheran Preschool, we will strive to share the love of Christ in all we do as well as:

- Provide a pleasant social & developmental experience in a classroom setting
- Promote a healthy attitude toward school and group activities
- Encourage creative expression in a classroom setting
- Offer activities for developmental growth
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Encourage self-control
- Provide faith building opportunities

## **GOALS**

By the end of the school year our goal is that each child will:

- Know that Jesus loves them
- Have acquired age appropriate social skills
- Print his/her own first name
- Successfully use scissors, glue, and paints
- Identify colors and basic shapes
- Recognize letters and numbers
- Be able to count to 20
- Have an expanded vocabulary
- Have an increased confidence as he/she enters Kindergarten

## **KINDERGARTEN PREP CURRICULUM**

The Kindergarten Prep curriculum at St. Lorenz is taught thematically. Each month there is a topic or theme about which the children learn. Incorporated into each theme are lessons pertaining to each of the following areas:

- Bible stories & crafts
- Math activities
- Science experiences
- Art & Music activities
- Emergent Literacy activities
- Physical activities in the gym or outdoors

## **RELIGION**

Our Religion materials are from Concordia Publishing House *One in Christ*. Students will daily participate in Jesus Time or Chapel.

- Listen to stories from the Bible
- Sing songs in praise to God
- Take part in group & echo prayers
- Come to know Jesus as their friend who died and rose for them
- Know God the Father as their Creator who always loves them
- Be able to express their love for Jesus
- Taught to show God's love to others throughout the day

## **SCIENCE**

The children will use their senses to discover God's world around them.

- Hands on activities exploring scientific concepts
- Explore science tools: magnets, prisms, magnifying glasses
- Observe insect life
- Investigate animals, the homes they live in, and the foods they eat

- Experiencing the life cycles of butterflies and frogs
- Learning about weather
- Growing their own plants
- Learn about nutrition, exercise, and dental health
- A week of hands-on Outdoor Education at our St. Lorenz Churchgrove

## **MATH**

Children are naturally curious and have a built-in desire to learn first-hand about the world around them. They want to make sense out of things and find out how things work. Math concepts are taught throughout the themes that we teach as well as using practical application through our everyday activities.

- Shape recognition
- Lining up
- Be able to identify patterns
- Sorting, matching through various attributes
- Directional words teacher dictated story
- Fingerplays and rhymes using manipulatives
- Numeral recognition
- Calendar, months, days, special days

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Kindergarten Prep students are provided with experiences with oral and written language. Using the *Handwriting Without Tears* curriculum, children will learn a new letter each week, learn its sound and identify words that start with each letter. Children will also be able to write the letters of the alphabet and be able to recognize them.

- Engage in conversations about real experiences and current events.
- Learning opportunities are provided for children to enhance their ability to listen.
- Children are given opportunities to speak to the whole class (leader, letter box).
- Countless exposure to the written language, where children are read to on a daily basis, thereby learning to appreciate good literature. Books are available throughout the classroom.
- Children will participate in emergent literacy activities including fingerplays, rhymes, and songs.
- Students will begin to recognize words that have meaning to them.
- Pen, paper, and blank books, and other art materials are available for opportunities for various pre-writing and pre-reading experiences.
- Children will illustrate stories that they have written or dictated to the teacher.

## ART AND CREATIVITY

- The children will have opportunities to create with a variety of art medium.
- Experience with mixing colors.
- Use a variety of children's instruments.
- Access to the Art Table to make their own creations.
- Children are encouraged to create their own unique works of art.
- The focus of art is on the process rather than the product.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

The Kindergarten Prep classroom environment encourages each child to have a healthy sense of self and a positive self-esteem. The social skills of children are fostered through daily activities.

- Children are coached into self-regulating their emotions and behaviors.
- Children are taught how to effectively communicate with others.
- Children practice problem solving skills in social situations.
- Children are paired up with a buddy from an older grade and share a special friendship together.
- Through educational themes the children learn about themselves, their friends, their families, our country, our Christian school, holidays, and people in other countries.

## LARGE AND SMALL MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

Children daily take part in activities that promote large and small motor development.

- Large motor activities include running, jumping, throwing, catching, walking, hopping, galloping, marching, and balancing.
- Children participate with parachutes, scooters, balls, beanbags, and other equipment.
- Fine motor activities include lacing, stringing (beads, buttons, etc.), drawing, painting, working with play dough, completing puzzles, using puppets, and constructing with blocks, legos, and other manipulatives.
- Children learn to correctly use pencils, scissors, brushes, crayons, play dough utensils, and markers.

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## Kindergarten Prep Curriculum

### Teacher

**Erin Wascher**  
**Michelle Kroeger**



### Principal

**Joshua D. Swartz**

### Assistant Principals

**Leanne S. Davis**  
**Charridan A. Wascher**

### Director of Early Childhood

**Leanne S. Davis**