



## Jesus Time

Spiritual development is the cornerstone of the Early Childhood program at Westlake. In keeping with the Mission and Ministry of this program: to share the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ with young children and their families, we first introduce them to the spiritual domain where God is sovereign.

Your child will:

- Listen to Old and New Testament Bible stories
- Recognize that plants, animals, and human beings are God's creations
- Recognize that God created families to love and take care of one another
- Learn about God's love
- Listen to stories of the life of Jesus
- Learn Jesus' teachings to love God and love others

## Language and Literacy

Language Arts as a skill is the foundation for a child's success both in school and in the real world. As a result, the instruction must focus on the appropriate needs of each child. Each child is taught skills in grammar, pre-composition, speech, listening, and handwriting.

Your child will:

- Learn the alphabet: letter names and sounds
- Recognize, spell, write their first name
- Hold a pencil, marker, crayon correctly
- Retell familiar stories
- Answer questions about stories
- Draw pictures and dictate sentences about stories and experiences
- Master phonological awareness: rhyming, syllables, alliteration
- Repeat simple nursery rhymes and fingerplays
- Build new vocabulary
- Build listening skills
- Strengthen visual discrimination
- Master sequencing
- Recognize concepts of print: left to the right direction, holding a book right-side-up
- Develop fine motor skills: play dough, scissors, writing utensils, Legos, etc.

# Math

The mathematics curriculum is designed to provide students with number, problem-solving, and thinking skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. As a result, students will be challenged at their levels of comprehension to succeed to the best of their God-given abilities.

Your child will:

- Master matching: objects, symbols, shapes, patterns, etc.
- Identify same and different
- Sort by various attributes: color, shape, size
- Recognize patterns: AB, AABB, ABC, and possibly AAB, ABB
- Identify numerals 1-30 or more
- Count objects to 10 or more
- Recognize one-to-one correspondence of objects
- Tell time: day and night
- Distinguish sizes: small, medium, large (3 – 5 sizes)
- Identify shapes: square, rectangle, circle, triangle, oval, hexagon, rhombus (diamond)
- Understand the difference between more, less, and same
- Understand weight: Example, what weighs more or less in a balance scale
- Measure with non-standard unit

# Science

In our science curriculum, we challenge students to utilize their God-given skills and abilities to explore the world of nature and view the glory of God in all creation. Since God made all creatures, we teach our students to treat God's creation in a loving and caring manner.

Your child will:

- Explore the world with the five senses
- Explore science tools: magnets, prisms, magnifying glasses, etc.
- Experience the world through nature walks, gardening, and other explorations
- Observe insect life
- Observe plant growth
- Observe weather and plant life during each season
- Measure and mix ingredients in cooking activities
- Identify basic colors and explore color mixing
- Make observational drawings and dictation
- Investigate animals, the homes they live in, the food they eat

# Social Studies

The Social Studies curriculum is designed to emphasize the Christian relationship that students have with all mankind. The students recognize others and the world as gifts from God, gifts that need love, understanding, and care. With this understanding, students are better equipped to relate and respond to our culturally diverse society and to our world.

Your child will:

- Begin to follow simple directions and rules
- Talk about the importance and reason for rules
- Tell the consequences of not following rules
- Begin to identify and follow different rules in different places (chapel, playground, classroom)
- Become independent in basic responsibilities related to daily needs (zipping coat, backpack, undressing, toileting)
- Use interpersonal skills of sharing and taking turns in interactions with others
- Participate in making classroom decisions
- Participate in projects to help others in need
- Develop an awareness of the roles of leaders in their environment (home, school, church, community, country)
- Take part in classroom discussions and respectfully listen to others
- Exhibit honesty, cooperation, responsibility in classroom relationships and in problem-solving situations with peers and adults
- Explore types of work and workers
- Explore modes of transportation

# Social/Emotional Skills

Our students work on social/emotional skills that are designed to foster their relationships with God, adults, and peers. God has created us to be social beings, made “in His image” to reflect His love when dealing with others.

Your child will:

- Practice problem-solving skills in social situations
- Work in groups or with a partner on a variety of projects
- Share classroom materials with the group
- Communicate his/her needs
- Practice using manners: please, thank you, excuse me, table manners
- Take care of his/her own basic needs: clean up, roll up nap pad, fasten clothing, use tissue as needed, etc.