

Welcome to

First Baptist School

Preschool through Kindergarten

(Texas Rising Star Certified)

At First Baptist School the “Eaglets” are soaring towards the “Son” ...

Excellent education

Achieving goals

Godly ways

Loving to learn

Eager to soar

Trusting in God

Preschool and Prekindergarten Mascot: Eaglet

Kindergarten Mascot: Eagle

School Bible Verse: *“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not grow faint.”* Isaiah 40:31

First Baptist School's Early Childhood Department Ages 2 - 4 years

Thank you for enrolling your child in the Early Childhood Learning Program where children love to learn. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to:

Language and Literacy: pre-reading skills, including letter/sound recognition; fine motor development which enables printing and cutting skills, listening skills, computer skills

Art: opportunities for self-expression and creativity, color recognition

Math: sorting, categorizing, numeric association, shape recognition, size and weight comparison, count orally, repeat a pattern

Music: steady beat and rhythm patterns, introduction to music theory, development of singing voice, movement to music, play rhythm instruments

Motor Development: fundamental movement skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills and perceptual awareness skills, good sportsmanship and safety, cooperative games

Bible study daily, Chapel every Friday

Science: 5 Senses, sequence events, compare objects, sort objects from the environment according to characteristics

Social Studies: social skills, understanding cultural diversity, Holidays, safety rules, directional words, awareness of self, family, and community

Spanish: introduction to basic vocabulary and conversational phrases

First Baptist School's Early Childhood Program

The ten major goals for early childhood education are for children to:

- grow in independence
- learn to give and share, as well as receive affection
- learn to get along with others
- develop self-control
- learn nonsexist human roles
- begin to understand own bodies
- learn and practice large and small motor skills
- begin to understand and control the physical world
- learn new words, and understand others
- develop a positive feeling about their relationship to the world

Learning Centers for the Learning Program

The “Learning by Doing” Centers that are available in each classroom on a daily or rotating basis are:

- Pretend and Learn/Dramatic Play
- Block/Construction
- Discovery/Science Investigations
- Art/Creation Station
- Language and Literacy
- Math
- Table Games/Manipulative Toys
- Library/Reading & Listening
- Storytelling
- Technology
- Writing/Journaling
- Music

Unit Studies

Theme categories will deal with the child in relation to self, others, cultural world, and physical world.

Unit studies may include, but not be limited to:

School Orientation and Safety

My Family and I

My Home and My Community

Pets

Kindness

The Four Food Groups

Nursery Rhymes

Fire Prevention

Good Health

Farm Life

The Wildlife of the American Woods and Forests

Lifestyle of the Pilgrims and Native Americans in the 1600's

The Harvest – Thanksgiving

Christmas Customs around the World

Welcome Baby Jesus

Living in Ice and Snow

How Animals Sleep

“My Plate” Healthy Eating

Taking Care of our Teeth

Healthy Heart

International Friendship Week

Texas

Jesus, Our Savior

Animals

Life around the Pond

Plants

Birds

Transportation

Insects

The Zoo

Bible Curriculum

The Beginner's Bible Building Blocks Curriculum is designed to help strengthen the foundation of Christian values in the lives of young children. Through the stories and activities, Christian life values are presented in fun, active, and creative ways.

Each lesson features a Bible character and a life value that was evident in his or her life. The children will discover values such as forgiveness, cooperativeness, and thankfulness. In addition to a life value, each lesson correlates with a theme and reinforces basic skills. Themes might include things such as transportation, communication, seasons, self-esteem. Skills include: counting, sequencing story events, making friends, working in a group, following directions.

Old Testament stories are told during the fall semester and New Testament stories are told during the spring semester.

Titles of the Bible stories, along with the Bible reference, and weekly memory verses are listed on the monthly calendars that the teachers send home at the beginning of each month.

Chapel

Chapel is held every Friday morning at 9:30 (unless posted otherwise). The children sing praise songs, recite memory verses, and hear a message to enhance their understanding of God's love. Parents and guests are always welcome.

Music

Music is a form of experiencing, learning, and communicating with others. During the music classes, children will be encouraged to express themselves through singing and movement, and by playing simple instruments. They will learn to experiment with music concepts, volume, tempo, and sound. They will begin to appreciate different types of music.

The children will be given opportunities to:

- participate in a variety of music activities
- sing songs of many different styles and from different cultures
- play classroom instruments and call them by the correct name
- classify instruments into three instrument families: percussion, string, wind

- respond to music of various tempos through movement
- distinguish among the sounds of several common instruments
- recognize music symbols such as: the staff, treble clef, quarter note, half note, eighth note, whole note and the corresponding rests, piano, mezzo forte, forte, repeat sign, time signature
- clap various rhythm patterns
- perform with a group and individually

Physical Development

Movement is at the center of young children's lives. The teachers will provide opportunities for the children to participate in experiences that foster fundamental motor and movement skills, such as walking and running, which are necessary for participation in games and sports throughout life. Activities will also be provided to enable the children to begin to develop gross motor skills that involve throwing, catching, and kicking; and to develop fine motor skills that involve greater precision and accuracy of movement.

Students will learn these basic daily exercises:

- Toe raises (calf raises)
- Knee bends (squats)
- Knee lifts (lift each knee as high as possible in front of the body)
- Kick backs (lift each heel towards the child's bottom)
- Reach up (stretch up with arms over head)
- Reach for toes (bend forward and try to touch toes while keeping legs as straight as possible)
- Arm circles (extend arms out to sides, and circle slowly)
- Clappers (extend arms out to sides with palms up, bring arms overhead. Clap, and then return arms back to beginning position)
- Jumping Jacks (start with feet together and arms at sides of body. Jump as feet are brought out about hip width apart and arms are lifted to shoulder level with palms facing floor, then jump and return to starting position)

Other activities will include:

- Learning about different types of balls and how to use them
- Rolling, catching, tossing, and kicking all the different types of balls
- Learning the difference between slow and fast movements
- Walking forward and sideways the length of a balance beam

- Learning under, over, behind, next to, through, right, left, up, down, forward, backward, and in front of
- Rolling sideways (right or left)
- Identifying body parts such as head, back, chest, waist, hips, arms, elbows, wrists, hands, fingers, legs, knees, ankles, feet, and toes
- Hopping and jumping
- Learning to cooperate with others as we play different types of games

Language Arts and Printing Skills

The *A Beka Curriculum* is used to teach phonics and to provide an enjoyable educational foundation which will inspire a desire to learn more.

When young children learn to hold a pencil and want to begin printing, it is important for them to begin by drawing straight strokes from top to bottom, and from left to right. Teachers will assist the students in learning the correct formation of the letters.

We use Traditional Manuscript for everything that we print for the children's use and observation.

The Frog Street Curriculum provides a vast variety of activities to enhance social and emotional development, language and literacy, cognitive development, as well as physical well-being and motor development.

Computer

The Computer Center in the classroom focuses on developmental learning objectives. Fun filled activities support curriculum objectives used in the classroom, such as: colors, shapes, numbers, counting, letters, sequencing, listening skills, problem-solving, decision-making skills, creative play involving colors, patterns and music, and computer skills.

SmartScope

The prekindergarten classroom's science center is enhanced with a SmartScope and laptop computer to encourage the students' exploration in the realm of physical science.

Kindergarten

First Baptist School offers Kindergarten curriculum which is based on a Christian perspective of education. All curriculum meets and in most cases exceeds the TEKS. We feel it is important to integrate scriptural principles into each area of subject matter. We continually research a variety of curricula, and have selected materials that will offer your child a high quality academic education, centered on the principles of God's Word.

Currently, the curriculum resources for our kindergarten program include: A Beka, Scholastic, and the Building Blocks Bible Curriculum.