



Hello Prospective Emmanuel Families,

The TK program at ECA is growing and is designed for four and five year olds. This is not just a preschool or a daycare. It is a place where children are in an engaging and nurturing environment filled with opportunities to learn. The TK program is designed to not just prepare your children for kindergarten, but prepare your children to **succeed** in kindergarten. A child's academic self-esteem and ability to succeed starts before kindergarten. If a child struggles in kindergarten, chances are, they will struggle in first grade and so on; so why not prepare children to not just pass kindergarten, but to **succeed** in kindergarten. Some of the activities your child will be involved in and some of the academic pieces your child will be exposed to are listed below. Please reflect on the items below and ask yourself: Does my current day-care/preschool offer this? Does my child have these opportunities? Will my child be ready for kindergarten, or will my child **succeed** in kindergarten? Is Christ centered education important?

- About 6 times a year, the TK and Kindergarten classes walk to the Sterling House to sing songs to the elderly and give them crafts.
- Twice a year, the TK and Kindergarten classes lead Chapel. Chapel is a weekly time of worship. The TK-3rd grade participates in chapel time together.
- We go on two educational field trips each year.
- Once a month, the TK and Kindergarten classes have a themed day where each classroom has a different educational activity set up for the students to work through. The classes rotate among the different classrooms. For example: In September, we have apple day. One classroom talks about Johnny Appleseed and the students make pot hats, another classroom does apple stamping and makes applejack necklaces, and the final classroom makes applesauce with the children and we do an apple tasting.
- The TK class participates in 4H in the classroom.
 - The TK students have the opportunity to grow small plants in the classroom. We talk about what plants need to grow, what the different parts of the plant are called, and we discuss how the roots and leaves look different on different plants.
 - The TK students also have the opportunity to turn chicken eggs and aid in hatching chicks in an incubator.
 - The TK teacher will purchase caterpillars so the TK students can learn about the life cycle of butterflies as well.
- The TK students make a class book that is published through Student Treasures. Parents can purchase a copy of the book for a small fee. Your child could be a published author!! 😊
- The TK class completes multiple author studies throughout the year. The class reads and discusses books by the same author. The children get really excited about going to the library to find books on the author we are studying.
- TK has the following specials: gym, music, art, and library.
- TK has a show and tell every Friday. These are usually themed to help us focus on specific letters, colors, events, or holidays.

- The TK class has center time daily that allows children the chance to use what they have learned with hands on manipulatives.
- Students have snack, a small nap, lunch, and recess. ☺
- Students have the opportunity to participate in school wide events such as the Talent Show and Grandparent's Day.
- Students have at least two opportunities to get on stage and sing prepared songs for an audience.
- Students have daily prayer time to offer up prayers for things that are on their hearts.
- Students have their birthdays or ½ birthdays celebrated in class.
- Students get an opportunity to be the star of the week.
- The TK teacher reads out of a chapter book for 15 minutes each day to encourage children to use their imagination, and to help excite students about reading.
- TK has a 100's day party and a pajama party.
- The TK learns about 6 Bible Verses and about 20 Bible Truths throughout the year.
- The language arts/phonics goals for TK students are for the students to be able to read short vowel words such as cat, dog, mad, and win by the end of the year. The TK students will be introduced to sight words and word families based on their individual abilities and readiness. Our program starts with introducing one letter a week and builds off of that.
- Students are introduced to the following math concepts: graphs, making simple ABAB patterns, 2D and 3D shapes, counting to 100, number words 0-10, number recognition 0-20, simple addition, measuring length, weighing, and positional words. If the class is ready as a whole we will do some simple subtraction introduction.
- Some of the science concepts students are introduced to are: mixing colors, body parts, seasons, sink/float, living vs. nonliving, food pyramid, magnets, states of matter, life cycle of plants, life cycle of a butterfly and chicken, and many others.
- The TK class learns about a new animal every week.
- Some of the social studies concepts the TK will be exposed to are: community helpers, Johnny Appleseed, maps, Columbus, elections, the first Thanksgiving, the First Christmas, Dr. King, and many others.
- Students are introduced to some basic Biblical concepts such as: obedience, courage, kindness, responsibility, thankfulness, contentment, honesty, generosity, forgiveness, trust, prayer, respect, and patience. These concepts are supported by stories from the Bible. Some of these stories are acted out by the students to help reinforce the story and the concept.

I realize that this list seems rather extensive, but ECA is excited about what is happening in the TK program. So please take the time to ask yourself the following questions: Is my child receiving a Christ centered education? Will my child **SUCCEED** in kindergarten?

Thanks for your interest in Emmanuel!

In His Service,
Mrs. Jones