

## What your child will be doing in Kindergarten:

Most of the time will be spent learning while participating in specially chosen activities. Your child will learn to write and to read the numbers and letters of the alphabet as well as simple words. The Kindergarten program is designed to teach your child...

1. To learn that all things must be done to the glory of our God because through Him, we are allowed the opportunity to learn, discover, and seek out His world, all while growing closer in our walk of faith with Him.
2. To learn lifelong skills of interacting with others such as being fair, polite, cheerful, sharing, etc.
3. To explore new things and ideas, using as many different means as possible.
4. To express himself/herself with words, clay, paint, crayons, music, scissors, etc.
5. To become an organized planner- "what will we do next?"
6. To listen respectfully not only to stories and directions, but to the ideas and expressions of others.
7. To look at the many varieties of books available and learn how to use them correctly.
8. To be introduced and use new words learned from a variety of experiences and media.
9. To recognize differences within the world and appreciate the variety found within God's creation, such as colors, sizes, shapes, sounds. Etc.
10. To become independent in terms of self and belongings- tending to bathroom needs, hanging up clothes, tying shoes and zipping coats, returning toys and tools at pick-up time.
11. To express themselves in writing by art.

## Parental Involvement:

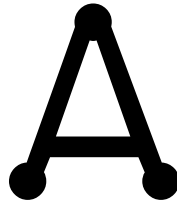
Parental Involvement and commitment is of great value in your child's Christian education at SCCS. It is imperative that we work together as a team, communicating any thoughts, ideas, feelings, etc.

We welcome your participation within our program through visits, conferences, participating as room moms, and in sharing your time and talents.

Here is a little list of things you as parents can do to enrich your child's time within kindergarten:

1. Spend time together reading many stories, encouraging him/her to express personal ideas through drawings, retellings, and other activities.
2. Help your child enjoy picture books and tell you the story from the pictures.
3. Encourage your child to share their toys with other children AND put the toys away after playing with them.
4. Teach your child to lace and tie his/her shoes and use zippers.
5. Teach your child to use the restroom and sink properly.
6. Provide encouragement in the things accomplished, even though they might not be equal to adult standards.
7. Teach your child to write his/her name using a capital letter for the first letter of their name, and their letters for the rest of their name lowercase.
8. Teach your child to recognize the eight basic colors: red, orange, blue, green, yellow, purple, black, and brown.
9. Give responsibilities to your child such as the following:
  - putting away toys
  - hanging up clothes
  - doing small jobs that can easily be done such as setting the table, putting away books, etc.

It is through partnership of home and school that our educational program for your child is strengthened!

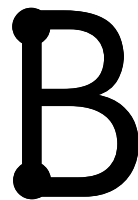


## Absent Notes

Of course we want your child to be present each and every day at school! However, in the event that your child will be absent from school, we ask that you either call the school office as soon as possible. Also, if you are planning on leaving at a certain time during the day, send in a note with your child explaining the reason for the absence.

## Academics

During the first quarter of Kindergarten, the children will attend Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Beginning the second quarter, the children will attend Kindergarten Monday- Thursday.



## Birthdays

**Birthday Treats:** Birthdays are special to our Kindergarteners! We love to celebrate this special event. If you choose to send a treat to share, we ask that you ensure there is one for each child. The treats can be anything small- (ex. cupcake, cookie, popcorn, cake, or even pencils or stickers would be a good choice). Since snacks are enjoyed during the afternoon, please make sure that the snack can be served by your kindergartener independently or with little assistance.

**Summer Birthdays:** Some children never get a chance to celebrate their birthday at school because it falls in the summer or Christmas. If this is the case with your child, you can decide whether he/she prefers to celebrate it near the end of school (May) or on their 1/2 birthday.

# Bus

During the first two days of school, volunteers ride on each bus, providing assistance to ensure your child gets off at their appropriate stop.

A permission note from the office is needed if your child is going to be riding another bus. However, this is only allowed for day care, not play-dates.

# C

## Computer



We will integrate the use of computers into the Kindergarten routine. Each room is equipped with a computer. Also, the computer lab is available for Kindergarten to visit when appropriate.

## Conferences

Please contact us any time you wish to discuss your child's progress. We can communicate through email, telephone call, or an in-person visit. We will also have 'as scheduled,' fall and spring conferences later in the year in which both parents are encouraged to attend.

## Counselor

Our school Counselor , Ms. Christa Smidt, is a valuable member of the staff at SCCS. .She will be visiting our classroom a few times a year to help us learn to follow God's path in making good choices and be excellent friends.

## Curriculum

Reading Curriculum used: *Treasures* published by Macmillan/McGraw-Hill

Math Curriculum: Macmillan/McGraw-Hill

Bible Curriculum: Christian Schools International

Science/Social Studies: tied into the season/holiday of the year

# D

## Classroom Management/Discipline Procedures

Our philosophy of discipline is based on the belief that children need to be treated with affectionate, Christian love and firm guidelines within a flexible structure. To establish good order and assist the children in self-control, the children will be guided to respect themselves and their companions through specific directions, a focus on the positives that occur from the student, suggested new activities, and responsible actions.

### Dismissal

We end our Kindergarten Day at 3:00.



# E

## Emergency Cards

It is very important for the school to have an up-to-date emergency card (the sheet that is sent home with the Roundup materials). Please include your family email address if you wish to receive Kindergarten communication.

# F

## Field Trips

We will go on various little trips throughout the school year to tie into a theme we are studying at the time. Our large field trip is to the Country Apple Orchard in Harrisburg, SD.

A Field Trip Permission Slip will be required for your child to attend.



# G

## Gym

The students attend *Gym* class with Mrs. Helen Kobes once a week in Kindergarten. During this time, the children develop fundamental skills, play games, and practice sportsmanship.

**Students need to wear tennis shoes to participate in activities.**

# H

## Homework

The most important Homework in Kindergarten is **READING!** Research shows that there is a direct correlation between achievement and the number of minutes read independently each day. We encourage you to read with your child every day.

# I

## Illness

The question of when to keep your child home from school is often a difficult one, especially when decisions must be made first thing in the morning. It is important, however, to keep your child home if he/she is ill. This helps to make them more comfortable and prevents others from becoming ill. Children function more effectively in the classroom when they are healthy. **In order for your child to come back to school, school policy states they must be fever free and un-medicated for 24 hours.**

J



## Journals

Writing is an essential element we incorporate into our daily routine. Your child will be allowed to take home his/her Kindergarten journal at the end of the school year.

K

## Keep Updated

Our weekly newsletter and monthly calendar will help your family keep updated on classroom events. In addition, check out our classroom websites which also features important information such as  
Memory Verses,  
High Frequency words, and other happenings.



## Labeling Items

Please label your child's backpack (on the inside is fine), coat, hats, and gloves/mittens, markers, glue, erasers, etc. Many children have similar items and labeling really helps if things get lost!

## Library

We will visit the Library each week. Kindergarteners are allowed to check out 1 book at a time, and they are due back in two weeks. Also, we have our own classroom library where students may freely look at books!



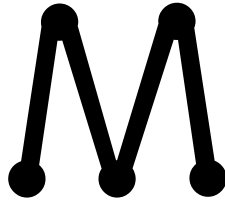
## Lunch

**Time:** Our Class goes to lunch from 11:05- 11:30.

Your child always has the option of taking his/her own lunch versus enrolling in the hot lunch program. However, please choose one option or the other, as this can become difficult for the cooks to determine how many children will be taking the hot lunch for the day.

We encourage each child to try one bite of each food item on their tray.

You are always welcome to eat lunch with your child. The cost for an adult can either be paid with cash or taken from your child's lunch account. Please inform the office the day before your visit.

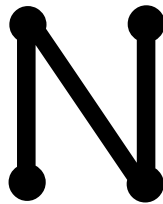


## **Math**

Math is an important part of the curriculum within Kindergarten, especially since it demonstrates the power and majesty of our Creator and the orderly world He created! The students will be involved in various hands-on activities. We will also have a daily worksheet or two to reinforce the skill being learned. Once a chapter is covered, we will review the concepts learned and take a test on what was learned.

## **Music**

We have Music once a week with Mrs. Nancy Vermeer.



## **Newsletter**

Once a week look for our class newsletter which will keep you updated with necessary information and class happenings. Newsletters are sent via email unless a hard copy is requested. A monthly calendar will also be sent home which will feature general topics that will be covered each month.

# Notes From Home

If your child is going home by different means (ex. student who usually rides the bus is riding home with a friend today) We would appreciate a note from you. Also, if you are picking up your child early from school, please send in a note that day or before. Thank you for helping us keep your child safe!

P

## Principal

Mr. Joe Dirksen is our Principal. We encourage students to see him as a leader who cares for them and the school. He is a frequent visitor in our classroom since he loves to see the growth of each child's God-given talents and abilities taking place! You can always reach him at his email address:  
[jdirksen@scchristian.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:jdirksen@scchristian.pvt.k12.ia.us)

R

## Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home with your kindergartner every nine weeks.

These reports reflect the progress your child has made in achieving various Kindergarten objectives.

## Room Mothers

Parents interested in being a room mom may sign up at registration. Each classroom will have 2-3 Room Mothers who assist in the planning various events throughout the year. Room Moms also come along on our Field Trip.

# Recess

The children have 3 scheduled recesses during the day, weather permitting:

9:45-10:00

11:30-12:00

1:45-2:00

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for the weather.



## Science and Social Studies

The children will be learning about *God's* wonderful world through exploration and observation in and outside of our classroom! Many topics will be covered such as seasons, weather, holidays, as well as ways of being stewards of *God's* creation, and much more!

## Supply Wish List (Giving Tree)

These are additional supplies that our class could use as we spend time growing and learning together. If you are able to donate any of the following items, we would greatly appreciate it! Remember, this is always optional.

- Hand Sanitizer
- "Easy Zipper" gallon, quart, or sandwich bags
  - Paper plates
  - Styrofoam cups
- Clorox Sanitizer Wipes
- Note pads of various colors and sizes (For our writing center)
  - Extra Scraps (buttons, feathers, ric-rac, fabric, etc.)
  - Magazines

## Schedule

Our general class schedule is listed below (and is always subject to change).

Mornings we will be busy with:

- \* Calendar/Weather
- \* Devotions/Singing
- \* Reading/ Literacy Centers
- \* Recess

In the Afternoons we will be busy with:

- \* Lunch
- \* Recess
- \* Special Theme (Science or Social Studies learning time)
- \* Bible
- \* Math

Our Specials are as follows:

Library  
Music  
P.E.

## Snacks

Children enjoy having a snack during the day, especially in a busy day of Kindergarten! Children may have a snack during the first or last recess. However, the cooks prefer we snack in the afternoon.





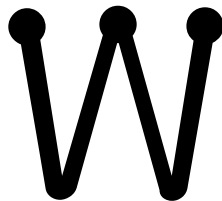
## Toys

In our classrooms, we provide children with the opportunity to engage in using various materials. It is important for your child to grow in his/her independence. Therefore, we ask that your child keeps his/her toys/comfort items at home versus bringing them to school to play with at recess.



## Volunteers

We are always looking for a helping hand in or outside of the classroom! We will let you know whether in person or in our newsletter of upcoming events that could use additional hands! Also, special talents or abilities are always enjoyable to share with our children- just let us know what you would like to do and we will arrange it!



## Website

Check out our class websites for important information pertaining to our class!  
Our sites are accessible from the Sioux Center Christian website:

[www.siouxcenterchristianschool.com](http://www.siouxcenterchristianschool.com)

