

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

We welcome parent participation at Noah's Ark in a variety of ways. Each class has a parent representative that meets with the Director, teachers and assistants. Parents also help with special events and are invited to teas and seasonal programs that are highlights for the children.



## SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

- "Meet The Teacher" Orientation program for both parents and students
- Hearing, Language and Speech Evaluation - Laughlin Center
- Vision Screening - Child Health Association
- Individual and Class Photos
- Ice Cream Social

## ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Noah's Ark is open to all children regardless of race, color, national or ethnic origin, or religious affiliation. Applications for admission may be received by the Director, Melissa Hendricks. A \$50.00 deposit (non-refundable) must accompany the application.

## FACILITIES

Noah's Ark is a ministry of St. Stephen's Church, overseen by the Director of Children's Ministries.

Happy, multi-sensory classrooms, playground facilities, multipurpose rooms, Children's Library and Chapel are all part of your child's world at Noah's Ark.



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*Behold, children are a gift of the Lord...*

Psalm 127:3 (NASB)



## OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

At Noah's Ark we love children and thank God for them. Early childhood is a crucial time for spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive, and physical growth. Noah's Ark nurtures this growth in a child-centered and creative learning environment. We acknowledge that the primary responsibility for the education of children rests with parents (Dt. 6:6-7). We aim to support parents in their children's early experiences outside the home as they interact with peers and our caring staff members. Noah's Ark works with each child toward the following goals:

- Deepening each child's knowledge of God
- Instilling a curiosity and a spirit of inquiry about God's world and all that is in it
- Encouraging a positive attitude towards school and learning
- Practicing fine-motor and gross-motor skills, especially laying a strong foundation for writing
- Developing language, pre-reading, and pre-math skills
- Promoting self-confidence and independence
- Fostering children's social skills with their peers



## NOAH'S ARK I

This program is for children who are three years old by January 1 of the following year and who are potty-trained. The class meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings with a teacher-to-child ratio of not more than 1:8. Important goals are to provide a positive first school experience, social interaction with peers and adults, and to lay a foundation for more formal schooling through activities designed to stimulate motor, language, and cognitive development. Each morning includes time for free play, structured large group and small group work, stories, songs, and snack time. Lessons are planned to coordinate with monthly topics and Bible themes.

## NOAH'S ARK II

This class meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and is offered both mornings and afternoons with a teacher-to-child ratio of not more than 1:9. Students must be four

years old by January 1 of the following year. The program continues all the experiences of Noah's Ark I (see above) and introduces readiness skills to prepare children for kindergarten. Pre-reading work includes learning letter names, formation, and sounds, reading names, signs, and charts. Math lessons address such skills as counting, calendar, patterns, forming sets, and recognition and writing of numerals. Social studies and science projects are explored in age appropriate ways. Children are steadily guided towards increasing independence throughout the year.

## NOAH'S ARK III (PRE-KINDERGARTEN)

This pre-k program for older fours and young fives meets Tuesday-Friday mornings (afternoons) with a teacher-to-child ratio of not more than 1:9. Students must be five years old by January 1 of the following year. These older preschoolers have less free play time and spend more time in structured activities although the approach is consistently creative, varied, hands-on, and stimulating; the use of worksheets is limited. The A Beka curriculum is used for pre-reading, writing and math, and adjusted by teachers to coordinate with monthly Biblical and topical themes. Horizons are broadened by regular classroom visitors and walking field trips to interesting locations. In addition, children go to "specials" most weeks, the offerings varying from year to year depending on the gifts and interests of the pre-k and kindergarten teachers.

## NOAH'S ARK KINDERGARTEN

This half-day program meets Monday-Friday morning and is the perfect "culmination" of the Noah's Ark program. Hallmarks of the Noah's Ark experience – creativity, hands-on learning, stories, music, field trips, a positive social environment, art, science, social studies, chapel, playground, Bible, prayer, coordination of activities with themes – all continue in kindergarten. The A Beka curriculum is used to lay a strong base for reading, writing, and math in first grade and beyond. Reading is phonics-based. Math is hands-on exposure to graphing, time, money, addition and subtraction, as well as continued work with counting and numerals. Kindergarten students also go to "specials" as described for Noah's Ark III and have a regular physical education class. Students must be five years old by September 1.

# NOAH'S ARK

A horizontal collage of four young children wearing colorful paper hats. From left to right: a girl in a tan hat, a girl in a grey hat, a boy in a grey hat, and a girl in a colorful multi-colored hat. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a classroom or activity area.