

Kindergarten

Religion

Textbook: We Believe – God Made the World, Sadlier

We identify God as our creator.

Through the Creation Story recognition of His gifts-light, land, water, animals, people.

Introduction to the saints, Catholic profiles, feasts and devotions.

Introduction to the Sacraments of baptism and marriage.

Identification of the seasons of the liturgical year - Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent.

Christmas and Easter

Recognizing of our uniqueness as gift of God, and appreciation of others and ourselves.

Through study of the Holy Scriptures and prayer we learn that Jesus is our teacher and

Our forever friend.

Textbook: Family Life Series- Benziger

Our family is an extension of God's love to us.

Discussion of sacraments of marriage and baptism.

Through Jesus' love and forgiveness, we learn that God's love is forever and

Unconditional, serving as our daily model for living.

Science

Textbook: HSP Science: Harcourt School Publishers

Animals A-Z: Observe similarities and differences in the behavior of animals

Plants All Around: Identify and discuss patterns in the structure and function of plants

Places to Live and Grow: Identify and discuss animals and plant interaction and dependency on one another and their physical environment.

Our Earth: Identify and discuss the Earth's make up of land and water. Discuss that the Earth's land is made up of different materials, including rock and soil.

Weather and its Seasons: Identify and discuss how the Earth is affected by changes in weather conditions. Identify and discuss how weather conditions can be measured and predicted.

Up in the Sky: Identify and discuss how the sun, moon, and other celestial bodies interact to form the solar system.

The World Around Us: Identify and discuss how everything in the physical universe is made of matter. Identify and discuss that all matter has observable, measurable, properties.

About Energy: Identify and discuss that there are many types of energy, and that energy can move in different ways, and can change forms.

On the Move: Identify and discuss that motion can be described, measured and predicted, and objects can be moved by forces.

Math

Textbook: HSP Math: Strength in Numbers: Harcourt School Publishers

Sorting by one or two attributes

Analyzing and problem solving skills in every chapter

Identify positional words

Identify and extend patterns
Identify and compare groups of objects
Creating and interpreting pictographs and tally graphs
Identify two and three dimensional figures
Identify equal and unequal parts
Identify and compare groups of objects to thirty
Identify cardinal and ordinal numbers to thirty
Explore length, weight and capacity
Order events. Identify, compare and tell time
Explore the calendar and temperature
Identify and count using pennies, nickels and dimes
Explore numbers to one hundred
Find sum using addition sentences in vertical and horizontal forms
Find differences using subtraction sentences in horizontal and vertical forms

Language Arts – Social Studies – Science

Success for All is a research-based curriculum which integrates language arts, social studies and science through a nine-unit thematic program which combines a number of components to provide phonetic based and sight word reading and writing success. Thematic units include Special Me, Community Helpers, Transportation, Dinosaurs, Kenya, Japan, Healthy Me, Plants in Our Lives, Exploring Our Environment and Exploring Our Solar System.

SFA Components at the Kinder Level

STAR-Story Telling and Retelling - provides an introduction to quality children's literature. Each STAR book is related to the theme of the month. Components that are stressed include title, author and illustrator. Through critical thinking questions, children are encouraged to listen for details and use predictive thinking skills. Through retelling activities, children may, for example, develop a story map, highlighting main characters, setting and plot or children may rank a story (Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down) considering the title, illustration, characters and plot. Two stories are highlighted each week.

Kinder Roots is a component which combines many skills – phonetically sounding out words, identifying familiar words (Say Spell Say words), tracking from left to right, and identifying punctuation. Kinder Roots Books 1 – 22 are covered. Books are introduced first by the teacher reading to the class. Next, the children then read with the teacher. Finally they read independently to one another, which is called Partner Reading.

Fast Track Phonics uses phonemic awareness to develop listening and writing skills necessary for reading. Listening for beginning and ending sounds, understanding the and listening for the individual phonetic sounds contained within a word, and developing listening skills necessary to decode written words are all aspects of this phonics program which will develop confident readers and writers. Skills are developed through listening games as well as small group and large group activities.

Journals provide a written opportunity for children to feel successful in the writing process. Whatever the level of development, the child may illustrate, phonetically spell a word or complete a sentence. In this component, the process is as important as the product.

SFA Learning Labs allow children to work together in a team format to accomplish a particular task. All centers are directly related to the learning theme and are changed on a regular basis when the children have all had an opportunity to rotate through the lab. Also, each lab provides a writing opportunity for the child to once again develop confidence and competence in expression through writing.

Shared Reading or Enlarged Text is a shared experience between teacher and class. An enlarged text may be a big book, poem, recipe, song or an enlarged part of a book. Principles addressed include rhyme and repetition. Children are encouraged to identify letters, punctuation, rhyming words and familiar words. One enlarged text is utilized throughout the week to allow the children to become thoroughly familiar with the text.

Rotations

A forty-five minute daily rotation is provided for Kinder enrichment.

- Computer
- Spanish
- Physical Education
- Music

Field trips and guest speakers

- Two field trips are planned throughout the year to reinforce thematic units.
- Guest speakers allow children the opportunity to expand their knowledge about various subjects
- Special guests, such as dramatic presentations and authors, provide additional literary opportunities.

In Kindergarten, communication between parents and teacher is vital. Each week a classroom newsletter is sent to the parents highlighting the events of the week and information concerning SFA units and upcoming events.