

Important Things to Know About Preschool Curriculum

By Sara Michael

- 1. The curriculum should be written with the understanding that social development is crucial at the preschool level and should therefore include individual, small group, and whole class activities.**

Children at the preschool level are developing inter- as well as intrapersonal skills. An excellent preschool curriculum will provide time for individual learning that helps the child to gain independence and learn to solve problems on his or her own, small group learning which helps the child learn to interact with peers and gives the child insight into communicating with others, and whole class learning which helps a child learn to interact in large groups of people. At Busy Bees, these three types of learning are valued and implemented on a daily basis. The A Beka curriculum is known for its emphasis on individual learning while still maintaining the peer interaction that is so necessary to children of this age. During any day at Busy Bees, children will engage in activities that are individual learning experiences such as completing a journal entry or doing a puzzle, in activities for small group learning such as playing an educational board game or resolving conflict amongst themselves, and whole class learning such as responding to teacher initiated questions or discussing topics of interest during class time.

- 2. The curriculum should be committed to laying the foundation for the child to succeed later in life as well as in preschool.**

Children at this age have a tremendous desire to learn and do and please and achieve. The preschool curriculum should recognize this and use these desires to not only help them develop academically but also socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. At Busy Bees, we strive to promote positive development in all of these areas. The A Beka curriculum not only provides the children with more than they need to succeed in kindergarten academically, but it also helps to encourage other areas of development. It includes topics such as friendship, family, and health and exercise. The Hands-On Bible Curriculum encourages children to come to a knowledge of Christ at an early age. The lessons are accompanied by puppet shows, crafts, activities and songs that make the lessons have a larger and lasting impact on the children.

- 3. The curriculum should recognize and incorporate the idea that all children learn differently and demonstrate their knowledge differently.**

All children have strengths when it comes to learning. An excellent preschool curriculum will value all types of learning and all forms of the demonstration of that knowledge. At Busy Bees, we recognize that children are all very different and unique and therefore the methods that are used to teach them will have to be different and unique as well. The A Beka curriculum allow for a variety of learning experiences to take place in the classroom, from writing in journals and answering questions for the linguistic learner to solving puzzles and illustrating ideas for the spatial learner. The creators of A Beka have realized that learning is displayed in a multitude of forms.