



### Pre-Kindergarten Overview

Capstone's pre-kindergarten program is a developmentally-appropriate content-rich approach to preschool that prepares students for the Capstone K-6 program by building coherent knowledge about each subject and how each subject relates to the others to create a knowledge framework that will enhance students' reading and listening comprehension during their elementary school years. The pre-kindergarten program cultivates curiosity and wonder and immerses students in experiencing the truth, goodness, and beauty of God's world as preschoolers are built to experience it. The program equips students with strong vocabularies, listening and learning skills, early literacy development, and foundations for faith.

#### Methods

The methodology of the pre-K program, like all grades at Capstone, is concerned with teaching students the way that they learn. The aim is fully human engagement in the activities planned. In preschool, this looks a lot more like play to the casual observer, but every act of play has been carefully placed into a well-designed experience that sets students up for using their minds, hearts, and bodies in the context of community in new and novel ways that maximize cognitive development. The teacher employs both opportunities for practicing and mastering skills and knowledge that require correct form and content but also engages students in creative acts of expression and critical thinking that open the door for Socratic dialogue that helps students to think about their thinking and about their world deeply. The goal of pre-K methodology is cultivation of student cognitive, physical, and social development that prepares the soil of heart, mind, and soul for the journey ahead in K-12 education. This requires an approach that is both content and experience rich.

#### Pre-Kindergarten Domains

##### Movement and Coordination

- Physical Attention and Relaxation
- Gross Motor Skills
- Coordination
- Group Games
- Using the Body Expressively

##### Social and Emotional Development

- Autonomy
- Social Skills
- WorkHabits

##### Language

- Oral Language
  - A. Functions of Language
  - B. Forms of Language

##### Nursery Rhymes, Poems, Fingerplays and Songs

- A. Memorization Skills
- B. Listening
- C. Developing a Sense of Rhyme

##### Storybook Reading and Storytelling

- A. Listening to Stories
- B. Participating in Stories
- C. Story Schema
- D. Book and Print Awareness

##### Emerging Literacy Skills in Reading and Writing

- A. Print Awareness
- B. Print Structure
- C. Phonemic Awareness
- D. Fine Motor Skills

##### Visual Arts

- Attention to Visual Detail
- Exploration and Creation
- Art Appreciation

##### Music

- Attention to Differences in Sound
- Imitate and Produce Sound
- Listen to and Sing Songs
- Listen to and Move to Music



## Bible

- God as Creator
- God as Provider
- God as Father
- God as Protector
- Bible as God's Message to Us
- Prayers—original and recited
- Children's Hymns and Classic Hymns
- Parts and Organization of the Bible
- Practice Books of the Bible
- Key Bible People, Places, Events, Objects, and Stories
- Stewardship of God's Blessings and Creation
- The Greatest Commands—Love of God and Love of Neighbor
- Obedience with Parents and with God
- Reconciliation—Making things right when we hurt one another or disobey

## Mathematics

- Patterns and Classification
- Geometry and Measurement
- Numbers and Number Sense
- Computation
- Money

## History and Geography

- Orientation in Time
  - Vocabulary
  - Measures of Time
  - Passage of Time (past, present, future)
- Orientation in Space
  - Vocabulary
  - Actual and Representational Spacer
  - Simple Maps
  - Basic Geographic Concepts

## Science

- Human Characteristics, Needs and Development
- Animal Characteristics, Needs and Development
- Plant Characteristics, Needs and Development
- Physical Elements (Air, Water, Light)
- Introduction to Magnetism
- Seasons and Weather
- Taking Care of the Earth
- Tools