

# Rosslyn Academy

## Kindergarten



Program Overview with Selected Sample Objectives

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Children in Kindergarten begin to develop as readers and writers. Children are exposed to a variety of literature selections that provide the core for reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Comprehension and vocabulary development are top priority.

Phonics is an integral part of our reading program for students.

In Kindergarten we introduce Writing Workshop as students begin to focus on ideas, organization, voice and word choice.

Math skills are developed using Harcourt Brace *Math*. Word problems and thinking questions are an important part of math instruction at Rosslyn. In Kindergarten students are beginning to consider number concepts.

*Full Option Science System (FOSS)* utilizes hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning in science. Students will visit Amani Ya Juu and Cockar Vet, furthering their knowledge and experience regarding cloth and animals, in these field trips.

The focus of our social studies curriculum is on communities and relationships (family, friends, and school).

Kindergarten studies the Bible under the theme *God and Me*.

Specialists teach your child a second language (either Kiswahili or Korean), as well as art, music, physical education, science, computer and library skills. Each teacher plays a vital part in your child's week.

# Bible

We encourage children in Kindergarten to learn to trust in Jesus and love him more through Bible stories and songs. God, through the Holy Spirit, is already at work in the children's lives. We seek to cooperate with God in nurturing faith. It is our goal as Christian teachers that all children will be given the knowledge and opportunity to know God as their father and savior and to grow and mature in their spiritual relationship with Him.

**The Rosslyn Academy Bible Curriculum encourages students to:**

- Understand basic Christian theology and doctrine
- Recognize the implications of Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection.
- Have the opportunity to know and experience God personally.
- Trust the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God
- Memorize and understand biblical scriptures for knowledge and life application
- Articulate a personal faith.
- Experience appropriate and sensitive cultural and theological interaction with other religions.
- Participate in Christian mission opportunities.

The Kindergarten Bible Curriculum includes the following topics.

- God Made My World.
- God Made Me Special.
- God Cares For Me.
- God Protects Me.
- God Wants Me to be His Child.
- God Teaches Me.
- God Helps Me Live for Him.
- God Gives Me Friends.
- God Sent Jesus to Die for Me.
- God Helps Me When I've Done Wrong.
- God Helps Me When I Have Problems.
- God Helps Me When I Am Afraid.
- God Has a Plan for Me.

# Language Arts

Language arts instruction at Rosslyn Academy is based on the dynamic interrelationships of listening, speaking, reading, and writing—God's gift of communication to humans.

## Listening

- Listen attentively when others are speaking.
- Follow oral directions.

## Speaking

- Share personal ideas and feelings without hesitation.
- Ask and answer questions in complete sentences.
- Tell ideas sequentially.
- Speak loud enough to be heard before a small group.



## Reading

- Give names and sounds for all letters of the alphabet (upper and lower case).
- Match upper and lower case letters.
- Recognize beginning and ending sounds in words.
- Identify rhyming words.
- Extract meaning from stories (who, what, how and why).
- Recite rhymes, poems and memory verses.
- Blend sounds into words.
- Begin reading phonetically regular words and short stories.
- Begin to recognize common sight words.

## Writing

- Recognize the relationship between the written and spoken word.
- Begin to write simple sentences using phonetics.

## Handwriting

- Hold a pencil correctly.
- Begin printing all letters of the alphabet (upper and lower case) using the D'Nealian model.
- Write first and last name.
- Use correct writing progression (left to right and top to bottom).

# Math

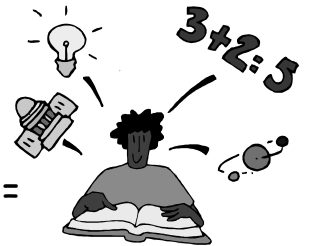
Mathematics is a science of patterns which allows us to look deeper into the order and precision found in the world around us, God's creation. The purpose of the mathematical instruction at Rosslyn Academy is to develop students who are problem solvers, critical thinkers, and effective mathematical communicators. Kindergarten uses manipulative devices and games to develop a conceptual basis for all Math activities.

## Numbers

- Count to 100 by 1's and 10's.
- Recognize and write numbers to 100.
- Compare numbers (more than, less than, equal etc...)
- Identify numbers before, after and between a given number to 20.
- Count sets of concrete objects to 20.

## Computations

- Find sums and differences to 10.
- Write addition and subtraction problems using +, - and = signs.



## Measurement, Time and Money

- Estimate and measure length, weight and capacity using informal units.
- Tell time to the hour.
- Measure time with a calendar.
- Recite the days of the week.
- Identify and compare coins.

## Shapes and Patterns

- Identify and compare 2 and 3 dimensional figures.
- Make and complete patterns.

## Problem Solving

- Use various methods to solve problems.

# Science

Science education at Rosslyn emphasizes experiential learning. Students learn by observing carefully with their five senses and communicating their discoveries, through sorting and looking for patterns, through making crafts, and through open-ended experimentation. Along with science skills, the teacher encourages thankfulness to God and responsible stewardship of God's creation.

## **Animals—The student will learn to:**

- observe the behavior and body parts of animals
- identify the ways that animals are the same and different
- appreciate animals living at home and on the Rosslyn campus (chameleons, slugs, tortoises, insects)
- care for animals in the classroom

## **Trees—The student will learn to:**

- observe and name the parts of a tree
- identify the ways that trees are the same and different
- name common trees growing at home and on the Rosslyn campus
- care for a tree

## **Fabric—The student will learn to:**

- notice the many ways we use fabric
- perform experiments to discover properties of several types of fabric
- create things through cutting, pasting, weaving, sewing, and dyeing
- apply knowledge of a fabric's properties by identifying good ways to use it

## **Wood—The student will learn to:**

- notice the many ways we use wood
- perform experiments to discover properties of several types of wood
- create things through gluing, nailing, and staining wood
- explain how trees are used to make several types of wood products

## Kiswahili

Instruction in this class will expand students' knowledge of the language through oral practice and understanding and appreciation of various cultural aspects. Students will use appropriate greetings, build vocabulary of nouns and verbs and decode simple instructions.

## Social Studies

Social Studies is the study of humankind as God's creation and the societies, systems, and beliefs developed by them. Kindergarten will gain appreciation and understanding of their role in family, school, and friendship communities.



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Kindergarten Social Studies topics include the following.

- I Know Who I Am.
- I Know How to Get Along With Others.
- I Know Who Takes Care of Me.

## Health

Rosslyn Academy is committed to following Jesus' example of a balanced life. This course is designed to provide an age-appropriate overview of certain key health issues and social skills that will lay a foundation for a lifetime of active and healthy living. Its Christian perspective leads students to recognize that a healthy lifestyle is a lifestyle of obedience to God.

Kindergarten Health topics focus on the following.

- Taking Care of My Body.
- Being Safe (including injury prevention)
- Healthy living (including nutrition and exercise).

## Art

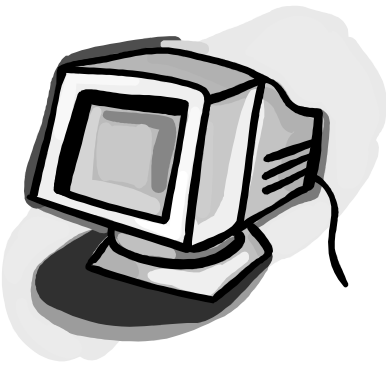
The visual arts program at Rosslyn strives to enhance the visual expression of each student through the study of art history and by involving students in creating artworks that incorporate the elements and principles of design.

The student will:

- Draw self and family portraits, a collection of 'favorites', lines in response to music, animals and full figures.
- Discuss how artists plan their art, symmetry, personal work and the artwork of others.
- Design a home, a neighborhood and an imaginary room.
- Experiment with mark-making materials.
- Use lines to show sound and movement.
- Create faces to show expression, 3-dimensional forms, a stamp print and texture rubbings.
- Illustrate feelings, textures and figures in action.
- Demonstrate patterns with actions and a variety of brush strokes.
- Identify shapes and colors.
- Experiment with play dough forms and stitching.
- Locate shapes in works of art and in nature.
- Invent patterns.
- Make collages, puppets and clay sculptures.
- Design and decorate hats and vests as well as book covers and endpapers.
- Paint lines and shapes using different sized brushes and color over color.
- Mix secondary colors.



## Computer Technology



Kindergarten students attend the elementary computer lab for one thirty-minute period each week. They use a variety of age-appropriate educational software programs and gain experience navigating with the mouse and using selected keys on the keyboard.

## Library and Research Skills

In addition to stimulating a love for books and reading, the library program develops students' abilities to be effective users of ideas and information. The librarian works with the classroom teacher to coordinate the teaching of library and research skills with the classroom curriculum.

### **The kindergarten student will:**

- Learn appropriate library behavior.
- Learn proper care of books.
- Listen to and respond to stories by many different authors and illustrators.
- Understand the role of the author and illustrator.
- Recognize the difference between fiction and nonfiction books and where they are located in the library.



# Physical Education

In this class the student will develop bodily self-awareness, physical skills, and knowledge through participating in physical activity.

The instructional outcomes for the Physical Education program are as follows:

Reflect positive character development and social skills based on Biblical principles.

The student will:

- Interact and relate well to others during activities.
- Maintain a healthy balanced outlook regarding leisure/sports.

Understand and evaluate the role physical activity has in their life.

The student will:



- Achieve a correct perspective regarding physical activity.
- Participate in physical activity as a daily habit.
- Understand why fitness is important.

Achieve and maintain an appropriate level of fitness.

The student will:

- Understand how the body works.
- Participate in weekly exercise and fitness.

Display necessary skills for playing games and participating in various leisure activities.

The student will:

- Be aware of strengths, abilities and limitations in physical activities.
- Attain baseline gross motor skills for physical activities.
- Attain appropriate levels in fine motor skills.

# Music



Students discover basic music concepts through musical games and activities (singing, moving, playing instruments) with an emphasis on the Orff-Schulwerk process of teaching music to children. Core areas are

- Pitch matching
- Rhythmic development
- Discovering a lifelong love of music.

Students also participate in the elementary Christmas and second-semester concerts.

# How Parents Can Help

## Activities That Support Your Child's Learning

- Read to and with your child daily demonstrating enjoyment of children's literature
- Praise your child's reading efforts (a large part of reading is confidence)
- Assist your child in sounding out words by blending sounds
- Practice high-frequency words
- Encourage children to read to their younger siblings
- Model the importance of reading by being a reader yourself
- Talk and listen to your child
- Help your child keep a writing and/or drawing journal
- Encourage your child to ask questions and seek answers
- Play memory and math games, vocabulary games, physical games
- Create special times to be alone with your child to participate in activities (cooking dinner, working in the shop, etc.)
- Take your child to places and talk about the visit(s)
- Read poems and songs: encourage your child to memorize the words
- Tell your child family stories, especially events that happened when you were the same age
- Limit television viewing time and computer game usage
- Choose television programs with care, watch programs with your child and discuss them, most television and video media are not conducive to developing readers and thinkers
- Give your child responsibilities such as picking up personal belongings
- Provide toys that develop small muscle coordination such as clay, lacing cards, small blocks
- Talk with your child about the school work
- Communicate your expectations regarding his/her behavior and performance at school
- Celebrate successes



*"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."* Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)