

INTRODUCTION

The Young Fives curriculum is taught thematically. Each week there is a certain topic or theme about which the children learn. Incorporated into each theme are lessons pertaining to each of the following subject areas: Religion, Art, Language Arts, Math, Music, Physical Education, Science, and Social Studies.

RELIGION

The CPH *Voyages* Curriculum is used for religion. Young fives will participate in a daily Jesus Time. They listen to stories from the Bible, sing and remember songs, dramatize Bible stories, join in various worship activities, and take part in group prayers and echo prayers. They come to know Jesus as their friend who died and rose to forgive their sins. They know God the Father as their Creator who always loves them. The children are taught to show God's love to others throughout the day.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Young fives are provided with experiences with oral and written languages. Throughout their day at school, the young fives will have the opportunity to participate in both whole group times and center times. They also visit the library each week for storytime and to check out a book.

During *whole group* times young fives are given the opportunity to practice their listening skills and to effectively communicate with teachers and classmates. They also enjoy stories, finger plays, and movement songs. They are expected to speak using complex sentence structures, follow more than two simple directions, and read (using picture clues and repetition) to a friend or teacher.

During *center time* the young fives have the opportunity to enjoy sensory experiences, dictate experiences and stories to the teachers, and express themselves through drawings. Learning opportunities are provided for the children to enhance their ability to gain knowledge of their world and grow. The young fives will also identify their names, letters of the alphabet, and sounds associated with each letter.

MATH

Math concepts are taught through the daily routines (snack, lining up, calendar, etc.) and small group activities. The children use manipulatives as they participate in hands-on activities that involve number concepts, counting, sorting, numeral recognition to 20, shapes, puzzles, patterning, seriation, one-to-one correspondence, simple graphing, measuring, simple addition, and spatial concepts.

SCIENCE

The young fives use their senses to discover the world that God created. Through hands-on activities the young fives make new realizations about the world in which they live. Through educational themes, observations, and experiments the children learn about weather, seasons, health, plants, animals, senses, and magnets.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The young fives classroom environment encourages each child to have a healthy sense of self and a positive self-esteem. Social skills of young fives are fostered with daily activities. Through thematic units the young fives will be coached into self-regulating their emotions and their behaviors. They will develop closer friendships, become more aware of the social world, themselves, families, our country, and holidays.

ART

Young fives have opportunities to work with a variety of medium: pencils, crayons, markers, paint, tissue paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, textures, etc. The children are encouraged to create their own 'unique' works of art. Through art the young fives will improve their fine motor skills. The focus of art is on the process rather than the product.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Young fives daily take part in activities that promote large and small motor development.

Large motor activities include outdoor play, instructional gym time, running, jumping, walking, throwing and catching, balancing, galloping, and marching. Young fives have the opportunity to manipulate parachutes, bean bags, scooters, hula hoops, organized games and other gym activities.

Fine motor activities include lacing, stringing beads, drawing, cutting, painting, holding a crayon with thumb and finger, working with play dough, and building with manipulatives. They will also practice writing their names and all the letters in the alphabet.

MUSIC

Music is incorporated into the preschool day. Young fives are given the opportunity sing, play instruments, listen and move to music. The children sing religious songs during Jesus Time.

Mission Statement

Empowered by God's Word and Sacraments, the mission of Living Word Lutheran Church, through both its church and school ministries, is to make known the grace and love of Jesus Christ by word and deed within church and school, community and world.

Philosophy

Living Word Lutheran School aims to provide students and parents with a curriculum that educates children for a more meaningful relationship with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Living Word Lutheran School also has a great responsibility to educate children for a productive and meaningful life here on earth. Therefore, all aspects of the curriculum are focused on educating children for a life of service to God and others as they grow in knowledge, confidence, and creativity.

The students will be instructed, guided, and trained to achieve to the best of their ability. This is God-pleasing and beneficial for them in gaining competence. Ability levels vary according to many factors, and all children will be challenged appropriately to expand their knowledge and skill level.

Young Fives Curriculum



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