

Western Heights Baptist Church Preschool Ministry



FAQ... about our classes

Which class is right for my child?

Our preschool division provides three age-graded classes:

Infants

Ones & Twos

Threes-Kindergarten

Is there a lesson? It looks like the children are playing.

Preschoolers learn by doing. Play is their work! Our teachers plan hands-on learning activities that are used to teach the Bible story. For example, as your child washes a doll in a dish pan the teacher will be telling the story of Moses' mother caring for him. Your child will hear the story repeated throughout the session as he participates in a variety of fun learning activities.

Do my child's teachers receive training?

Yes! Our staff participates in training events on a regular basis. Areas of training include lesson planning, age-appropriate activities, child safety and positive child guidance. Our teachers also have a weekly Bible study that covers the scripture text for the upcoming Sunday School lesson.

What do I do if my child cries as I drop him off?

We recognize how it feels to hear your child cry as you drop him off in his classroom. Take heart - it will get better! Your child's adjustment is usually easier when you do not linger in the classroom. Give him a quick hug at the door, assure him that he will have a fun day and that you will be back later. Our teachers will then step in to comfort and engage your child in a fun activity. Please note: parents/guardians are asked not to re-enter classrooms after drop-off unless contacted by the Preschool Director. This is to provide a safe and distraction-free learning environment for each child in our care.

What should my child bring to class?

Please feel free to send whatever your infant will need, like formula, food, pacifiers, etc. Please provide an appropriate number of diapers (but know that we keep some on hand, too). If your older child requires a special snack, he should bring that with him. Please do not send toys, as your child's teacher will provide plenty of learning activities.

What disciplinary actions do the teachers use in the classrooms?

We find that discipline problems are few when a session is well-planned and includes engaging, hands-on learning activities. Our goal in discipline is to use positive methods of guiding children. If inappropriate behavior is observed, the first step is to remind the child of the right behavior ("We use walking feet in the building.")

The next step is to redirect the child to another activity, or let the child do something with the teacher for a few minutes. Either of these will get the child involved in making good choices. If a child has trouble making a good choice with an object in the classroom, the object might be removed from the room. For example, if a child is using a toy in an inappropriate way, the toy will be removed from the room.

FAQ . . . about health and safety

Who can pick up my child?

When you bring your child you will be asked to "check-in." We use KidCheck, which is an electronic check-in system. The Preschool Director will be available to assist with check-in. You will receive a sticker with a unique code; the child will have a sticker with the same code (the code is different each time). The person who picks up your child must present the sticker. This is a security measure for your child's protection. If you should lose your sticker, the Preschool Director will be glad to assist you. When you pick up your child please knock on the door and wait outside. The teacher will bring your child to you.

How will the teacher find me if my child needs me?

When you check-in your child's teacher will have a record of your location. The Preschool director will send you a text if you are needed. If you prefer, we will issue you a pager. If you receive a pager it must be returned when you pick up your child.

Are snacks provided?

A morning snack is provided for the children during the Bible Study hour (around 10:30). The snack consists of diluted fruit juice or water, and snack crackers (such as Goldfish, Ritz or Graham Crackers). If your child has food allergies, please inform our teaching staff. You may send a snack with your child, or we can provide a safe alternative snack. Please be sure to provide breakfast at home before bringing your child to a morning session. If breakfast is consumed on the way to church, please be sure your child is finished eating before coming to his or her classroom.

What about illness?

To protect the health of your child and the other children, we ask that you only bring your child when he/she is healthy. Parents of a child who becomes ill while attending a session will be notified to pick up their child.

Parents will be notified if a child has a temperature of 100.4, repeated loose bowel movements, or symptoms of a communicable disease. Parents will receive a note if their child has been exposed to a communicable disease. A child who has been kept home or sent home sick should be free of fever or upset stomach (of any kind) for 24 hours before returning to church.

What about medications?

We prefer not to give medications. We will give medications that are needed to counteract a severe allergic reaction (such as Epi-Pens) and inhalers in case of an asthma attack. If your child has a condition requiring such a medication, please discuss this with the Minister of Children. Should your child require other medications during the session, the parent would need to come to the classroom to administer the medication.

What about Accidents/Injuries

Because of the nature of children, minor bumps and falls will occur while they are at church. When this happens, teachers will apply tender loving care, along with appropriate medical care, such as bandaids, etc.. If a more serious injury occurs, we will notify the parents immediately.

What do you do in case of an emergency evacuation?

Our church has an evacuation plan posted in each classroom. The plan is designed to evacuate each classroom along pre-determined routes to the outside of the building, where they will meet up on the grass area beside the Fish Pond parking lot.

What about security? The preschool wing doors are always locked. Other exterior doors are locked once children have arrived. Unlocked entrances are manned by security team members. Additionally, security team members are patrolling the hallways at all times.

Other Questions? Ask your child's teacher or contact Marcy Smith at 776-2524 or marcy@whbcwaco.org.