



## MARS HILL ACADEMY KINDERGARTEN: THE BEGINNING OF THE JOURNEY

Mars Hill Academy Kindergarten teachers strive to develop a love of learning and a love for God in your little one during this formative year. Our classical education methods align with the developmental stages of your child. Young students are excited about learning! We embrace that excitement, imagination and creativity as we guide children along the journey to becoming *lifelong learners*. Because young children love to explore their world through their senses (touch, taste, feel, smell, and sight), you will see tactile items used to illustrate concepts; children singing, playing games, chanting and reciting; and lots of body movement. Students begin to develop their attention spans through reading, listening, and telling stories. They work on short creative projects, and they love to paint and build! The love of God and His commandments are the basis for all of our learning, and biblical principles are taught and modeled throughout the day in every subject. Class sizes are small, with no more than 14 students.

### A TYPICAL KINDERGARTEN DAY

**BIBLE:** Joyfully singing hymns, reciting Scripture with hand motions, learning Bible facts, and listening to Bible stories.

**WRITING, SPELLING AND READING:** Reciting phonograms, practicing proper letter formation, reading and engaging in literature, and dramatically reciting poetry.

**MATH:** Counting, calendar/weather, working with math manipulatives, solving story problems, telling time, building patterns, using money, and creating graphs.

**MUSIC AND ART:** Kindergarteners have music class once a week and art class twice a week.

Field trips are planned throughout the year to enrich learning. Special celebrations include Mother Goose Day, Dr. Seuss Week, Reformation Day, Christmas and Easter parties, and our 100 Day party.



# MHA KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## BIBLE

**HYMNS:** We begin each day with singing, and we encourage the children to sing with joy unto the Lord! The children learn all verses of one hymn each month. Some of the hymns we learn include: *O, Worship the King; This Is My Father's World; All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; For the Beauty of the Earth; Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; and Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee.*

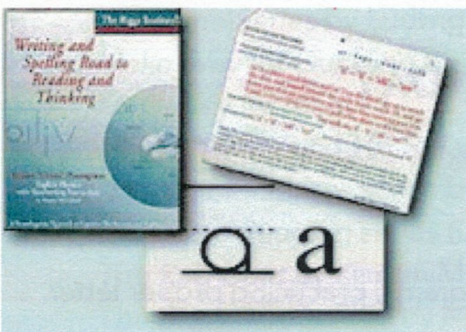


**SCRIPTURE MEMORY:** We memorize Scripture passages using hand motions to help the children remember them. Some of the Scripture passages we learn by heart are: The Ten Commandments, Psalm 23, Psalm 100, and Luke 2 (for Christmas).

**BIBLE STORIES AND BIBLE FACTS:** Each day a new Bible story is read from "The Child's Story Bible" as we learn about God – who He is and what He requires of us. We begin in the book of Genesis and continue through David's life in the Old Testament. We then focus on Christ's life as it is written in the New Testament Gospels. Students learn a variety of Bible facts, and they begin to identify important people of the Bible in an interactive question-and-answer format.

## LANGUAGE

Other than spiritual training, there is no more important component of a child's education than the teaching of reading, writing, and spelling.



**ORTHOGRAPHY:** We use an orthography program which reinforces the use of explicit phonics by teaching the 71 phonograms representing the 45 sounds spoken in the English language. We emphasize writing letters properly, as well as listening carefully to and repeating the proper pronunciations. This approach integrates the teaching of reading, writing, and spelling in a multi-sensory manner. Children begin spelling toward the end of the year.

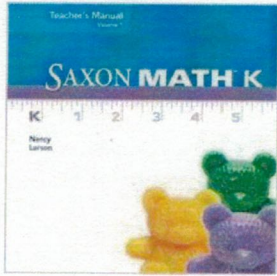
**LITERATURE:** We aim to foster a love for language by reading a variety of stories to our students each day. They learn to listen carefully, sequence story events, retell the story, and name the main characters.



**POETRY:** Students love to memorize poetry! A favorite is *The Swing* by Robert Louis Stevenson.



# MATH



MHA Grammar School students use the Saxon Math curriculum, which introduces math concepts incrementally. Cumulative in-class reviews are frequent, and significantly contribute to students' learning effectiveness. We use manipulatives so that children learn by doing, as well as by seeing and hearing. We desire that children see math everywhere around them in the orderly world God has created!

MHA Kindergarten students learn to:

- Form written numbers properly.
- Count to 100 by 1's, 2's, 5's, and 10's; identify numbers on a 100-number chart.
- Identify basic geometric shapes (triangle, square, etc.); copy and identify shapes on a geoboard.
- Identify and give the value of a penny, nickel, dime, quarter, and dollar.
- Recite the names and order of the days of the week and months of the year; name the four seasons.
- Tell time to the hour.
- Identify even and odd numbers.
- Describe fractions of  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Identify and extend patterns.
- Sort objects and identify a sorting rule.
- Count using ordinal numbers and identify ordinal position to at least the 1st, 2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> positions.
- Act out or draw story problems.
- Measure the length of objects.
- Identify the next number in a sequence.
- Graph and identify most and fewest on a graph.
- Cover tangram designs.
- Do simple addition and subtraction problems.





# MARS HILL ACADEMY EARLY PRIMARY READING LIST

All Aboard Reading series (Levels 1-4)  
All-of-a-Kind Family series by Sydney Taylor  
Animal Adventures, Thornton Burgess, Dover Classics (Level 3)  
Betsy & Tracy series by Maud Hart Lovelace (Level 3)  
Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown  
The Biggest Bear by Lynn Ward (Level 2)  
Billy and Blaze series by C.W. Anderson (Level 2)  
Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey (Level 2)  
The Boxcar Children Adventures, Books 1-18 by Gertrude Chandler Warner (Level 3)  
Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina (Level 2)  
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White (Level 3-4)  
The Courage of Sarah Noble by Alice Dalgliesh  
Curious George series by Margret and H.A. Rey  
Dorling Kindersley Readers (Levels 1-4)  
Dr. Seuss books by Dr. Seuss  
Eyewitness Readers (Levels 1-4)  
Frances Books series by Russell Hoban  
Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists/Composers series by Mike Venezia  
Great Illustrated Classics series  
History Series by Indri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire  
I Can Read series (Levels 1-4)  
Katy and the Big Snow by Virginia Lee Burton  
Little Bear Books by Else Holmelund Minarik (Level 2)  
The Little Engine that Could by Watty Piper  
Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder  
Madeline Series by Ludwig Bemelmans (Level 2)  
Make Way for Duckling by Robert McCloskey (Level 2)  
McGuffey Readers  
Mike Milligan and His Steam Shovel by Virginia Lee Burton  
Short Bible Stories series by Carine MacKenzie (Level 3)  
STEP into Reading series (Levels 1-4)  
The Rag Coat by Lauren Mills  
The Story About Ping by Marjorie Flack and Kurt Wise  
Stuart Little by E.B. White (Level 4)  
Tales of Peter Rabbit and Friends by Beatrix Potter (Level 3)  
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams  
Winnie the Pooh series by A.A. Milne