



Grade Level Introduction: Kindergarten 2017-2018

gave him or her. Our goal is to help develop the whole child spiritually, emotionally and academically.

Teacher Information

Mrs. Amber Sibley

Credentials:

- B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Phoenix.
- M.A. in Early Childhood Education from Northern Arizona University
- Reading Endorsement from Northern Arizona University

Certification:

- Arizona State Certified
- A.C.S.I. Certified

Years of Experience:

- Six years total (Kindergarten)
- Four years at Casas Christian School

Teacher Contact Information

Email: ambers@casaschristianschool.com

Classroom Voicemail: 878-1315

Instagram: casaskinder

Mrs. Katrina Dedmon

Credentials:

- M.Ed. - Early Childhood Specialization
- B.S. in Early Childhood Education

Certification:

- C.E.R.I. Certified Literacy Instructor
- C.L.A.S.S. Certified K-3 Assessor/Trainer

Years of Experience:

- Six years as a Principal
- Six years as an education coach
- Seven years as a classroom teacher (5 in Kindergarten)

Teacher Contact Information

Email: katrinad@casaschristianschool.com

Classroom Voicemail: 878-7204

Instagram: casaskinder

Grade Level Description

Kindergarten is a world of excitement where the joy of learning is evident every day. Students will learn about the community outside of their own family by working in small groups, whole group and individually. We treat each child as a gift from the Lord and understand that each child's needs vary depending on the gifts God

Differentiation, instruction that differs for each child, is implemented throughout the day. Whole group instruction includes the introduction of letters and numbers using a variety of movement activities, visuals, songs, technology, and creative projects. Small group math and literacy instruction includes enrichment learning centers, hands-on manipulatives, collaborative learning experiences, and specific reading instruction. Individual, one-on-one instruction focuses on each child's specific reading level. Reading and writing are primary components of Kindergarten at CCS and chief components of individual instruction that enables each child to receive the level of instruction that he or she specifically needs.

Children are introduced to a variety of literature and taught story elements, specific reading strategies, and comprehension skills.

Social Studies and Science are also introduced with an overview of major events and people such as Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Jr., and the study of families, communities, insects, plants, desert animals, weather, and Christmas around the world. Of course, Christmas and Easter are significant celebrations honored in Kindergarten with a focus on Christ.

Although Bible is an independent subject, biblical concepts are introduced and demonstrated daily through teacher-child interactions, communication with others, discipline, art projects and throughout each subject. Kindergarten-age children begin to move from thinking of only themselves to thinking of others. This is taught from Scripture as they work through problem solving with their peers. This is the beginning of guiding the children to a biblical worldview, that is, seeking answers from biblical truth.

In addition, each week the students visit the school library and check out a book for the week, have reading buddies with an upper-grade student and attend a Chapel service where an age-appropriate message is presented.

With the new and wonderfully exciting activities happening in Kindergarten, a rest time is much needed. After lunch the students will take a 30-minute

break and rest on a towel or blanket in the classroom. This downtime is important to rest their little minds to get ready for more stimulating projects, activities or special classes in the afternoon such as art, music, P.E., Spanish, and computers.

participate in a school-wide effort to help the Gospel Rescue Mission hold a special Kids Party.

Grade Level Resources

Bible: Purposeful Design

Reading/Language Arts/Writing: McGraw-Hill

Wonders

Math: Saxon

Science: Pearson Interactive Science

Social Studies: Harcourt

Special Events & Field Trips

In Kindergarten, we have field trips throughout the year to places like Howard's Orchard during apple picking season, the Botanical Gardens to observe the butterfly life cycle, Fry's Grocery Store to support our money unit, Golder Ranch Fire District for Fire Safety, the Children's Museum for hands-on science exploration, the Oro Valley Library during our fairy-tale study, and to Sabino Canyon to learn about the geology and ecosystems of the desert. During Christmas, we visit the Retirement Home to deliver hand-made cards and sing Christmas carols to the residents as part of our "Serving Others" project.

In our classrooms, we have many hands-on art projects and activities. In addition to holiday crafts and decorations, we have a pancake pajama party for letter P, celebrate the 100th Day of School, honor Dr. Seuss' Birthday with green eggs and ham, watch butterflies emerge from their cocoons, and grow plants in the classroom. Research and inquiry projects include in-depth studies of insects, community helpers, desert animals and habitats, and fairy-tales. We commemorate our growth and learning at the end the year with a Kindergarten Celebration. Kindergarten at CCS is not only a place of learning but that of fascination and enjoyment for a kindergartener.

Serving Others Projects

During Christmas, we visit the Retirement Home to deliver hand-made cards, serve cookies and juice, and sing Christmas carols to the residents as part of our "Serving Others" project. Also in December, we