



## Minerva Area Christian School

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*"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6*

Educating children for this life and eternity

*"Education with Christian Values"*

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*Member of the Association of Christian Schools International*

This fun and engaging Abeka program is designed to help 3-year-olds build foundational skills through hands-on, play-based learning. It focuses on phonics, numbers, motor skills, and creativity, all tailored to preschoolers' developmental needs. Here's what your child will experience:

### Phonics and Letter Skills

- **Letter Recognition:** Learn to recognize the shape and sound of each letter (uppercase and lowercase) using tools like the Amber Lamb puppet, felt letters, and picture flashcards featuring 26 Animal Alphabet Friends.
- **Themed Lessons:** Explore 12 exciting themes (circus, farm, rain forest, zoo, community helpers, children of the world, and more) to make learning letters meaningful and fun.
- **Interactive Games (126 total):** Participate in activities like animal parades, pretending to be community helpers, and matching letters to objects to reinforce phonics skills.
- **Songs and Rhymes:** Sing a unique song for each letter to help your child remember letter names and sounds.
- **Listening and Speaking:** Develop listening skills and practice following directions through storytelling and group activities.

### Number Skills with Button Bear

- **Numbers 1–15:** Learn to recognize and count numbers 1–15 using a Button Bear puppet, felt numbers, and everyday objects.
- **Hands-On Activities (76 games):** Practice number concepts through engaging tasks like:
  - Placing dots on a ladybug
  - Shopping in a pretend grocery store
  - Delivering mail
  - Building a turtle shell with shapes
  - Gathering eggs to count
- **Skill Development:** Strengthen listening skills, follow directions, and improve hand-eye coordination through activities like tracing pathways, completing dot-to-dot pictures, and coloring large, simple shapes.

### Motor Skills Development

- **Fine Motor Skills:** Build hand-eye coordination through activities like:
  - Tracing letter and number shapes
  - Gluing objects onto letter templates

- Working on puzzles
- Fishing with a magnetic pole
- Tossing beanbags
- Zipping and unzipping items
- **Gross Motor Skills:** Encourage physical coordination with games like galloping, walking a pretend tightrope, and bouncing a ball.
- **Sensory Exploration:** Identify objects in a bag by touch to develop sensory awareness and descriptive language.

### **Creativity and Art**

- **Child Art for 3s:** Color simple, preschool-friendly pictures with bold, colorful lines that connect to the program's themes (e.g., animals, community helpers).
- **Poems and Stories:** Enjoy occasional poems and short stories that enhance the coloring experience and build early literacy skills.
- **Shapes and Colors:** Learn to identify and name colors and shapes through creative art projects and hands-on activities.

### **Additional Details for Parents**

- **Social and Emotional Growth:** The program encourages social skills like taking turns, sharing, and working together during group games and activities.
- **Structured Yet Playful:** Lessons are carefully planned to balance structured learning with play, ensuring your child stays engaged while building confidence and skills.
- **Developmentally Appropriate:** Activities are designed with 3-year-olds in mind, using large, simple forms for coloring and tracing to match their fine motor abilities.
- **Second Edition Enhancements:** The curriculum includes updated visuals and activities to keep the content fresh and engaging.

### **Why Parents Will Love It**

This program makes learning fun and meaningful for 3-year-olds by combining play, creativity, and skill-building. It prepares your child for future academic success by teaching letter and number recognition, coordination, and listening skills in an engaging, age-appropriate way. The themed lessons, puppets, and hands-on activities keep your child excited about learning while fostering curiosity and confidence.