



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

The Abeka K4 program is a fun, engaging, and structured curriculum designed to prepare 4-year-olds for kindergarten by building essential phonics, reading, writing, number, and motor skills. Through hands-on activities, colorful materials, and playful themes, your child will develop a love for learning while mastering foundational skills. Below is a clear and comprehensive summary for parents, based on the provided Scope and Sequence document.

Phonics and Reading Skills

- **Letter Recognition and Sounds:** Learn the names and sounds of all 26 letters (uppercase and lowercase) using tools like the Amber Lamb puppet, felt letters, and picture flashcards.
- **Blending Sounds:** Begin blending consonants and vowels to read simple words (e.g., "cat," "sun") with the help of phonics charts and games.
- **Themed Lessons (13 themes):** Explore engaging topics like farm, ocean, community helpers, transportation, and seasons to make phonics fun and relatable.
- **Songs and Rhymes:** Sing a song for each letter and use rhymes to reinforce phonics rules and word families (e.g., -at, -an).
- **Reading Readiness:** Practice recognizing high-frequency words (e.g., "the," "and") and reading short sentences by the end of the year.
- **Games and Activities (132 total):** Participate in interactive games like letter-matching relays, phonics scavenger hunts, and role-playing community helpers to reinforce learning.

Number Skills with Button Bear

- **Numbers 1–20:** Learn to recognize, count, and write numbers 1–20 using a Button Bear puppet, felt numbers, and objects like counters or toys.
- **Math Concepts:** Understand basic concepts like:
 - Counting forward and backward
 - One-to-one correspondence (matching objects to numbers)
 - Simple addition (e.g., $1 + 1 = 2$)
 - Recognizing patterns and shapes
- **Hands-On Activities (88 games):** Practice number skills through fun tasks like:
 - Sorting objects by number
 - Building a number train
 - Counting "treasures" in a pirate game
 - Creating patterns with shapes

- **Skill-Building:** Develop listening skills, follow directions, and improve hand-eye coordination through tracing, dot-to-dot, and coloring activities.

Writing and Fine Motor Skills

- **Handwriting Readiness:** Practice writing letters and numbers by tracing and copying them, starting with simple strokes and progressing to full letters.
- **Fine Motor Development:** Strengthen hand-eye coordination through activities like:
 - Cutting with scissors along straight and curved lines
 - Gluing objects onto templates
 - Lacing cards
 - Working puzzles
 - Folding paper to create simple shapes
- **Creative Writing:** Begin forming simple words and sentences by the end of the year, guided by teacher examples.

Motor and Sensory Skills

- **Gross Motor Skills:** Build physical coordination through active games like:
 - Hopping, skipping, and jumping
 - Balancing on a pretend tightrope
 - Throwing and catching a ball
- **Sensory Activities:** Explore textures and objects by identifying items in a “feely bag” or sorting by touch, enhancing sensory awareness and descriptive language.

Creativity and Art

- **Child Art for K4:** Create colorful art projects with simple, preschool-friendly designs that tie into the program’s themes (e.g., drawing a farm or ocean scene).
- **Poems and Stories:** Listen to short poems and stories that complement art activities and build early literacy skills.
- **Colors and Shapes:** Master identifying and naming colors and shapes (e.g., circle, square, triangle) through art and hands-on projects.

Social and Emotional Growth

- **Social Skills:** Learn to take turns, share, and work together during group activities like games and story time.
- **Following Directions:** Practice listening carefully and following multi-step instructions, preparing for kindergarten routines.
- **Confidence Building:** Gain confidence through small successes in reading, writing, and completing tasks independently.

Additional Details for Parents

- **Structured and Playful Approach:** The K4 program balances structured learning with play to keep 4-year-olds engaged while preparing them for kindergarten.
- **Developmentally Appropriate:** Activities are designed for 4-year-olds' abilities, using large, colorful visuals and hands-on tasks to support their growth.
- **Second Edition Enhancements:** The curriculum includes updated materials, such as vibrant visuals and refined activities, to enhance engagement and learning.
- **Progress Tracking:** Your child's progress is supported through daily reviews, ensuring they master skills before moving forward.

Why Parents Will Love It

The Abeka K4 program is perfect for 4-year-olds, offering a fun and structured way to build essential skills for kindergarten. Through puppets, songs, games, and art, your child will develop phonics, reading, math, and motor skills while growing in confidence and creativity. The themed lessons and hands-on activities make learning exciting and meaningful, setting a strong foundation for future academic success.