



# **AFRICA COMMUNITY SCHOOL EARLY YEARS CURRICULUM GUIDE FOR PARENTS**

**CRECHE  
PRE SCHOOL  
PRE-KINDERGARTEN  
LOWER-KINDERGARTEN  
UPPER-KINDERGARTEN**

**Dear Esteemed Parents of our dear Adorables.**  
**In our commitment to partnering with you in raising godly children and getting knowledge in the fear of God, we want to share the curriculum overview and attainment goals for each class in our Early Years with you. The objective is for parents to have a general overview of how our adorables will be taught in class and also how they will be assessed so you can keep abreast of activities and also provide the adequate support needed at home.**

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# CRECHE (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

## 1. LITERACY, COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Recognizes books and shows interest in handling them
- Listening and attention by turning to familiar sounds with accuracy
- Interacts with children and care givers
  - They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.
- Speaking by communicating needs and feelings in a variety of ways including crying, pointing e.t.c.

## 3. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Moving and handling: Turns head in response to sounds and sights.
- Reaches out for, touches and begins to hold objects.
- Enjoys the sensory experience of making marks in damp sand, paste or paint.
- Holds pen or crayon using a whole hand (palmar) grasp and makes random marks with different strokes.
- Responds to and thrives on warm, sensitive physical contact and care.
- Self-confidence and self-awareness: Learns that own voice and actions have effects on others.

## 2. NUMERACY

- Notices changes in number of objects/images or sounds in groups
- Develops an awareness of number names through their enjoyment of action rhymes and songs that relate to their experience of numbers.
- Has some understanding that things exist.

## 4. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD.

- Is curious about people and shows interest in stories about themselves and their family.
- Enjoys pictures and stories about themselves, their families and other people.

## 5. EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

- Move their whole bodies to sounds they enjoy, such as music or a regular beat.
- Imitates and improvises actions they have observed, e.g. clapping or waving.

# PRE SCHOOL (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

## 1. NUMERACY

- Begins to organize and categorize objects, e.g. putting all the teddy bears together
- Selects a small number of objects from a group when asked
- Knows that a group of things changes in quantity when something is added or taken away
- Attempts, sometimes successfully, to fit shapes into spaces on inset boards or jigsaw puzzles.
- Uses blocks to create their own simple structures and arrangements.
- Understands some talk about immediate past and future, e.g. 'before', 'later' or 'soon'; anticipates specific time-based events such as mealtimes or home time.

## 3. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Is curious about people and shows interest in stories about themselves and their family.
- Enjoys pictures and stories about themselves, their families and other people
- In pretend play, imitates everyday actions and events from own family and cultural background
- Learns that they have similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from, others.
- Anticipates repeated sounds, sights and actions

## 2. LITERACY (READING, MARKING) (term used for writing in Pre-School), COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Interested in books and rhymes and may have favorites.
- Has some favorite stories, rhymes, songs, poems or jingles.
- Repeats words or phrases from familiar stories.
- Fills in the missing word or phrase in a known rhyme, story or game.
- Uses phonic knowledge to decode regular words and say them aloud accurately.
- Distinguishes between the different marks they make.

## 4. KNOWING GOD

- Listens to Bible Stories.
- Shows an understanding of who God is.
- Understanding the difference between right and wrong.

## 5. EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

- Begins to move to music, listen to or join in rhymes or songs.
- Notices and is interested in the effects of making movements which leave marks.
- Joins in singing favourite songs.
- Creates sounds by banging, shaking, tapping or blowing.
- Shows an interest in the way musical instruments sound.
- Experiments with blocks, colours and marks.

## PRE SCHOOL (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

### 6. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Explores new toys and environments, but 'checks in' regularly with familiar adult as and when needed.
- Gradually able to engage in pretend play with toys (child starts to understand their own thinking may be different from others).
- Demonstrates sense of self as an individual, e.g. wants to do things independently
- Managing feelings and behaviour: Is aware of others' feelings.

### 7. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Begins to balance blocks to build.
- Makes connections between their movement and the marks they make.
- Climbs confidently and is beginning to pull themselves up on nursery play climbing equipment.
- Beginning to use three fingers (tripod grip) to hold writing tools.
- Imitates drawing simple shapes such as circles and lines.

# PRE-KINDERGARTEN (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

## 1. NUMERACY

- Uses some number names and number language spontaneously.
- Uses some number names accurately in play.
  - Recites numbers in order to 100
- Shows curiosity about numbers by offering comments or asking questions.
- Compares two groups of objects, saying when they have the same number.
- Shows an interest in number problems.
- Shows an interest in shape and space by playing with shapes or making arrangements with objects

## 3. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Shows interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.
- Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experiences.
  - Recognizes and describes special times or events for family or friends and shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.
- Knows some of the things that make them unique, and can talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family.
- Knows how to operate simple equipment and shows an interest in technological toys with knobs or pulleys, or real objects

## 2. LITERACY (READING, WRITING), COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Shows awareness of rhymes and alliteration.
  - Recognizes rhythm in spoken words.
- Listens to and joins in with stories and poems, one-to-one and also in small groups
- Describes main story settings, events and principal characters
- Recognizes familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising logos.
- Sometimes gives meaning to marks as they draw and paint.
  - Looks at books independently
- Shows understanding of prepositions, responds to simple instructions, e.g. to get or put away an object.
  - Able to sound letters of the alphabet phonetically and begins to blend two letter words.
- Recognizes and associates letters with objects.
- Beginning to use more complex sentences to link thoughts (e.g. using and, because).

## 4. KNOWING GOD

- Listens to bible stories
  - Retells stories
- Shows understanding of who God and what God is like and the way he wants us to live.

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

### 5. EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

- Enjoys joining in with dancing and ring games.
- Sings a few familiar songs and begins to move rhythmically.
  - Imitates movement in response to music.
- Explores and learns how sounds can be changed.
- Explores colour and how colours can be changed.
- Developing preferences for forms of expression.
- Creates movement in response to music, sings to self and makes up simple songs and makes up rhythms

### 6. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Can select and use activities and resources with help.
- Welcomes and values praise for what they have done.
- Enjoys responsibility of carrying out small tasks and more confident in new social situations.
  - Confident to talk to other children when playing and will communicate freely about own home and community.
  - Begins to accept the needs of others and can take turns and share resources, sometimes with support from others.
  - Can usually adapt behaviour to different events, social situations and changes in routine.

### 7. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Moves freely and with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping, mounts stairs, steps or climbing equipment using alternate feet.
  - Draws lines and circles using gross motor movements; uses one-handed tools and equipment
- Gains more bowel and bladder control and can attend to toileting needs most of the time themselves, can usually manage washing and drying hands



# LOWER-KINDERGARTEN (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

## 1. NUMERACY

- Counts an irregular arrangement of up to ten objects.
- Estimates how many objects they can see and checks by counting them
- Counts up to three or four objects by saying one number name for each item.
- Counts objects to 10, and beginning to count beyond 10.
- In practical activities and discussion, beginning to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting.
- Beginning to use mathematical names for 'solid' 3-D shapes and 'flat' 2-D shapes, and mathematical terms to describe shapes.

## 3. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
- People and communities: Enjoys joining in with family customs and routine
- Interacts with age-appropriate computer software.

## 5. EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

- Exploring and using media and materials: Begins to build a repertoire of songs and dances, explores the different sounds of instruments, explores what happens when they mix colours and experiments to create different textures.
- Uses simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately.
- Selects appropriate resources and adapts work where necessary
- Initiates new combinations of movement and gesture in order to express and respond to feelings, ideas and experiences

## 2. LITERACY (READING, WRITING), COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- Can segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together and knows which letters represent some of them.
- Links sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.
- Begins to blend 2 to 3 letter words
- Uses vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experiences of books.
- Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint.
- Able to follow a story without pictures or props.
- Listens and responds to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.

## 4. KNOWING GOD

- Listens to bible stories
- Retells the stories
- Shows an understanding of who and what God is like and the way he wants us to live

## 6. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Self-confidence and self-awareness: Confident to speak to others about own needs, wants, interests and opinions.
- Can describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities.
- Managing feelings and behaviour: Understands that own actions affect other people,

## LOWER-KINDERGARTEN (THE SEVEN LEARNING AREAS)

### 7. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Negotiates space successfully when playing racing and chasing games with other children, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles
- Uses simple tools to effect changes to materials;  
Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control
  - Shows a preference for a dominant hand.
  - Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines.
- Shows some understanding that good practices with regard to exercise, eating, sleeping and hygiene can contribute to good health.



## UPPER-KINDERGARTEN (LEARNING AREAS)

### 1. LITERACY (READING, WRITING, COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE)

- Read and sound letters (a-z)
- Group and identify and write vowels and consonant letters
- Identify initial consonant blend, complete words with final consonant blend
- Blend, sound and build words (2-3 words)
- Spell 3-5 letter words.
- Read short stories and identify the main character from the stories.
- Interpret and re-tell stories / short passages

### 3. EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

- Exploring and using media and materials: Begins to build a repertoire of songs and dances; explores the different sounds of instruments.
- Explores what happens when they mix colours and experiments to create different textures.
- Understands that different media can be combined to create new effects.
- Create simple representations of events, people and objects.
- Initiates new combinations of movement and gesture in order to express and respond to feelings, ideas and experiences.
- Introduces a storyline or narrative into their play; plays alongside other children who are engaged in the same theme.

### 2. NUMERACY

- Uses the language of 'more' and 'fewer' to compare two sets of objects.
- Finds the total number of items in two groups by counting all of them.
- Says the number that is one more than a given number.
- Finds one more or one less from a group of up to five objects, then ten objects.
- In practical activities and discussion, begins to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting.
- Records, using marks that they can interpret and explain.
- Begins to identify own mathematical problems based on own interests and fascinations

### 4. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- People and communities: Enjoys joining in with family customs and routines.
- The world: Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.

### 5. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Self-confidence and self-awareness: Confident to speak to others about own needs, wants, interests and opinions.
- Can describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities
- Aware of the boundaries set, and of behavioural expectations in the setting.
- Beginning to be able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression

## UPPER-KINDERGARTEN (LEARNING AREAS)

### 6. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Moving and handling: Experiments with different ways of moving
- Shows increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking it.
- Shows a preference for a dominant hand.
- Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines.
- Begins to form recognizable letters.
- Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognizable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

### 7. KNOWING GOD

- Understanding of God's creation
- Listen and retell Bible stories and memory verses
- Shows understanding of what is right and wrong.

### SUBJECTS HANDLED IN CLASS

1. English Studies
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. National Values
5. Pre-Vocational Studies
6. Christian Religious Studies
7. Practical Life Exercise
8. Expressive Arts and Design
9. Vocational Aptitude

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