

Expectations & Rules

I expect my students to respect others and their things. They will respect me, their teacher. They will listen when instructed, follow directions, and to not only try their best, but to give it their all.

The beginning of the school year will be mainly devoted to learning the expectations & rules of the school and the classroom. They will be reviewed throughout the year as necessary.

Not only will the rules be addressed, but also their importance and the consequences if the rules are broken.

To help encourage students to use good behavior and positive decisions, rewards will be earned by using an app and online program called ClassDojo. Students will earn or lose points depending on the skills they are demonstrating such as work performance, behavior, helpfulness, & ability to follow directions.

By using this program you will also be able to see your child's daily behavior report, send instant messages, and see photos about our day.

Overall, the rules will be clear, consistent & positive and students will be given recognition for their good choices. Learning and understanding the consequences will decrease the chance of the rule being broken again.

Note From the Teacher

Dear Families,

As your child's teacher, I feel it is important that we work together to meet all your child's educational and emotional needs. I feel very privileged to have your child in my class and look forward to learning about all the talents and gifts he or she will bring to the classroom. If there is anything I need to know or can do to make this classroom or my teaching more adequate in helping your child reach his or her fullest potential, please do not hesitate to inform me.

Communication between us throughout the year is key to a successful learning environment. Besides, parent/teacher conferences, I will include a weekly newsletter each Friday which will inform you about what our class is studying at the moment, field trips, and other fascinating items that need to be shared. I also use a classroom app called ClassDojo with text messaging features.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and concerns here at school (760) 779-1799 ext. 247 or call/text at 760-895-2731 any time. Thank you.

Communication
Is Key

Welcome To TK/ Kindergarten

Desert Adventist Academy



Teacher: Mrs. Trudeau

Introduction

Welcome to Mrs. Trudeau's TK/Kindergarten classroom. What a joy this year will be. This is a place for learning and exploring. As each child enters my classroom, they will be seen as special individuals with wonderful contributions that will make this community a whole. They each have ideas, opinions, and a desire to learn (even if they don't know it yet). And that will be valued here.

My name is Rebekah Trudeau and I have been teaching at Desert Adventist Academy for over 10 years. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and have a minor in both Early Childhood Education & Art. I received my Master's degree from La Sierra University in Curriculum & Instruction. I have a wonderful husband, John, and two beautiful children Jakob & Abigail.

Besides teaching, I enjoy my time reading, baking, and visiting friends & family. Family is always a high priority with me, who live in the San Francisco Bay area and my sister and her family in Redlands. I'm a baptized member of the SDA church and love God our creator. Through Him we can achieve anything.



Philosophy About Learning

I believe learning should be about discovery and exploration. I like children to get up out of their desks, come together and share as a community. I use a variety of teaching techniques such as small & large groups, independent seat work, and learning centers.

I will plan the curriculum to meet individual needs and interests. I will also be flexible enough to allow for the unexpected occurrences or *teachable moments* that may arise. I will have both long- & short- range plans, but will remain open to change in both activities and teaching strategies.

The kindergarten curriculum has changed greatly over the years and can be at times seen as quite academically driven. It is my goal for each kindergartener to be ready for first grade, whether you plan on continuing with our school or elsewhere. Therefore, it's important for me to be aware of the district's kindergarten curriculum but at the same time provide a balanced curriculum that includes playtime, social interactions, & crafts. I like to think of my classroom as a happy medium between the kindergarten classrooms of yesterday and the academic driven classes of today.

Furthermore, students are encouraged to work at their own pace. Throughout the day, students will be divided into small groups. These groups will allow me to give more

individualized attention and I can tailor an assignment to meet the needs of the child.

I also don't like to rush my students. The ability to read by the end of kindergarten is not a requirement. Instead, I take each child as he or she enters kindergarten and take each child as far as he or she will go within one school year knowing that learning rates vary greatly.

Through the year, I want my students to master their letters & letter sounds and develop the skills needed for reading. Students will spend time on phonemic awareness: listening to and creating rhymes, identifying beginning and ending word sounds, and hopefully by the end of the year sounding out, spelling and reading three-letter words.

Overall, kindergarten is a time to provide a smooth transition from home or preschool to elementary school. A balanced curriculum is used that includes not only academic areas, but also enhances social, spiritual, emotional and physical areas as well. Learning of all kinds takes place in this kindergarten class and I'm so happy to have your child be a part of it.

