

# First Discovery Preschool Parent Handbook 2011/2012

801 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Yankton, SD  
665-6362

Yanktonassembly.com  
[preschoolnow@yahoo.com](mailto:preschoolnow@yahoo.com)

Teacher: Diana Langley

## Philosophy/Mission Statement

To provide a foundation for young children academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally while in a safe, nurturing environment that emphasizes Christian principles.

## Overview of Program

- ≈ South Dakota certified, licensed teacher with nine years experience teaching Preschool and Kindergarten and 30 years teaching experience.
- ≈ Developmentally appropriate activities
- ≈ Research based curriculum following South Dakota Early Learning Guidelines
- ≈ Christ-centered environment
- ≈ Discovery learning
- ≈ Flexible yet balanced schedule
- ≈ Positive social and emotional interactions
- ≈ Centers addressing each academic area
- ≈ Group time with stories, music and cooperative activities
- ≈ Attention to individual learning styles
- ≈ Pre-kindergarten readiness skills
- ≈ Field trips to explore our community and community visitors in classroom.

## Goals or objectives

### Spiritual

Children come to know there is a God who loves them and that Jesus came to help save us, to help us live right, and to be our friend. Christian principles of loving, caring, sharing, patience, treating others well, etc. will be covered through role play, songs and stories.

## Academic

Each academic area of learning (Math, Science, Language and Literacy, Social and Emotional Development, Health and Physical Development, and the Creative Arts) is integrated throughout the day.

## Physical

Fine and Gross motor activities are provided along with healthy living education.

## Social and Emotional

Children receive instruction concerning positive self-concept and confidence, regulating their emotions, respecting others, and verbalizing their emotions. They are encouraged to problem solve and reflect.

## Daily Schedule

Greeting time

Discovery time

Large Group time

Outside/physical activity time

Bathroom time

Snack time

Small group time

Story Time

Talk about our day time

Dismissal

## A look at our day

### **Greeting Time**

We greet each other, complete our attendance board, then choose an interest area.

### **Discovery Time**

Young children make sense of their world through exploration, role play, discovery, and active play in their environment. A large block of uninterrupted time is given to actively engage in a variety of activities and to interact socially with others. Centers include math manipulatives, science and discovery, art and writing, literacy, role play, and a sand and water table.

### **Large Group Time**

A time for language and literacy, songs, books, Bible stories, finger plays, and cooperative activities.

### **Small Group Time**

A time for art and academically designed activities which promote cognitive development. These include letters, numbers, shapes, color recognition, problem solving, verbal skills, pattern and sequence, matching, and fine motor activities.

### **Outdoor Time**

A time for large muscle activities including climbing, running, riding, throwing and catching, etc.

### **Snack Time**

Healthy snacks are provided. This also promotes social interactions.

### Story Time

Stories from books and the Bible will be read or told by flannel graph, puppets or other interactive activities.

### Closing Time

We talk about our day, what we experienced and learned, and then we tell each other goodbye.

## Classes

### 3 & 4 year old class

Must be three years old by September 1.  
Toilet trained with no pull-ups.  
Tuesday and Thursday mornings only  
9:00am – 11:30am

### 4 & 5 year old class

Must be four by September 1.  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Morning  
9:00 am – 11:30 am  
Monday to Friday 9-11:30 am

## Tuition

2-day program (3/4 year olds)  
\$675/year or \$75/month

3-day program (4/5 year olds)  
\$810/year or \$90/month

5-day program

(Must be going to Kindergarten next year)  
\$1215/year or \$135/month.

There is a 5% discount if year is paid in advance.

**Tuition is paid by the last day of the previous month prior to services.** A late fee of \$10 will be

charged after five days. After 10 days, the child cannot return until bill is paid in full.

A **\$45 registration fee** is required upon registration, along with your child's immunization record.

At the end of the year you will be provided with a statement of what you have paid for tax purposes. This is sent to the person who wrote the check.

Immunizations must be up-to-date.

Bus transportation is not provided. Arrangements can be made with the public transit system. See Diana if there are transportation concerns.

Preschool children must be toilet trained – no pull-ups.

## Arrival/Departure

You must sign your child in and out each day. Please check your child's file upon arrival and departure each day. Notes for/from the teacher and payments can be placed in it. Communication is important but is best if written down.

Please have your child arrive no earlier than **five minutes** before class. Time is needed to prepare for each day. As this room has a dual purpose, there will be days when more time will be needed to set up the room.

**Pick up:** Children should be picked up at the room no later than 10 minutes after dismissal. A **late fee of \$5** will be charged for every 10 minutes a child remains. Children will only be released to an authorized person unless a note is written otherwise.

## Health

The following health information is required for each child enrolled in preschool:

- Immunization record
- Emergency Medical Release
- Physician's name
- Your child should not attend school within 24 hours of having a fever or vomiting. Please keep your child home if he/she has symptoms of illness in order to protect others. If your child should develop symptoms of illness, you will be notified immediately.
- If your child has been exposed to a communicable disease, (such as measles, H1N1, chicken pox, mumps, strep throat, lice, etc.), please let us know. You will also be informed if your child was exposed while in school.
- Please call if your child is not able to attend due to illness so we do not plan for him or her that day.

## School Calendar

Each month you will receive a calendar with the school events. We strive to keep parents informed of what the children are doing and suggestions for you to do with your child that goes along with our school day.

## No Service Days

We have the same days off as Yankton School District. When Yankton School District does not have school, neither will First Discovery Preschool. This includes snow days. If the school district closes early or starts late because of weather, we will also.

## Inclement Weather

Please be advised through KELO TV or KYNT radio when you have concerns whether or not we are open or will be closing early that day.

## Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held twice a year.

## Book orders

Book orders are provided as a service to you. It is firmly believed that having quality books in the home promotes reading. Yankton does not have a good children's book store, therefore this is a way to have quality children's books at a very reasonable price. There is no pressure to buy. Book orders will be once a month. They will be put in your file on a Monday and need to be returned by that Friday. Make checks payable to Scholastic Books.

## Field trips

Every attempt will be made to have one field trip a month visiting our community. Please provide car seats. A sign-up sheet will be provided if you would like to volunteer to drive on these days. We are striving to have community visitors for the 3-year-old class.

## Supply List

You will be notified concerning supplies and if we need donations. Tennis shoes, extra clothing if necessary, and proper winter wear will also be needed. Thank you in advance for your help in these areas.

## Celebrating holidays and special days

We will be celebrating various holidays. If you want to be involved those days, please make this known. If your child has a birthday that you want to celebrate, please arrange this with the teacher. At times we will have special days in the classroom. Please refer to the monthly calendar for these days.

## Non-discrimination Policy

First Discovery Preschool, under the umbrella of First Assembly of God, Yankton, SD admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions policies, programs or student activities.