

# Immaculate Heart of Mary School



## Our Kindergarten Curriculum

Kindergarten is a wonderful time of discovery in the life of a child. At IHM, we build knowledge in core academic concepts, guide our students in social interaction, and deepen their faith in God. We are a Christ-centered community that honors and celebrates the unique aspects of every child. While filled with exploratory experiences and play, Kindergarten is also a time of serious commitment to the learning process. Our program encompasses the Essential Academic Learning Requirements of the Archdiocese of Atlanta and includes both formal and informal instruction. We truly love our Kindergarten students and are amazed by their individual growth each year!

### Curriculum Overview

- We emphasize exploratory, hands-on learning and the discovery of new ideas.
- Daily activities include learning through centers, classroom experiments, role-playing exercises, interaction with manipulatives and other media, and physical modeling of skills.
- Concepts are often explored through project-based learning, enabling the child to make meaningful connections between material studied and his or her everyday life.
- Children are encouraged to communicate and share their knowledge to develop a deeper understanding of material and feel comfortable and confident when interacting with their peers. Small-group instruction and project-based group experiences are an integral part of our daily instruction to give all children the opportunity to communicate their knowledge and viewpoints.
- Development of crucial foundational skills is fostered through developmentally appropriate learning experiences, thereby strengthening children's enduring understanding and application of skills.

### Above and Beyond the Curriculum

- A special celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school to address the concepts of skip-counting by various numbers, adding, subtracting, sorting, and patterning.
- The Johnny Appleseed Project to explore the concepts of life cycles, plant growth, and American history.
- The study of numerous national symbols and holidays throughout the year to foster understanding of the origins and traditions of our country.
- The study of the origins and significance of our Catholic saints, the Lenten season, and the life experiences of children around the world.