



ESSENTIAL LEARNING FOR GRASSHOPPERS: 2 YEAR OLDS

At the end of Grasshoppers, students should be able to demonstrate mastery of the following material:

OVERVIEW

Children graduating from the Grasshopper class are blossoming with independence, curiosity, and budding self-help skills. They are learning to navigate their emotions, form friendships, and express themselves using words, gestures, and simple sentences. With supportive guidance, they are beginning to take part in classroom routines, follow simple directions, and demonstrate a growing awareness of their bodies and surroundings. Potty training and other self-care routines become a key part of their development, promoting confidence and autonomy. These learners are developing the foundational social, emotional, and cognitive skills that will support their transition throughout preschool.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Expresses a range of emotions using words or behaviors
- Begins to take turns and share with peers with support
- Develops trusting relationships with multiple caregivers
- Begins to identify own feelings and those of others
- Seeks adult comfort and begins using simple strategies for self-regulation

The mission of San Jose Christian School is to advance the kingdom of God by providing exceptional teaching and curriculum fully integrated with Biblical perspective. Within our Christian community we live to engage and transform culture for Jesus Christ.

LANGUAGE & LITERACY

- Uses 2–3 word phrases and begins to form simple sentences
- Follows two-step directions (e.g., "Put your shoes on and line up")
- Asks questions and names familiar people and objects
- Joins in songs, fingerplays, and simple group conversations
- Uses language to label needs, emotions, or interests (e.g., "I hungry," "My turn")

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Matches objects by color, shape, or size
- Engages in pretend play using symbolic thinking (e.g., feeding a doll)
- Solves simple problems (e.g., puzzles, stacking)
- Shows understanding of cause and effect in routines and play
- Enjoys sorting, dumping, and organizing toys by preference
- Recognizes familiar routines and anticipates transitions

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Walks, runs, and climbs with increasing coordination
- Uses utensils and open cups with some assistance
- Improves hand-eye coordination through drawing, stringing, and building
- Begins undressing and dressing with support
- Kicks and throws a ball, begins to jump with both feet
- Scribbles with crayons and makes purposeful marks

SELF-HELP & LIFE SKILLS

- Participates in potty training and begins to recognize body cues
- Washes hands with reminders and assistance
- Helps clean up toys and care for belongings
- Begins to advocate for needs using words (e.g., "I need help")
- Attempts to put on shoes, pull pants up/down
- Understands and follows simple daily routines with support

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN VALUES

Children begin participating in daily blessings before meals, exploring simple songs about God's love, and hearing short Bible stories. Teachers foster an environment of love, gratitude, and friendship, emphasizing how to be a blessing to others.

TOILET TRAINING

Children in this class are introduced to toilet training with increasing consistency. Teachers and families collaborate to observe readiness signs, create positive associations, and offer encouragement without pressure. Exiting Grasshoppers are experiencing little to no accidents