



## Preschool in a Box Program

### What is it?

Preschool in a Box is a unique opportunity for you and your child to share special times together at home during this unusual year. It's a program specially designed to teach your child age appropriate skills as they explore their world with you. It allows them face to face time with a teacher once a week in a small, controlled setting and gives them a sense of community outside your home. It equips you as a parent with everything you need to encourage your child to discover the world around them, while limiting their exposure to germs.

### How does it work?

- The Tool Box** Sign your child up for our Preschool in a Box program and receive a box of tools. It includes:
  - Paint Brushes, Do A Dot Set, Crayons, Markers, Magnifying Glass, Scissors, Glue, Watercolors, Tongs, Magnet Wand, Sensory bin scoops & spoons etc., & Playdough (changed monthly)
  - These items are yours to use throughout the semester and will be utilized often in your child's explorations.
- The Power Hour** Plan to set aside 1 hour of your time 1 day each week at Abiding Peace with your child in an outdoor setting. (Monday, Sept 14 from 9:30-10:30 is the first day! Classes will continue each Monday at the same time.)
  - Ms. Becky will teach a Bible story, lead music/movement, provide play & a story time.
  - Parents (wearing masks) attend with their child in order to assist with transitions and ensure safe distances are maintained while still being part of a learning community.
  - Your child will develop awareness of other children, participation in whole group activities, transitions from one activity to the next, spatial awareness etc.
- The Creation Station** With this package, you take home everything you need from Power Hour to equip you and your child to explore the world in the convenience of your own home.
  - Each week at Power Hour you'll be given:
    - A weekly packet of pre-prepped crafts & skill work that aligns with the theme of the month.
    - Weekly videos of Bible stories, story times, songs & activities for your child to watch and follow along with while they are at home with you.
    - Weekly lesson plans for you, the parent, to follow that facilitate & encourage exploration with your child's play, and practice developmentally appropriate skills.
    - A weekly overview video to parents including "how to" demonstrations using language prompts developmentally appropriate to assist your child at home in their skill work.

# Preschool in a Box--FAQs

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## **What's the cost of the program?**

\$80/month. Plus an initial one-time fee of \$60 for the Tool Box. The Tool Box will be yours to keep.

## **How does this program minimize my child's exposure to COVID 19?**

Power Hour takes place only 1x/week for 1 hour in an outdoor setting. Because parents (wearing masks) are attending, children are able to sit with them during circle times and have a 1-1 helper during activities/play times/transitions. This as well as the shortened time minimizes the germs your child would normally be exposed to in a preschool setting.

## **How does this program serve my child's social/emotional needs?**

It's important for 2-year-olds to explore in a variety of settings both in & out of their home. Having face to face time with Ms. Becky during the Power Hour encourages them to learn important school skills. For example, listening to instructions from a teacher in a whole group setting, sitting still during a story, taking turns while waiting for a toy, transitioning from one activity to another, spatial awareness, etc. It also allows them to see themselves as part of a community outside their home base.

## **What about the weather?**

We have a tent available to sit under during our Power Hour time. You are responsible to dress your child appropriately for hot & cold weather. If it is raining, we may reschedule our meeting time or Zoom could be utilized.

## **How many children will be attending a Power Hour session?**

The number of children per session is limited to 7. We feel that we can comfortably accommodate that number of children with an accompanying adult in a large outdoor setting and still minimize exposure to germs.

## **What's the philosophy behind this hybrid version of preschool?**

Preschool in a Box serves to assist and support you at home in this unique time with age appropriate activities, skill work & experiences your child would normally have in a PreK setting. It builds structure and routine into your child's week at home. It also builds school readiness skills so that you are able to transition them to a face to face classroom setting when you feel comfortable doing so.\*

## **Do parents need to be trained to participate in this program?**

You as a parent are wonderfully equipped to explore the world with your child. Anytime you talk with, read to, play with or examine an object with your child you are teaching them. Preschool in a Box is a framework built to assist you in intentionally engaging with your child. We have an initial 30-45-minute face-to-face training session simply to introduce the program & Power Hour procedures to you.

*\*By participating in our Preschool in a Box program, your registration fee is waived whenever you feel comfortable transitioning your child to one of our in-person preschool classrooms as long as space remains.*