

Explorers - Exploring God's Word and His World

FAQ 2026-27

1. What is Explorers?

Explorers is our Wednesday night program for children in preschool* through 5th grade. We call it Explorers: Exploring God's word and His World to make our purpose clear and emphasize both scripture memory and appreciating God's creation. Exploring God's world also makes us aware of people in need both physically and spiritually, so Explorers minister to others in Jesus' name.

We have 3 main goals of Explorers:

- Helping children memorize and understand scripture.
- Mentoring children by Christian believers so they know Jesus as their savior and help others to learn about him as well by helping and encouraging others.
- Providing opportunities for moms and dads to be involved with their children as they grow to know Christ.

2. What do Explorers do?

- a. Students memorize and learn about one scripture per month. Explorers SLOWS down the process and works to understand the scripture as well as to memorize it.
- b. We allow children to explore God's world, whether that means a hike or a camp out, learning about people from different cultures, completing a mission project to help others or studying missionaries and their work. All of these work together to teach our children about the amazing world God created and our need for Jesus as Savior.

3. Why is the Wednesday program called Explorers?

4. How will my child learn their memory verses?

Children will divide into their appropriate classes: for 1st-5th, boys and girls are separated and then broken down by grade level. For preschool and kindergarten they will be combined as Junior Explorers. Each month, children will be assigned the same memory verse. Kids will learn about what the verse means and practice it while at Explorers. Jr. Explorers will memorize the same verse, but simplified. The verse will be given to families as well, so you can study at home. Voice recordings will be available to download to help practice, too. Because all children from 3s to 5th grade will focus on the same verse, families will be able to study and recite the verse together.

5. Will we have an awards night?

Yes! We will have a celebration night twice a year - once in December and once in May. The different age groups will share a bit about what they have done and patches and awards will be made.

6. How will children be rewarded for their work?

First, children will be rewarded by having scripture memorized long term so they can access these essential truths when life gets hard and they need the wisdom of God in their lives!

Second, star pins will be awarded monthly as scriptures are memorized and special patches will be distributed at our celebration nights each semester for those who memorize all the verses for that semester.

Finally, we also have a special award for anyone who memorizes all the verses for the entire year.

7. What do I need to do as a parent?

First, help your child practice their verses. Find a time each day when you can review the verse as a family so that reciting the verse comes naturally. Talk about the verse and what it means.

Second, help your child arrive on time. Drop off is anytime between 6-6:15.

Third, participate in special events and activities with your child. This makes special memories for you both and it helps you engage with your child and what they are learning. We want you as the parent engaged and involved in your child's spiritual growth. This is one way you can do that!

8. When does Explorers begin? What are the dates?

Wednesdays beginning **August 26th from 6:15-7:30 pm.**

Our **kick-off night** with popsicles and water slides is **August 19th!** Register ahead by August 5th to receive your t-shirt and welcome packet at kick-off night!

9. What are some of the special events for this year that my 1st-5th grader may participate in?

Each semester has 2-4 events for the children. These are usually divided by girls and guys. Parents sign up their children ahead of time and attend with their son or daughter. Examples include the girls and guys hikes and lock-ins.

10. What is the yearly schedule Explorers will follow?

See this link for our 26-27 year. (*link coming soon*)

11. Do my preschool and Kindergarten age children have activities as well?

Yes! Preschoolers and Kindergarteners are Jr. Explorers and have special activities each week including play time, a puppet show and games related to the scripture each week. They work to

memorize their scriptures as well, but their rewards are focused on treats or activities on Wednesday nights. No special events outside of Wednesdays occur for Jr. Explorers.

12. How do I sign up?

Use this link to sign up now! All registrations completed by August 5 will receive their Explorers T-Shirt on August 19th at our kick off event. Don't miss out! Register today!!

13. Can I help?

Of course you can! We love to have people involved with Explorers. All volunteers and chaperones are required to have a background check. Please be sure we have one on file for you and then talk with a leader about where and how you can help!