

General Information

*At Adventures we work to: Help Children **Love Jesus**,
Help Children **Love Learning**, Help Children **Love Kindness**.*

Our Two rules are Be Kind and Have Fun!

PARENT ORIENTATION

Attendance at an orientation meeting is mandatory. At this meeting, parents meet teachers, learn our vision and goals for the year and pick up their student starter package.

DAILY SCHEDULE

- Pre-K (age 4) (Thursdays 8:45-12:00)
- Kindergarten & Elementary (Thursdays 8:45-3:00)

If my child is enrolled at “HEED or HEED Adventures”, what are they considered in the eyes of the ‘state’?

“HEED Adventures is commonly referred to as “school” by many students and parents alike, however, HEED Adventures is a Home Education Instructional Program. Students are considered independent homeschoolers as far as the State of Florida is concerned and parents must register with the county Education Service District as well as follow the state testing requirements. If a student is part of the PEP scholarship program they will enroll with the scholarship program as a homeschooler, instead of the county.

WHAT IS HEED?

HEED stands for Home Education Enrichment Day. It began over 20 years ago as a place for Christian middle and high school students to take weekly classes and build community. Five years ago we started the elementary hands-on day called Adventures. Together these two programs assist Christian families with children from K4-12 grade /college classes in their home education journey. Students placed in Adventures will always have priority for placement in HEED’s middle and high school program.

IN WHAT GRADE/COLOR WILL MY CHILD BE PLACED AT ADVENTURES?

At Adventures we do classify the learners by grade but instead by colors.

Junior Adventures is our ½ day program for our youngest group, 4 or 5-year-olds.

RED and **ORANGE** is a two-year Adventure curriculum for ages 5-6 and 6-7 year-olds.

YELLOW 7- 8 year-olds.

GREEN , **BLUE**, **PURPLE** is a **three**-year Adventure curriculum for 8-9, 9-10, 10-12 year-olds

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WHAT SUBJECTS ARE COVERED AT ADVENTURES?

Adventures has hands-On activities in Bible, music, science, math, geography, world cultures, American History, literature, art, and more. Check our website for each color’s activities.

Additionally, we will read through the Bible together each year at Adventures.

You will receive a family Bible to read with us together at home and a bookmark with the reading schedule. Your time reading at home can be used for discussion and sharing thoughts together.

WHAT ARE THE CORE COURSES PARENTS COVER AT HOME?

We recommend parents work through a math and language arts curriculum at their learner's level. There are suggestions for different curricula posted on our website.

ANNUAL BIBLE THEME:

Each year we will have a theme that we study for the spring semester. In the past we have covered the Fruit of the Spirit, Armor of God, Beatitudes, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments etc. We cover this teaching in our morning Gathering time with the children.

GOOGLE CLASSROOMS

Each child will have a google classroom that will list all of a child's adventures week by week along with more Adventures to "Dig Deeper" that they can continue at home. Additionally, this will provide information for families, syllabi for each Adventure and an important reading list for each group that will enhance their learning experience.

UNPLUG

Like HEED middle and high school, Adventures is an internet free zone for children. Please do not allow your children to bring laptops, phones, watches, electronic games etc.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

The number one rule at Adventures is KINDNESS. Participating in group activities takes a level of self-control for the child. This is often a learned behavior and one that sometimes requires help from parents at Adventures. We recognize that parents have the ultimate responsibility over their child's training in the area of their behavior. For this reason, if a student is having trouble following the rules at Adventures or not showing the necessary self-control, a parent will be required to attend Adventures with their child to train their child to participate in the group in an appropriate manner. This training can take 1-2 weeks or 1-2 months or even all year.

CLOTHING GUIDELINES

Children may wear shorts, long pants or skirts/dresses with shorts underneath them. Children must wear closed toed shoes preferably sneakers. No sandals may be worn as we are outside running and playing during the day. "Adventures" has student t-shirts that will be distributed at the parent night for every student to wear while at Adventures. Parents may order an additional shirt for their child to wear for \$15 per shirt.

LABEL, LABEL, LABEL

Each child will have a name tag that they wear when they arrive at Adventures and throughout the day. It has their name and color group. A similar tag will be placed on their backpack and their lunchbox. Please label everything else- water bottles, sweaters, caps. **DO NOT BRING TOYS OR SPECIAL TREASURES TO ADVENTURES!** They are distracting and can be easily broken or lost.

WELLNESS POLICY

Please respect other children at "Adventures" by NOT bringing a child who is exhibiting signs of possible illness. Some of these symptoms are:

1. Fever (100 or higher)
2. Productive cough
3. Sore throat
4. Heavy Sneezing
5. Green or discolored discharge from nose or eyes

6. Rash
7. Vomiting and/or diarrhea
8. Head lice

Please make sure your child is WELL (minimum of 24 hours) before they return to “Adventures”. If a child develops what appears to be illness during class, you will be contacted to pick your child up from class immediately.

MEDICINES

“Adventures” staff, teachers, or any parent teachers/helpers will not assume the responsibility of dispensing medicines to any child. For those children who may need emergency medications such as Epi-Pen injections, inhalers etc., please discuss this with the Director so we can make special arrangements in these cases. Please indicate any medical concerns/allergies on your enrollment form.

SNACK/LUNCH

Please send a healthy, high protein snack with your child to eat during their snack break. Students (except purple) also need to bring a healthy lunch if they are enrolled in K-5th grade.

Please do not send anything that needs to be microwaved or any candy. All students need to come with a filled, labeled water bottle each day. “Adventures” is not a PEANUT FREE facility—but we discourage parents from sending anything containing peanuts or peanut butter.

PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Parents will need to drop their children off under the covered entrance of the building no later than 8:50. The traffic will flow from North to South. Please follow the line of cars. For pick up display your Adventure pick up sign in your windshield with your last name. Your child will be brought out to you as you arrive at the door. If you are picking up other children, please have their parents let the directors know before the pick-up time. K4 students are picked up at 12:00 and the rest of the Adventure students will be ready for pick up at 3:00. This is our most hectic time of the day and not a great time to visit and discuss things. We are working hard to get everyone to their car safely with all their belongings and projects and lunchboxes and water bottles etc.

COMMUNICATION

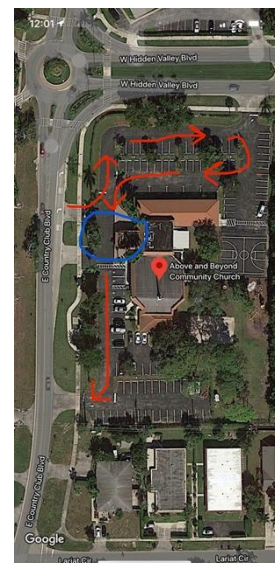
We communicate with families through email, the REMIND text group and on social media “HEED Adventures”. Additionally, the color group moms set up a “What’s App” groups between the moms.

RESTROOM POLICY

Staff, teachers, and parents are NEVER to go alone with a child (other than their own) into the restroom. If you must enter the restroom to briefly assist a child, you must prop the door open. Call for a second adult if you need to help a child alone in the restroom. Restroom assistance is limited to female staff/parent helpers only—no men please.

SAFETY

Each classroom has an attendance binder with the class list attached. The directors on duty have all parent contact information and any medical information for children. All building doors are locked during the day. A director or adult leader will always be in the lobby to monitor the locked front doors. All rooms



(except restrooms and the church nursery) are on video surveillance. In fall 2024 there will be armed security in the building lobby.

COLOR GROUP MOMS

Each color group will have 1-2 “party” moms who will oversee the class holiday parties and help with special projects (We do not recognize or celebrate Halloween at Adventures). If you would like to help in this capacity, please contact an Adventure director. We will be having spirit days where students can dress in accordance with a silly theme (crazy hair or sock day etc)

MOM’S GATHERINGS

Once a month we will gather on a Thursday morning from 9:30-10:30 to share homeschool information, have discussions, prayer, and fellowship. You are welcome to bring a friend to these morning gatherings too. Check the website for exact days and topics.

MOM’S CONDUCT

We want to be uplifting and encouraging to each other. Please be aware of how easy it can be to gossip or have a negative spirit. Don’t be afraid to leave a negative conversation. We want to honor the Lord by talking about “things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy” (Phil. 4:8). It is our goal at “HEED” that moms and students leave each program day feeling emotionally and spiritually lifted up. We ask that all members refrain from any marketing, selling, or any other form of business promotion to fellow members of “Adventures”, whether during or outside of program days as well as social media. Thank you for your consideration.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS (Parents On Campus)

“Adventures” requires a small amount of parent participation throughout the year. Specifically, we request that one parent serve as a P.O.C. (Parent on Campus) for a total of 2 full days throughout the year (1 day in the fall and 1 day in the spring). Parents of the Purple Group need only to serve 1 time a year. POC’s help with a variety of things throughout the day. These tasks may include supervising drop off, recesses, lunch time, and pick up as well as assisting in classrooms as needed. Sign-ups are available on the google doc for parents to choose their volunteer dates on a first come, first served basis. Unregistered siblings may NOT attend “Adventures” classes. Unauthorized guests are not allowed on campus during school hours. Mom’s will not be permitted to stay on campus unless they are serving as a POC mom.

FRIDAY FUN DAYS

We have had some moms organize Friday field trips. This is outside of Adventures and not an Adventures event, but we help notify and remind families to participate. If you would like to organize a field trip, let us know and we will connect you with the moms in charge.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

At Adventures we do an annual Christmas show on the last Thursday evening of the fall semester. Every child will be involved in the production. We begin practice on the first day of Adventures in the fall and talk about the meaning of our performance during fall gathering times. Older students with speaking roles may be required to attend extra practices outside of just Thursdays. We may have some practices and filing done on Fridays. Any parent with a gifting in any area of music or production is welcome to join our team under the leadership of our production director.

YEAR END CELEBRATION AND COMPLETION CEREMONY

On the last day of Adventures, parents, siblings, and friends and family too, are invited to come to see our year end program in the morning. Every child will perform and will be recognized for how they have grown during the year in their character and learning.

LOST AND FOUND

“Adventures” has a designated Lost and Found box. Please check with the director on duty. We will donate items left behind from time to time and are not responsible if your items are donated!

BUILDING STEWARDSHIP

We are blessed to share the beautiful facility at Above and Beyond Community Church. It is critical that we respect the building and staff as much as possible. Please pick up after yourself and others if needed. Thank you for helping us maintain a successful and harmonious relationship with our host church.

HURRICANE

In the event of a hurricane threat, classes MAY be canceled for the day. Please listen to local news via radio, television, or websites. If the local school district is closed or delayed, “Adventures” classes may be canceled. Cancellations will be emailed to all members, sent out by text message on the REMIND app, and posted on our private Facebook page by 7:30 a.m. Hurricane days may be made up on a later date. (Fall break is our hurricane make-up day)

CELEBRATIONS:

At Adventures we will recognize student’s birthdays on the 1st Thursday of the month. If you would like to celebrate further, parents may attend during the day (director’s will suggest the best time) to have a group party for their child’s color group.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We do participate in packing Christmas shoeboxes for children around the world. We encourage every family to participate. The boxes will be collected around the middle of November. We will send out more information on that.

BUSINESS/FAMILY SPONSORS

We are so blessed to have local businesses and individuals that are willing to sponsor “Adventures” with donations each year to help offset costs for our Christmas show and our Year End Bash as well as offering scholarships to families. Each business or family will be recognized in various ways including on our website, social media and more.

ADVENTURES HANDBOOK (K4-5th grade)

Mission Statement

To serve God by assisting families in their call to home educate their children. HEED Adventures for (K4--5) accomplishes this through weekly creative and innovative hands-on activities and learning adventures in Boca Raton, FL.

Philosophy of HEED Adventures

HEED Adventures is not a school but instead a one day a week, hands on adventure that help home educating parents enrich their home education program. We believe it is the responsibility of parents to train the minds of their own children to think rationally and biblically, to discern truth, and express thoughts clearly and persuasively. HEED Adventures assists parents by providing students opportunities to learn with other students.

HEED Adventure Directors are Sue Puchferran and Sara Hoza, Allison Krause, Sarah Puchferran-Musical Director

Director Responsibilities:

- Seek to match instructors gifted in working with the age-appropriate learning needs of students. Criteria for instructors will include a love for the Lord, educational experience, ability to teach with creativity and innovation, personal integrity, and a love for learning.
- Provide learning adventures and experiences that are both grade appropriate and that develop future ready academic skills.
- HEED Adventures require that administrators and instructor candidates undergo a criminal background check.
- Administrators reserve the right to replace one instructor with another during the year.
- Provide an active website and updates to inform Adventure families of all pertinent information and announcements.
- Provide a Google Learning Classroom System for families to access weekly Adventure information.
- Serve as a liaison with our host facility.

Instructors Commit to:

- Provide quality instruction and adventures in a Christian environment.
- Provide parents with a class syllabus and with weekly activity schedules for parents to “dig deeper” and continue learning at home.
- Communicate with parents on their child’s progress or any issues concerning their child in the program.
- Maintain a Google Learning Page for their class.
- Attempt to handle all difficulties and conflicts with integrity and in a Biblical manner.

Parents Commit to:

- Purchase supplemental books and materials suggested by the program.
- Pay all tuition monies timely.
- Attend Fall Parent Night to meet with the administrators and instructors prior to classes beginning.
- Be willing to volunteer at Adventures one-two days a year or for special events.
- Be involved in their student's work and use it as a springboard for learning at home during the week.
- Learn the Google Learning System to access a student's home adventure suggestions.
- Communicate with instructors, to inform them ahead of time of planned absences.
- Make sure their students arrive on time dressed in their adventure T-shirts and shorts or long pants and sneakers.
- Pick up their children in a timely manner at the end of the day.
- Support and help enforce the Adventure policy regarding no students with cell phones, smart watches, tablets or electronic devices.
- Parents, must obey the Adventures dress code of modesty when on campus.
- Obey all traffic rules on campus including driving very slowly in the parking lot.
- We will be offering a morning "Gathering" for homeschool encouragement and fellowship. Childcare will not be provided for younger children.
- Attempt to handle all difficulties and conflicts with integrity and in a Biblical manner.
- If a student does not possess self-control at Adventures and is a distraction in class, at the directors' discretion a parent may be required to attend the day with their student until the situation is resolved.
- Review with their children the policies set forth in this Adventures Handbook at the beginning of each year.

Students commit to:

- Abide by the dress code: HEED Adventure students must wear their HEED adventure T-shirts. They may wear shorts or jeans (skirts are not recommended due to outside playtime activities). Sneakers or closed-toed shoes are also required.
- Be completely potty trained.
- Demonstrate the self-control to participate in group activities without being a distraction. Students lacking in this area will need to have a parent stay with them in class until they are able to demonstrate self-control to stay alone.
- Demonstrate kindness and respect to administrators, instructors, and their fellow students.
- The administrator on duty will have a cell phone for students to use during the day; parents will also have that number.
- Attempt to handle all difficulties and conflicts with integrity and in a Biblical manner.