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Elementary school teachers teach kindergarten through sixth grade. They teach life skills to children, motor skills and social skills in a classroom environment, as well as subjects that include language arts, science, mathematics, art and history [source: bls]. This is what you need to become an elementary school teacher: you have to enjoy the children, since you will be working with them every day, every day. A good way to see if teaching is to work with children through voluntary activities. You need a creative and engaging personality to motivate your students to participate. You must obtain a bachelor's degree with a certificate of teacher training or a bachelor's degree in Education (BSE) Elementary Teacher, to be qualified to teach in elementary school [source: education portal]. As part of your university course work, you will study or participate in the following: Active Learning Techniques PedagogiesStratoin activitiesGrupesAssasCasas Psychology and Developmentof children's literature Children's literature Public literature Educational philosophy Diversity management [source: Education-Portal] Before being able to teach elementary school, you will have to meet the following requirements: Student teaching Your course work will include a certain number of hours required as a teacher. This will help you gain experience in classrooms under the direct supervision of professional teachers [source: certifiator]. Certification Most states require their teachers to be certified by the State Board of Education. Certification includes passing a competency test, obtaining a bachelor's degree, completing a teacher training program, and completing supervised practice teaching (i.e., student teaching) [source: assessment]. Continuing education Although this is not necessary, you may want to take additional courses to continue your professional development. You may even want to get a master's degree to gain more knowledge in curriculum development, daycare administration and child health and safety [source: Education-Portal]. Naturally, that would give you a professional advantage: National certification Although this is not necessary, you may want to be certified by the National Council of Professional Education Standards. This will involve taking courses in areas such as understanding young children and promoting child development and learning [source: ncbpts]. Paying for private primary education places a substantial burden on families, especially when considering that corresponding public education is essentially free. However, many parents believe that a solid and private education for their children is worth it, giving artistic, religious or personal attention that they may not find elsewhere. Tweet #! Discover the best private elementary schools! The schools on this list each have their own private A reasonable monthly fee may be the crucial consideration for some parents (annual tuition on this list ranges from \$5,000 to \$50,000 annually). Small class sizes and personalized attention can be crucial to others. Some families seek academic distinction, or a way to escape bullying, specialized education within a particular field, or a place where their children will be appreciated and encouraged. The classification criteria include the following: Schools must have at least three of the six grades (first to sixth grade) that are traditionally categorized as elementary-level grades. They should exceed nearby public schools in course selections and success. They should have a reputation for producing students who are well prepared to take the next steps in their education. Although they are organized as businesses, schools should have a reputation for treating families fairly and compassionately. They actively seek to put parents as partners in the educational process. They celebrate students and their achievements openly and regularly. In determining whether and the degree to which these criteria were met, we conducted extensive research on these schools, which included finding and evaluating the assessments of parents and students. Finally, we decided to put an award on geographic diversity in the selection of schools. Instead of focusing on some high-density population centers with a high concentration of private schools, we think it is important that all regions of the country be represented. Here, then, is our list of the best private primary schools in all of America. (Fayetteville, AR) On a 26-acre campus with amphitheater, certified wildlife habitat, trails, and outdoor classrooms, children from daycare through eighth graders enjoy a varied STEAM curriculum (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). Students in grades 1 through 8 each have access to the computer. In the nursery and preschool, young students have an academy dedicated to the interior, and physical education begins at the age of three. There are four playgrounds and four school buildings. The New School has more than 350 students, 52 part-time teachers and 63 full-time teachers. Founded in 1971, the school is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States, the Arkansas Association for Nonpublic School Accreditation, and Arkansas Better Beginnings: 3-Star. The lower school is composed from the first to the fourth year and the technology is integrated into all stages of learning. Students are grouped together for literacy and math training according to skill, so that all students can succeed and advance to their greatest potential. Students receive standardized tests to measure learning and their scores exceed the scores of the regionally and nationally. Students have an in-depth study of vocabulary, phonics and spelling, as well as frequent assessment of reading with the Development Reading Assessment. Math students are encouraged through innovative instructions to develop critical and creative thinking skills. Students learn problem-solving strategies, and teachers use manipulators and visual models to engage students with hands-on learning activities to give students an insight into how mathematics applies to everyday life. Students also learn social studies and science. Community service projects are integrated into the social studies program where students learn about economics and geography, as well as history and civics. Science teachers provide projects for students who will arouse interest in science. All students from preschool to eighth grade take art classes. Art is strongly integrated into the curriculum, as is technology. All students from kindergarten through fourth grade have personal iPads, while grade five-to-seven students receive a MacBook Air to use in their classes. Students also have the opportunity to participate in choir, Lego robotics, science club, theater club and private music lessons on guitar, violin and/or piano, as well as many other enrichment activities. (Lexington, KY) The school begins lexington school with daycare and passes through eighth grade, with nearly 600 students who are geographically and geometrically diverse. The school has a special learning program for dyslexia and is accredited by the National Association of Independent Schools and the Association of Independent Schools of the Central States. The student-teacher ratio is approximately seven to one. Sports offered at LS include archery, final frisbee, lacrosse, football, tennis, cheerleading and various other athletic activities. Students have eight extracurricular classes to choose from: Girls in The Race, Chess, Intramurals, Mathematics, Chinese, Applied Music Classes, Speech and Debate, and Boy Scouts. The curriculum is vertically aligned for each series with Calligraphy without Tears, science, integrated technology, English, the open court reading program, social studies and Everyday Mathematics. Competitive athletics are offered in cheer leading, archery, lacrosse, tennis, and several others. Intramuros are available in golf, yoga, drama, dance, lacrosse, hockey, cooking and various academic offerings. In the first to third year, students learn art, computer, PE, music and Spanish in classrooms specially designed for these disciplines. In academics, students advance at their own pace, developing their basic skills before the transition to fourth and fifth grade, where students conduct a deeper study of science. They study mathematics with a mathematics expert. English and social studies are closely planned other courses. All of these efforts help students move from elementary school to high school. Fourth and fifth graders receive lockers. They are encouraged to follow their own assignments and learn more independently. 4th graders deliver snacks to each classroom and 5th graders lead the refresher program for the school. Lexington School uses Mission Skill Assessment to measure character traits of resilience, ethics, creativity, curiosity, time management, and teamwork, giving the school a way to measure how well students are assimilating those skills. Students can hike through a stream to help them understand the dynamics of the ecosystem. If students have difficulty with language, an alternative to the regular classroom of the Learning Center is offered, where the student-teacher relationship is much smntier. Multi-sense approaches help students with math difficulties. Science and social studies at the Learning Center are taught with projects that students can accomplish using their hands. Computational skills help students become independent learners and their special interests are investigated through Talent Classes, which students can choose from. (Winston-Salem, NC) In January 2014, Forsyth Family Magazine reported that 60% of Forsyth County Day School students in grades four to seven qualified for the Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) because they were in the top 5% of the Education Records Bureau's national tests. Students who started fcds during or before the first year were twice as likely to qualify for the TIP program as those who enrolled when they were older. Duke University actively seeks academically talented elementary school students to help fund their education. Many parents are concerned about university admission when their children are in high school. It seems that early childhood education is as important as high school, and this is certainly the approach that Forsyth County Day School takes. In 2014, he started a new curriculum entitled Our Way to Excellence and will continue with even more innovative programs in the next school year. FCDS offers a year-round program for children ages two to four, called the Early Advantage program, that will prepare students for grades to come. During this time, children receive knowledge that will act as a basis for the future in mathematics, writing, communication, literacy and phonemic awareness. Preschool is part of the lower school. Kindergarten through fourth grade comprises the rest of the lower school where students study the main subjects, but also world languages, the arts, PE, science and social studies. Elementary school students interact with students in elementary and high schools to learn from other groups in an environment Low school students make several trips a year to places like the Carolina Raptor Center, All-a-Flutter Butterfly Farm in High Point, the North Carolina Zoo, museums, the Science Center in Greensboro, and other centers of educational interest. There are also several after-school enrichment programs, such as ballet, tap dancing, football and ukulele class, to name but a few. Private music lessons are offered on several different types of instruments. In the spring, the Community School of Arts plays a game with students of low schooling. High school consists of grades five through eight, where students are taught skills and offer a wider variety of learning opportunities, including community service projects and clubs and academic competitions. (Niceville, FL) Rocky Bayou Christian Academy is a member of the Northwest Florida Christian Education Association and christian schools international. RBCA is also accredited by the Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools and the National Institute for Learning Development. THE RBCA starts with a preschool program and goes through the 12th grade. In the last 10 years, 90% of RBCA graduates have been eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, and graduates earn millions of dollars in scholarships each year. The school has a Special Services Program for students from three to seven years old who have developmental delays, or who have basic academic skills needs, with interventions designed to help each student succeed. Kindergarten students learn to read and are taught phonics, short and long vowels, silent vowels and diphthongs. They are taught how to count money, count time, and the basics of addition and subtraction, in addition to counting up to 100. The Talent Development Program focuses its efforts on students from 1st to 6th grade, giving individual attention to students. The Victors Class exists for the benefits of students with cognitive challenges to develop their academic and life skills. Therapy Services provides children with exclusive assistance with learning challenges to help them navigate the school. In addition, RBCA uses the national Learning Development Model, which includes a Research and Teaching Program, Educational Discovery Therapy, Group Educational Therapy, Prescription for Reading, Speech Therapy and Testing Services. All of these programs offer interventions for students who have difficulties with information processing, academic skills, and language acquisition. A second campus in Destin serves the K series through the sixth grade with a high-performing program with advanced technology in each classroom. The student-teacher ratio is approximately eight to one. Talent Development Class students who may have differences in how they learn have the opportunity for advanced placement. Students are taught foreign languages, computer, and can even join the Ukulele Club. The fundamental curriculum includes Singapore Mathematics and Student Technology is executed through a partnership with Boston University and the University of Richmond. Students take a standardized spring achievement test, from which scores are used to monitor student learning success. (New York, NY) Brearley School has the distinction as one of the oldest schools in the country. The school was founded in 1884 and remains a preparatory school for the all-girls college, teaching approximately 700 students, kindergarten until the twelfth year. The lower school has approximately 250 students and covers kindergarten through fourth grade. High school has just over 200 students and includes the fifth to eighth grade. The core values for the lower school are responsibility, respect, honesty, courage, and kindness. Students are encouraged to behave with dignity and to act with integrity to make a cohesive community of students. The classroom is the basis of all learning, but as students become more accountable, they receive more privileges and responsibilities. There's an assembly every week where girls sing, recite and put pieces. There are also guest speakers on a wide range of topics, from taking care of rescued wildlife to jazz history. Until the fourth grade students will be well trained to handle fractions, decimals and percentages. They will write multi-paragraph articles and engage in planning what they write. They will be reading short stories and novels and participating in speeches, debates, skits and plays. They'll learn about Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In science, they will learn how machines work, including levers and gears, as well as the anatomical structures of animals and phases of the moon. Students will continue their knowledge of the Mandarin language and run through various art courses, including ceramics and ceramics. They learn carpentry, music and photography, as well as physical education and service learning. In other words, Brearley's students have a robust curriculum. The lower school seeks to develop character in all its students to be a basis for their behavior in the middle and high grades, and for life. Students are taught to respect the thoughts and work of others while resonating with the community through service projects. Students discuss conflicts between peers in discussions that arise from academic activities in the lower school. Students of low schooling are offered gymnastics and soccer programs after school. After-school football doesn't start for students until sophomore year, but gymnastics is open to all high school girls. Brearley also partners with Chapin School to offer the LS Club after school for grades K to 6, where students engage in a physical, intellectual and artistic activities. (Schererville, IN) Children from kindergarten to eighth grade attend Forest Forest Academy. Junior kindergarten uses several active learning experiences where they interact with classmates, people, events, and practical learning centers. Teachers spot the day's schedule in writing and in symbols so that children are encouraged to read. Children have the opportunity to make choices about what they do and participate in problem-solving activities. Children are encouraged to describe in words the things they are experiencing. They are taught the alphabet, vision words, and reading skills starting through a phonic program. Mathematical concepts are taught through a physical program. Mathematical concepts are taught to recite and write their numbers, as well as count by five and dozens. They also attend classes in Physical Education, music, art, Spanish, computer science, sign language, woodwork and science. Science includes hiking on nature trails, field excursions and age-appropriate experiments. The kindergarten program has a complex program of reading, writing, spelling, mathematics, social studies and science. Science uses experiments with magnets, light and sound, as well as the different stages of butterflies and ladybugs. Students also attend the same special classes as kindergarten students, including sign language and music. Once students enter the first grade, they are taught using integral brain teaching. They learn about science through an interactive classroom garden and learn to read different types of media, such as articles and poems. Students have tolerance for diversity, drawing, age-appropriate music production, painting and writing stories and essays of up to five paragraphs. Students can make exciting field trips to the Art Institute of Chicago as well as many other places. Second-graders go to the Chicago Field Museum and take part in a treasure hunt. They also visit the Pawnee Earth Inn and learn about the lives of the Pawnee Nation. Every two years, students return there for an evening trip along with third graders and their parents. Third and fourth graders take a night trip to the Indiana Dunes to learn about nature and explore the various ecosystems found in the Dunes. Fifth graders travel to the Medieval Times Restaurant, take a trip to Camp Tecumseh, and go to the Field Museum in Chicago when they are studying Egypt, so they can see the Egyptian exhibit. At the end of the year, they go to Space Camp where they experience many fun activities that simulate walking in near zero gravity and what it's like to fly on a spaceship. (Jackson, WY) Journeys School offers pre-kindergarten education through the twelfth grade. Currently, Journeys a daily school, although boarding is being considered as an option for the future. There is also a long-standing home stay program for international students. Elementary school students are immersed in a seven-course program that includes the usual academic courses as well as and fine arts. The curriculum is adest to national standards known as the Common Core. Students are assigned to math and language arts classes based on each student's social and emotional ability and development so they can learn, receive help, and accelerate at their own pace. Giving children a strong foundation in both reading and writing, the literacy curriculum uses multiple renowned and proven reading and writing programs. Students have daily reading and writing workshops and are instructed in skills that will make them strong readers and writers. Mathematics is taught with fewer topics being delivered in a more intense method using Focus Mathematics: The Singapore Approach. Science is taught using all scientific disciplines, including technology, to train students to think like scientists through a method of research so that students learn to ask questions and design their own experiments. Classes take place both indoors and outdoors. Social studies classes emphasize citizenship and community. All classes are taught in such a way that students can make applications in the real world. In addition to the visual arts, elementary school students also take music or theater classes twice a week. Elementary school students give public musical and dramatic presentations. Students study the type of sounds each instrument makes and the distinct characteristics of different types of music. The instruments played by elementary school students are confined mainly to percussion instruments, keyboards and recorders. Elementary school students often travel in and around the community and travel on three extended days (one to five days) a year to areas in Wyoming, Washington, and Idaho. Elementary school students also participate in service projects designed for their age groups, such as building bird boxes and collecting wildflower seeds to plant in areas that need beautification. In summer, several camps are available for low-level students, such as Jackson Hole Summer Science Camp, Journeys School Summer Innovation Academy, and Teton Valley Community School Summer Camps. In these fields, students can study the environment, discover how different animals make their homes, explore natural waterways, hike through nature and camp. (Atlanta, GA) Cliff Valley School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Journeys Association for Independent Schools. Cliff Valley is also a member of the Georgia Independent School Association and the National Association of Independent Schools. There are approximately 300 students and 57 full-time professors, most of them graduates. There is a fee for among teachers, providing continuity within the school. The campus is located on nearly five acres in the northeast Atlanta and has 47,000 square feet of facilities, including a music room and a performance stage, laboratory, art studio, gym, outdoor classrooms, roof garden, outdoor recreation areas for recess and organized sports, and nature trails. The acquisition of the Spanish language begins at the age of three at Cliff Valley School. Preschoolers learn through exploration and visual. Students work in a garden to plant and nurture what they grow. Kindergarten through the fifth year is taught by teams that provide warm-up exercises in key subjects, activity centers and instruction in linguistic arts and mathematics. Students go to the playground and then have lunch, after which they study science and social studies and go to enrichment classes in art, environmental sciences, PE, Spanish, technology, library and music. Multiple assessments are used to determine student skills acquisition, and parents receive weekly progress reports and newsletters. Standardized tests are used in higher grades to help determine how well students are acquiring knowledge and skills. Students take various field excursions throughout the year and guest speakers come to the school from various professional areas so that students can make connections between what they are learning and the world around them. Elementary and preschool students have reading friends and lunch friends so that older students can experience what it's like to guide the younger ones and act as role models. Students from grades three to five can participate in club-style sports with no chance of being cut from the team. Sports include cross country, volleyball, basketball, flag football and football. An after-school program offers students the opportunity to learn and participate in drama, art, fencing, chess, golf, robotics and music. After-school care is available to all students three years and older. Activities include games, free play, crafts, art projects and activities and homework time. In summer, camps are held for all age groups with age-appropriate activities that include computer programming, games, cooking and sports. Before and after-hours care are offered in the summer, where students participate in less structured activities with their own age groups, such as free games, arts and crafts and reading time. (Washington, DC) Maret School, a university preparatory school founded in 1911, serves nearly 650 students in kindergarten through the twelfth year on a seven-and-a-half acre campus. Originally, it was a French school that taught students from different nations, and with that beginning, certainly respects and celebrates diversity. Students come from 41 countries and 42% are students of color. Students attend classes on a single campus with a class of 15, with a student-teacher ratio of seven to one. There are 106 teachers and 65% of them have a master's degree or a higher degree. The school is accredited by the Maryland Association of Independent Schools. Instruction in Spanish begins in while the study of French and Latin begins in the sixth year. In ninth grade, students are studying Chinese. Every student is required to take visual and performing arts classes, and each student must take courses on essential skills of the 21st century. All students are taken on field excursions, some on the weekend overnight, and all are linked to the curriculum. Students visit the Alaska Sea Life Center, Kachemak Bay, Denali National Park, Alaska Native Heritage Center, The Performing Arts Center and Campbell Creek Science Center, Puget Sound, Washington, D.C., and Costa Rica. Grades 2, 5 and 7 are required to participate in the Science Fair; participation is optional for all other series. All students attend a day of service (for the community), an autumn concert, a spring musical, and a student art exhibit. Different programs are used for each discipline, thus maximizing students' learning. (Sandy, UT) Serving children in preschool grades until the twelfth, Waterford School integrates academics, sports, fine arts and social development into an interdisciplinary whole. In preschool and kindergarten, students begin the process of learning to become readers, writers, listeners, and speakers. They are taught to say time and use a calendar. They learn colors and numbers, as well as graphics and shapes. His learning is enriched with an introduction to dance, music, photography, theater and art. In lower education, students start an academic program that will teach students study habits and skills that they will use for the rest of their lives while studying elementary math, English, computers, sciences, history, dance, music, visual arts, PE, and bibliographies. Lower school students can also be members of a third and fourth grade math club, an inventors club for second and third grade students, a robotics program for fifth grade rs and lower school students in grades three to five placed in a play each year that is produced by high school students. Fourth and fifth graders compete in both a mathematical bee and a geography bee. All of lower education can participate in a ski program and eight-week tour only for Saturdays. 6th graders are considered part of high school. It's in high school that competitive sports start. The curriculum is is liberal/preparatory arts. From preschool, students can join the Waterford Dance Academy, where they learn ballet and modern dance. Preschool students start with creative dance and five- and six-year-olds start with pre-ballet. After that, there are five levels of ballet instruction for which students should qualify. There are open classes in jazz dance, modern dance and contemporary dance. Founded in 1981, the sandy suburb school is located on a 40-acre campus with the majestic Wasatch Mountains behind it. There are 10 buildings with 250,000 square meters of instructional space. The lower school building includes rooms for music, art, science, computer labs, mathematics, academia and library. Instruction on stringed instruments begins in the fourth grade, with brass and blows added the following year. It is the school's mission to provide a liberal arts program, college preparatory, along with the latest technology. The school is accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission and the Northwest Association of Independent Schools. There are 896 students with 403 students in elementary school and 210 in high school. The school calendar works on a quarter system. (Sewickley, PA) On a 16-acre campus north of Pittsburgh, 700 pre-kindergarten students through twelfth grade attend Sewickley Academy on a campus with 60 classrooms, nine science labs, two robotic labs, five computer labs, a digital design lab, a media center, and two libraries. There is an outdoor classroom with a garden and two greenhouses. There are two auditoriums, large and small, a visual arts studio, an art gallery and individual practice rooms for musicians. The goal of the language arts program is to create critical readers and writers who can differentiate between reliable and poor sources. By the fifth grade, students are reading with five great strategies as they practice their writing, editing, grammar, spelling and vocabulary. Students read classic and nonfiction novels as a class, and on their own. In social studies, students learn about American history as well as ancient cultures, American government, personal rights and how people from different parts of the world came to live in the U.S. The mathematics program is university and preparatory for life. By the fifth grade, students are learning how to apply a set of rules or concepts to new problems. They are learning computational fluency and have the opportunity to participate in the Mathematics Program. In science, students learn the scientific method of observing, taking notes, and analyzing their observations. In fifth grade, students are studying life cycles, the universe, celestial bodies, the atmosphere, and other environments on Earth. Fifth graders have a conference call with the Challenger Learning Center and visit the Sunship Study Station at McKeever McKeever Center. Spanish is offered in pre-kindergarten until the twelfth year. Students can start taking French, Chinese, Latin or Italian in sixth grade and a Chinese after-school program is offered to students from first to fifth grade. All students take engineering and robotics classes. Through to fifth grade, students are working collaboratively on sharing jobs by designing robots, and game design and programming. Students can choose to continue their search for robotics in the after-school program. Students also express themselves through classes taught in the Department of Fine Arts: visual arts, dance, theater and music. For the fifth grade, students are participating in a musical played by the departments of dance, music and theater. All students have to participate. The school has outdoor and indoor gardens so you can learn in an outdoor classroom so you can understand the interconnectedness of the environment and the importance of sustainability. Students prepare soil and organically grow their own plants that grow and harvest. There are many types of gardens, including a butterfly garden and a flower garden. The lower school begins the week with a Monday morning assembly where birthdays are recognized, students sing, tell stories and place spats, and to which parents are invited. Each classroom has to prepare an assembly at least once a year. In addition to field excursions, guest speakers and artists are brought to talk to students. (San Francisco, AC) Although tuition is substantial at CSB, it includes daily hot lunches and the outdoor education program, as well as books and computers. The school raises money to supplement the educational program that helps reduce tuition. In addition, school students are allocated nearly one and a half million dollars in school assistance. Although volunteering is an essential part of the school's operation, there is no quota for parents to fulfill. Cathedral School for Boys is a kindergarten until eighth grade, episcopal school only for boys. The school seeks boys highly motivated to learn, of a diverse cultural and ethnic formation, and who are of good moral character. Students are scheduled for a school tour after all records have been received and a family interview is held at this time as part of the admissions process. The lower school is composed of kindergarten until fourth grade. Community service is part of the educational program and students participate through a school-wide composting program and support for The Bayview Mission, an institution that provides services and food to people living in the Hunters Point and Bayview neighborhoods. In lower education, students learn little of their mathematics through projects that give students the opportunity to solve real-world problems in an analytical and creative way, while applying principles of mathematics. There are many opportunities to learn by doing in other subjects, too, with students working independently or in small groups. Whenever possible, interdisciplinary classes are offered. A community spirit is fostered through class meetings and community circles, as well as the curriculum of human development and chapel services. The school seeks to build a strong character in all students so that they are socially fit, as well as imbued with academic acuity and physical fitness. Boys are taught to be support team players in the athletic program and how to show good sportsmanship no matter the situation. Once the boys reach sixth grade, they are in high school (up to eighth grade) where students are taught a humanities program integrating religious studies with English and history. Art instruction is founded on the belief that the arts help develop the creative brain and celebrate each child's talents. In addition to physical education, community service, theater, jazz band, mathematics, outdoor education, science and dances, students are taught languages and culture in Spanish and Mandarin. Students in language classes travel to China and Chile. (Santa Fe, NM)



appropriately and be independent thinkers. In addition to core classes and expert classes, the Friends School teaches a social and emotional curriculum. It begins with teachers visiting the homes of all new students in their classes so that the bond between child and teacher can begin before the child even walks through the school doors. When students come to school, they start and end every day with circle time, where students can share compliments or practice conflict resolution and role-play practice, or share something about themselves with the group. As part of the social/emotional curriculum, students participate in community service projects that are often formulated by the students themselves, based on their interests and concerns. As students care about their world, they raise money for human society and to raise awareness about pollution and garbage in the ocean and how it affects the ecosystem. (Durham, Integrity and respect are part of the education that all students are required to assimilate. In addition, students are expected to learn the value of kindness and For themselves, they learn to be proud of their achievements and to celebrate the achievements of others. The school is kept small so that there is a sense of community within this transitional kindergarten (TK) until the eighth grade school. Within this framework, all students have a chance to lead as well as the chance to serve. As the school promotes a community environment, kindergarten children routinely interact with upper grade students in the corridors. The school was founded in 1991 and has an average class size of 15, with a student-teacher ratio of seven to one. Twenty-two percent of students receive financial aid and the school has one class per grade for lower school students with a general enrollment of 200. She is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Southern Association of Independent Schools, and is a member of the Association of Independent Schools of North Carolina, the National Association of Independent Schools, and the Educational Records Bureau. The school is situated on a 17-acre campus with gym, art studio with oven, two science labs, a library, a computer lab, sets of iPads and Chromebooks, athletic fields and two classroom buildings. Enrichment programs before school and after-school are offered and each grade makes field excursions. High school students have a choir and cocurricular program of mathematics, science, reading, writing and social studies. Students also take education in Physical Education, Spanish, Art, Music and Character. Students also participate in community service, partnering with local organizations to fight hunger in Durham, and gain environmental awareness through composting and growing things in the TDS garden. Generally, these programs are further divided between the TK-2 and 3-5 series, so that all programs are based on knowledge and skills previously acquired in previous series. In the sixth grade, students are considered part of high school. (Nampa, ID) Nampa Christian School serves children from the age group of six weeks to the twelfth year. The school is divided into four sections: the Early Childhood Center and elementary, middle and secondary schools. Elementary school teaches the main courses in reading, English, science, social studies and mathematics. Students participate in standardized tests and score well above the state and national averages. In addition to the main courses, students study art, Bible, music and PE. Teachers are licensed and experienced. Preschool teachers provide social and emotional support for development through games and learning centers. Students are introduced to the alphabet and numbers while having language acquisition stimulated through stories and The NCS believes in providing quality education through a biblical worldview. In this way, students grow to be well rounded so that they can meet the they will face in college and beyond. The history of the Nampa Christian School can be traced since 1913. The school has undergone many changes over the last century, merging with other schools and moving locations and adding buildings. The elementary school building was created in 1979 and then expanded in 1994. In 2008, the college moved to a new location. Thus, the campuses of elementary and high school are kept separately, although they are less than three kilometers from each other and older students have the opportunity to guide the younger through fun activities, such as the track meeting for students from third to fifth grade, pre-kindergarten until the day of the fifth grade camp , the annual Christmas programme, the annual lecture meeting and the Grandparents Day programme. Part of the education students receive in the NCS is through the Community Services Program, in which students have the opportunity to serve others. Each student must complete three hours per quarter. In the summer, the NCS places a Musical Theater Camp, which is open for fifth grade until high school. Nampa is approximately 22 miles west of Boise. The area is called the Treasure Valley, but is also known as the Lower Snake River Valley or the Boise River Valley. (Gig Harbor, WA) The Gig Harbor Academy school begins with preschool and runs into fifth grade. The campus is located next to wetlands on 10 beautiful acres with four buildings where children can become environmentally conscious and responsible. It is Gig Harbor's belief that children should get lost in learning, not get lost in the crowd. The campus features an outdoor classroom, an archaeological excavation site, fitness and research trails, an athletic field and large tree play areas. It is the goal of GHA that students achieve academic excellence. From preschool, students are guided by the development of their social, physical, emotional and intellectual growth, helping them to develop their linguistic capacity, through which they can express their opinions and learn to understand their world through exploration and observation. Prekindergarten takes these classes one step further and helps students properly interact with others and resolve conflicts in an acceptable way. All learning styles are accepted and celebrated. Pre-kindergarten is five days a week and lasts all day. Kindergarten aims to be academically challenging to help students think positively about learning. Classes cross the curriculum and use multi-sense sensory activities to help students learn through different media. After kindergarten, students move to elementary school, where they will study the main subjects at better defined limits with such as FOSS Science Kits, COFFEE and Great Junior Books. Each of these programs is based on itself each year. Once students reach third grade, they begin exploring the wetlands in campus campus areas who become more aware of the importance of the environment. Fifth graders go to Washington, D.C. and Colonial Williamsburg as part of their history study. In addition, students study Spanish, art, technology, music and PE in age-appropriate classes. In summer, GHA offers several classes for student enrichment, including cooking, dance, ceramics, robotics, joinery, football and several other interesting programs. (Rapid City, SD) The school started with a class of five preschool children in 1990 and is now an elementary school with 135 students in five classes. In 2001, the school became a state-accredited school and follows laws established for schools by the state of South Dakota, while using Montessori principles in teaching and curriculum. Vital skills needed for learning in later grades are instilled in students and they begin to think abstractly as they age, exercising their analytical skills to compare, infer, analyze, and evaluate. Students are grouped within a three-year period, which encourages children to learn from each other, but also promotes a community environment. The Montessori program hopes to increase students' intelligence and encourage students to work longer periods of time, taking satisfaction from their work. As students progress, they will learn to work independently and develop their curiosity as well as their desire to learn. Each student has a written study plan for the day or week that outlines the tasks the child needs to complete. The children decide in what order they will complete these tasks and how much time they will spend on each task. Student progress is documented by students themselves through self-assessments and student work portfolios. Students with developmental delays or difficulties may not succeed in this more unstructured environment. Before-school care is offered for all grades. The school program uses a practical curriculum that is individually adapted for each student. It is intended to give children an unbreakable foundation in reasoning skills, analytical thinking and creative problem solving, as well as a love of learning. Students learn to work in small groups as well as individually. The school employs four full-time teachers and educates approximately 75 students in grades from pre-kindergarten to fifth place. Last Updated: 20 August 2015 2015

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