



**Supplementing and Enriching the Education of our Kids
while Earnestly Relying on Scripture**

SEEKERS is a once a week co-op created to complement the homeschooling experience for RCH families.

2018-2019 Schedule

1st Semester: Every Tuesday from Sept. 11th-Dec. 4th, excluding Nov. 20st

2nd Semester: Every Tuesday from Jan. 8th-April 30th, excluding March 26th

Tuesday Schedule

8:30 am: Announcements and worship in praise time room

8:45 am: 1st class period begins

9:45 am: Snack Time (Please bring a snack as suggested under “snacks”)

10:00 am: 2nd class period begins

11:00 am: 3rd class period begins

12:00 pm: Pick up children in the praise time room as quickly as possible so clean up teams can clean the building.

12:00ish: Picnic lunch and visiting time at Cook Park when weather permits. Each family brings their own lunch.

Registration

Classes are filled on a first come – first served basis. When a class is full, it will be closed. Also, if a class minimum is not met, the class may be canceled.

Registration and class fees are due at orientation.

A late fee of \$25 will be applied to accounts not paid by orientation.

*In this document the words “we”, “our”, etc. refer to SEEKERS as a cooperative group.

Financial Responsibility

- 1) Registration cost of \$15 per child, up to \$45 max per family
- 2) Class fees (refer to fee sheet to calculate fees)
- 3) Any books or other supplies as listed in class descriptions.
- 4) Any late fee that may be incurred if class fees are not paid on the designated date for each semester.
- 5) Tuition and class fees are non-refundable.

SEEKERS Philosophy

Our desire is to provide excellent, well taught classes in an engaging way. We all LOVE the social benefits of gathering each week, but the social aspect is not our main goal.

- We desire to teach science well. We want to encourage a love for the class by engaging the students in a full range of hands on opportunities through experiments, dissections and occasional field trips. We aid parents by providing weekly lesson plans, test prep, and grading.
- We desire to offer PE in an encouraging atmosphere that reminds children that we are all beautifully and wonderfully made. We hope to encourage each child to strive to improve his/her own health and learn to enjoy competitive games with a good attitude.
- We desire to offer fun, engaging elective classes to help expand the interests of our kids.

Our Heart as a Co-op

- We are a group of Christian parents who have chosen to educate our children at home for various reasons. While our reasons and methods may vary, we do share some common goals.
- We desire to enjoy time with each other and encourage each other in our homeschool journeys.
- We are not a ministry. While ministering to each other is something each of us does individually in many ways, SEEKERS itself is not intended to be that. We do not desire to take on the responsibility of teaching FOR others. As a homeschool parent, teaching your children is your full responsibility. Please do not ask for exceptions to these guidelines.

SEEKERS may be the right fit for you if the following apply:

- You are the main teacher of your children, i.e. you choose materials each year and teach your children within the context of your family.
- You are available to attend with your child(ren) every Tuesday, helping and teaching in classes with a spirit of help and cooperation. **We require a minimum 80% attendance each semester.**
- Your child is tutored/taught by someone else, but you plan to be the one to attend with your child each Tuesday.
- You have looked at your commitments for this year and our co-op plan, and feel our type of co-op is a good fit for your family.

Requirements to Participate in SEEKERS:

1. RCH Membership
2. Attend the Mandatory Orientation/Teacher Meeting. You will receive an email notifying you of the dates and times for our Orientation/Teacher Meeting.
3. Fulfill assigned jobs and be available to provide additional assistance as needed. Please plan your schedule around this commitment. If you cannot work around this day and time, co-op participation may not be for you this year.
4. Pay fees by designated deadlines.
5. Complete and sign the Registration Application and Liability Release Form.
6. Purchase all required textbooks. **Students will not be allowed to participate in classes without required books.** Please, also be sure your students have their books in time to start classes.

“No Drop Off” Rule

As SEEKERS is organized as a cooperative effort by the parents, it is necessary to enforce the “no drop off” rule. SEEKERS is not a Drop Off situation - meaning that every child enrolled must have a participating parent who is at SEEKERS the entire time the child is there. If the participating parent is not responsible towards this rule, your family’s participation at SEEKERS may be jeopardized. Parents with children 3 years old or younger are exempt from this rule; you are not required to stay with older children so you can nurture little ones.

Pre-school Rule

Due to the size of our pre-school class, we can only register pre-school students that meet the following rules:

- 1) Student must have a parent working on campus each week
- 2) Student must have an older sibling (K-12) enrolled in classes
- 3) Student must be 3 years old by September 1st

The pre-school class is for 3 and 4 year old students. Students progressing to the Kindergarten class must be 5 years by September 1st.

Cell Phone Use

Cell phones are a blessing and a curse. We ask that parents and students keep cell phones on silent during co-op and take them out only for emergency or class purposes. Parents and students are asked to conduct phone business outside of class time. Parents, your example of awareness/attentiveness to the needs around you demonstrates to others that co-op time is important and deserves your full attention.

Absenteeism

- Plan to attend every Tuesday. We as homeschoolers are blessed with the freedom to arrange our schedule for the benefit of our family. While we all enjoy an extra trip to grandma's, vacation trips during "off seasons", and trips for the many extras our kids are involved in, we do need to be respectful of the other parents we work with by not being absent numerous times from co-op. We should truly share the work.
- If you know in advance you must be out, please sign the Absentee Form at the SEEKERS table.
- Teachers, if you discover you will have to be absent, let Angela/Shannon know as soon as possible. Also, provide your co-teacher or teacher's assistant with ALL needed materials and plans to teach in your place.
- Teacher's Assistants and Helpers, if you discover that you will have to be absent, let the teacher that you work with EACH hour know as soon as possible. Also, let Angela/Shannon know so they can arrange the help needed for that class.
- If you or one of your younger children is ill, you may send "well" children with another adult who is responsible for them as a "temporary guardian". Certain illnesses like flu or stomach virus are an exception. We prefer all family members stay home for these illnesses.
- When letting Angela/Shannon know you will be out: email or text by 8PM on Monday night. Any time after that you will need to text or call one of their cell phones. They leave their homes early on Tuesdays to get Cook set up for co-op and will not receive email that morning.

Wellness Policy

Please do not attend SEEKERS if you or your child has any of the following within the past 24 hours:

- Temperature of 100° F or higher
- Green or murky discharge from eyes or "pinkeye"
- Rash
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- A productive cough with fever/sore throat
- Head lice
- Flu-like symptoms
- Staph infections - We understand staph is more common now. If your child has a staph infection, contact a board member. Decisions for attendance will be handled on a case by case basis, depending on the type of staph and doctors note.

Lost and Found

There is a lost and found box that will be placed near the SEEKERS table each week. SEEKERS is not liable for lost or unclaimed items. Items not claimed will be donated periodically.

SEEKERS Table

There will be a SEEKERS information table set up each Tuesday. Family folders will be at the information table. Any important information will be placed in your folder each week. If you have information to give participating families, please place it in the correct person's folder. Parents must check their folders each week before leaving co-op (Parents, not kids, please).

Praise Time (8:30)

We ask that all members attend praise time. Out of respect for all members, everyone is needed in the youth room **before 8:30**. Important announcements, short devotion, and prayer will occur at this time.

Please take care of event sign up and RCH questions before and at the end of the co-op day to help make this a time of focus.

Parents are responsible for their own children during praise time. Preschoolers attend this time with parents. Preschool classes will begin after praise time. If you are a teacher first hour, you may request for your children to sit with another parent if you need to set up. Please, try to set up earlier so that you can attend praise time and hear announcements. The building will be unlocked at 7:45 for you to set up. Teachers feel free to come early, just be sure to keep your children with you.

What to Bring

- Pencil/pen
- Athletic shoes and comfortable clothes for PE. Students wear this all day at co-op rather than trying to change.
- ALL books and supplies needed for each class the student is taking
- Snack and water bottle for snack time

Snacks

Please pack a small snack for your child to eat at 9:45. Preferably, we ask that it be a healthy snack and water as this is most beneficial to a child's learning and behavior. If your child has any allergies, please be sure that is noted on your membership form. No messy foods or colored drinks, please, out of respect for our host church's carpet.

Parent Responsibilities and Expectations

- Parents assume full responsibility for your children at all times while at SEEKERS. At no time should there be unsupervised children on church grounds. If your children are not in class, please keep them with you. The church is openly accessible to anyone. Keep an eye on your children, both to supervise their behavior/activities and to ensure their safety. Be sure children do not touch any church equipment or property that is not intended for their use.
- Parents at home with their infants, must provide a number each week where they can be easily reached as needed during co-op times. If reaching you when needed becomes a problem, your family will not be able to continue to participate in classes until your children are old enough for you to attend with them.
- SEEKERS is a complement to a family's core curriculum, not a replacement to parental instruction. In order for children to get the maximum benefit out of their classes, parents should ensure that children complete their daily assignments. Plan this into your daily lesson plans.
- **As a courtesy to others, please be on time. Latecomers disrupt praise time, announcements, classes and parent job assignments.** All jobs are important.
- Parents are responsible for the appropriateness of their children's attire and their own.
- Please respect the beliefs and opinions of other members. We ask that parents use discretion when discussing topics that might be contrary to another parent's authority or belief system, therefore, undermining the parent's authority.

Discipline Policy

We are a Christian co-op and believe it honors God when our students are obedient to adults and respectful of their fellow students.

Parents should review the "Student Responsibilities and Expectations" with each child. If a student is disruptive or disobedient, the following process will take place:

- First offense: the student will receive a verbal warning, clearly communicating how behavior is to change.
- Second offense: the student is removed from the class and taken to the SEEKERS table. The student will not be allowed back in class that hour. The issue will be discussed with the parent. The student will only be allowed back in class after restitution has been made with anyone they offended.
- Third offense: the student will be removed from class and taken to the SEEKERS table. The parent will be located, and the student will not be allowed in class for the duration of the day. If the student's parent is not on campus working, then the parent will be contacted to come pick the child up immediately. The child will not be allowed back in class until restitution has been made with anyone offended.
- If the student continues to have disciplinary issues, the parent will be asked to remove the student for the remainder of the semester, without a refund of fees.

In the case of a serious offense (extreme behavior with a student or adult), the situation will immediately be handled as a second or third offense.

When observing inappropriate behavior, both inside and outside the classroom, parents and teachers should correct in love.

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

- Treat teachers, parents, other students, and our host facility/staff courteously and with respect at all times.
- Be prepared each Tuesday to learn and participate in class, having completed assigned work.
- Be sure you bring ALL required books and supplies to class each week.
- Walk quietly between classes. We have a full church staff working while we are at SEEKERS.
- Remain within the designated co-op boundaries of the church. Do not use areas of the church that co-op has not been invited to use.
- Do not touch or play near church equipment or property that is not intended for you.
- There is no specific dress code for SEEKERS. Casual attire and comfortable shoes are recommended. However, members are encouraged to be considerate of others and avoid wearing immodest or offensive clothing. Tennis shoes and clothing suitable for exercise MUST be worn for PE.
- No skate shoes, toys, or electronic devices are allowed.
- Cell phones are to be on silent and out of sight during class time unless allowed by the teacher for class needs only. All cell phones that become an interruption will be taken by the teacher and placed at the SEEKERS table.
- Foul language and/or bullying will not be tolerated.
- No child is allowed on the playground without approved adult supervision, per Cook Baptist playground rules. This is a rule set by Cook, and we will obey it.
- Please respect the beliefs and opinions of other members. We ask that students use discretion when discussing topics that might be contrary to another family's belief system.

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