# DEVELOPMENTAL DOMAIN 1

## Spiritual Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STANDARDS</th>
<th>BENCHMARKS / Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>God</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.1       | Begins to understand God—The Father, Jesus—the Son, and Holy Spirit  
Example:  
» Child recalls that God’s immediate family is made up of The Father, Son and Holy Spirit |
| 1.1.1     | Begins to develop beliefs about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and angels  
Example: |
| 1.1.2     | Begins to experience God’s unconditional love  
Example:  
» Child says, “Jesus loves me like my parents love me.”  
» Child accepts comfort from someone who disciplines him/her |
| 1.1.3     | Begins to exercise faith and communicate with God through prayer  
Example:  
» Child asks if he/she may have prayer at mealtime  
» Child closes eyes and folds hands during prayer  
» Child has prayer request  
» Child says, “We should pray,” when a difficult situation arises |
| 1.1.4     | Begins to express belief that God sends His angels to protect His children  
Example:  
» Child says, “I know my angel watches over me.”  
» Child tells someone, “We don’t need to worry, our angels are with us.” |
| 1.1.5     | Begins to demonstrate a desire to learn more about Jesus  
Example:  
» Child asks, “What was Jesus like when He was little?”  
» Child role plays the story of Jesus in the dramatic play center |
| The Bible |                      |
| 1.2       | Begins to understand that God speaks to people through the Bible  
Example:  
» Child learns and recites memory verses  
» Child participates in Bible charades |
| 1.2.1     | Begins to develop an interest in Bible stories and memory verses  
Example:  
» Child learns and recites memory verses  
» Child participates in Bible charades |
| 1.2.2     | Begins to recognize that the Bible is God speaking to us and is the source of truth  
Example:  
» Child responds, “The Bible says…”  
» Child says, “Jesus says…” |
| 1.2.3     | Begins to understand that the Bible contains God’s law that teaches us how to live  
Example:  
» Child expresses that something is right or wrong  
» Child says, “We need to follow God’s law.” |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STANDARDS</th>
<th>BENCHMARKS / Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creation</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.3</strong> Begins to understand the events of creation, the nature of man and his relationship to God</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.3.1 | Begins to develop an appreciation of creation and an interest in studying nature  
**Example:**  
- Child looks at a flower and says, “God made this.”  
- Child shows enthusiasm while playing in the outdoor environment that God created |
| 1.3.2 | Begins to understand that man was made in God’s image with the freedom to make choices  
**Example:**  
- Child says, “God made me like Him.”  
- Child understands that he/she can make choices |
| 1.3.3 | Begins to build a relationship with God through prayer and praise  
**Example:**  
- Child initiates prayer to God who is his/her friend  
- Child participates in singing Bible songs to praise God |
| 1.3.4 | Begins to accept God’s gift of the Sabbath  
**Example:**  
- Child says, “The seventh day of creation is God’s special day.”  
- Child talks about going to church to worship on the Sabbath  
- Child asks to go to church on Sabbath to praise God |
| 1.3.5 | Begins to respond to nature by showing sympathy, compassion, and a caring spirit  
**Example:**  
- Child expresses emotion for the death of a pet or a plant  
- Child shows concern or compassion for a sick classmate |
| **Salvation** | **1.4** Begins to understand the plan of salvation |
| 1.4.1 | Begins to comprehend that good and bad things happen, there is good versus evil, there is a yes and a no  
**Example:**  
- Child points to a wilted flower and says, “The flower died.”  
- Child identifies Example of people doing good and/or bad things |
| 1.4.2 | Begins to understand Jesus’ love through His death and resurrection  
**Example:**  
- Child sees a picture of Jesus on the cross, points and says: “Jesus died for me.”  
- Child points to a picture of the second coming and says, “Jesus is alive and He’s coming back for me.” |
| 1.4.3 | Begins to realize that Jesus wants to save everyone from evil or harmful things  
**Example:**  
- Child says, “Jesus wants everyone to go to heaven.”  
- Child says, “Jesus is stronger than Satan.” |
| 1.4.4 | Begins to express love for Jesus and exhibits Christ-like behavior  
**Example:**  
- Child says, “I love Jesus.”  
- Child says, “I want to be like Jesus.”  
- Child shows compassion for others like Jesus did |
| 1.4.5 | Begins to understand and practice forgiveness  
**Example:**  
- Child asks for forgiveness  
- Child accepts apologies |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STANDARDS</th>
<th>BENCHMARKS / Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worship &amp; Church Life</strong></td>
<td>1.5 Begins to develop an understanding of the church family and service to others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.1</td>
<td>Begins to participate in worship to God through praying, singing, Bible story lessons, testimonials/sharing through conversations, witnessing, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child participates in singing worship songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child is able to repeat/say a simple prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.2</td>
<td>Begins to understand that there are churches and places where people go to worship God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child shares about his/her worship experience at church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child is able to identify pictures of places of worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.3</td>
<td>Begins to show reverence during worship times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child sits quietly while listening to Bible stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child is reverent during prayer (still, quiet, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.4</td>
<td>Begins to recognize that the church family is made up of a diverse group of people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child understands that a church family is made up of people different from himself/herself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.5</td>
<td>Begins to understand baptism and the Lord’s Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child listens to Bible stories about baptism and the Lord’s Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child role plays the Lord’s Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.6</td>
<td>Begins to be familiar with Bible stories and teachings from Ellen G. White and Bible prophets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child can retell or role play a Bible story he/she has heard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child can identify the main character of a Bible story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child can retell or role play stories of Ellen G. White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.7</td>
<td>Begins to develop an understanding of his/her gifts to be used for serving God and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child makes cards for the elderly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child participates in gathering food donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.8</td>
<td>Begins to recognize that worship to God can take place anywhere, anytime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td>» Child participates in worship in various places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>» Child participates in chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARDS</td>
<td>BENCHMARKS / Example</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christian Living</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.6 Begins to recognize the joy in Christian living</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.6.1 Begins to understand and demonstrate that obeying the Ten Commandments brings true happiness | Example:  
  - Child begins to understand that lying can hurt others and self  
  - Child begins to understand that stealing is wrong |
| 1.6.2 Begins to demonstrate thankfulness to God through stewardship | Example:  
  - Child begins to show respect and care for things that God has given him/her  
  - Child begins to understand the importance of caring for the environment |
| 1.6.3 Begins to show love and appreciation for family and others | Example:  
  - Child makes a thank you card for parents or friends  
  - Child offers to help others with a task without being asked |
| 1.6.4 Begins to understand the Biblical concepts of good health habits and respects his/her body as the temple of God | Example:  
  - Child can identify foods that are healthy for his/her body  
  - Child talks about the importance of getting plenty of rest, water, exercise, and fresh air |
| 1.6.5 Begins to appreciate God’s Sabbath as a day of rest and healthy restoration | Example:  
  - Child shares about a Sabbath day experience with his/her family  
  - Child shares how he/she rests and eats healthy when not at preschool |
| 1.6.6 Begins to show understanding of the Golden Rule and its application | Example:  
  - Child shares his/her toy without being asked  
  - Child invites a new child to play with him/her |
| 1.6.7 Begins to develop a personal relationship with Jesus | Example:  
  - Child goes to a corner and prays quietly to Jesus |
| **Jesus’ Return** | **1.7 Begins to anticipate the soon coming of Jesus** |
| 1.7.1 Begins to demonstrate eagerness for Jesus’ return | Example:  
  - Child exhibits an enthusiastic attitude toward stories about Jesus’ second coming  
  - Child asks, “When is Jesus coming?” |
| 1.7.2 Begins to look forward to living with Jesus forever | Example:  
  - Child asks, “What will Heaven be like?”  
  - Child says, “When I get to Heaven...”  
  - Child role plays the trip going to Heaven |