

KIDSWORLD SPECIAL BLESSINGS

Reverse Mainstream Program

Special Blessings is a ministry for children up to 5th grade who have special needs. We offer a classroom environment with flexible, sensory-minded curriculum and play during our 10:30am service on Sundays. As part of our program we offer the opportunity to a limited number of children in grades 5 and under who do not have special needs to attend the class in a “Reverse Mainstream” role.

“REVERSE MAINSTREAM” PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES

Our “Reverse Mainstream” students:

- Will participate in our preschool level play and learning along with our students with special needs. Because of the flexibility required with our kids and the age level of our content, “Reverse Mainstream” students may not get their full age-level curriculum.
- Will act as role models for language and behavior. “Reverse Mainstream” children who are not able to follow rules themselves will be asked to return to their age level room for future weeks.
- Will be offered insight into working with children with special needs in hopes of increasing sensitivity, knowledge, and love of the special needs population. We hope that our “Reverse Mainstream” students will one day become volunteers.
- Will not be left alone with, or be placed “in charge of,” any other student.
- Will not be left alone with a volunteer. They will be under the same guidelines as students in the other Kidsworld classrooms in that regard.

Other considerations:

- There is a chance of accidents with children with special needs who do not have full control of their movements and/or emotions. Our volunteers strive to protect all children from harm caused by another, but we cannot guarantee that a “Reverse Mainstream” student will never have an encounter with a child with special needs that could cause injury.
- Due to the number of volunteers necessary in our room we can only accommodate 10 students total. It is possible that a child who wants to check in as a “Reverse Mainstream” student will be asked to check into their age level room instead. Parents should plan on waiting with their “Reverse Mainstream” student until at least 10:30 to verify that there is room for them.