



What is ELA?

ELA stands for **Experiential Learning for All**. It is an experiential learning curriculum designed to supplement the regular classroom curriculum in a K-8 school. In a nutshell, the program consists of 18 core activities, plus additional on/off-site opportunities designed for grades K-8. An ELA is an experience which has been designed to 1) show students how classroom learning connects to everyday life in an experiential, hands-on way, 2) allow students to use inquiry to encounter their world in a natural, meaningful way, 3) fulfill and enhance specific learning objectives in the written curriculum of the school/state/nation, 4) expose students to a whole new world of experiences in order to broaden horizons, and 5) help students to build a greater appreciation and understanding of their role in God's kingdom. An ELA Satellite Implementation Director (SID) is present at each ELA school. The SID will work in conjunction with classroom teacher(s) to 1) facilitate student planning of each ELA 2) connect the ELA with the classroom/school curriculum and, 3) conduct pre/post experience assessments and activities. There is a detailed, organized system of pre/post cognitive and affective assessments to help measure student ability and achievement as a result of the ELA program.



"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

The Future of ELA

ELA is the key to enabling today's students to carry out the Great Commission. ELA not only prepares workers for God's kingdom tomorrow, it gives students opportunities to be kingdom workers today by providing them with opportunities to witness their faith to those around through their thoughts, words, and actions. The responsibility for training the next generation lies with us all. ELA is a powerful tool that affects this training in a clear and meaningful way. We can't do it alone. With your support, ELA will continue to grow and flourish, training workers for the kingdom and bringing new souls to the knowledge of God's grace.

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Why ELA?

I was recently asked why experiential learning was so important. "Isn't that the job of the family?" Yes, it is. But it is also the job of the school. Not because schools are trying to take the place of the family, but rather because both schools *and* families are (and rightfully should be!) always striving to use the best practices in education. ELA is supplementary to the classroom curriculum, but it is not an extra. It is the missing link between classroom education and real life. ELA's foundations are built on proven brain based research and the

best practices of education. The ELA program holds tremendous potential for tapping into our most valuable resource; our children. They are the next generation. What better investment can we make?





Loving Moms Class Spreading the Mighty Word

When New Day Pregnancy Care Center announced its first Loving Moms class at our office, the staff didn't know what to expect, but we did have a plan. A brochure was created explaining the upcoming classes as a support group. Also, after attending each class, moms and expectant moms could earn "mom money" for diapers and wipes or a thrift store voucher to spend in our Mission Wearhouse. The choice was also given to save individual vouchers to earn something of greater value. So, it was intended to be an incentive program—earning and learning. **More important, the bigger plan was to share the Word with them.**

Clients were personally invited and postcards sent out. Our teacher and counselor, Amber Klause, volunteered to teach the first class on financials, her specialty. The class was entitled, "Turning Values into Goals." Three moms attended our first class.

Since our first class, we held 15 more (once a week), with an average attendance of six moms per class (plus their children). We have visitors attending classes to observe and participate. Our plan is to teach 18 classes to a group of regular attendees and then evaluate whether we want to continue. We are soon approaching our 18th class. Building relationships, health and wellness, and loving discipline are all topics we cover.

We share the gospel with them on a weekly basis by reading a devotion and sharing a Bible passage that often pertains to the topic of the day. They are assured of the comfort of Jesus' forgiveness when we sin and the assurance Jesus will be with us and give us the strength to deal with the challenges we are facing each day.

They know that because of this amazing love he has for us, we are motivated to show love towards others. For those who may have never experienced a healthy relationship, Jesus is the perfect example to follow and he is our savior.

So, what has the staff learned from these classes? "I like our clients better, because I know them better and they see us as friends and support," states Cheryl, our office manager.

Clients are not just coming for diapers and wipes, but they desire to be better parents by listening, learning, and interacting with one another. They have become a support

group for one another as they share resources and information. They care about one another and they look forward to coming each week to our safe environment. And they are giving back to us—they volunteer their time here at the office and help us out when they see a need. They visit us regularly during the week.

Three baptisms have occurred since we began our classes. Books have been read and videos watched. ***Scripture has been shared.*** Lifestyle issues have been discussed. We care about their well-being. They are not just a Loving Moms class—they are Our Loving Moms Class. By "Our" I mean the staff, teachers, and everyone who volunteer, donate, pray, and care about the mission here at Christian Life Ministries.

Do you want to visit us? Should we begin a Loving Dads class? Would you like to teach or give us suggestions on topics or improvements? Email me at sharonk@newdaycenter.org.

Spread, oh, spread the mighty Word;
Spread the kingdom of the Lord
Ev'rywhere his breath has giv'n
Life to beings meant for heav'n.
Christian Worship #576



Call our 24-hour helpline
651-644-3937

We are here for you.

Your Donations Are Making a Difference

Last week, a new Pack 'N Play was given to a mom who was in great need of a place for her newborn to sleep. Her baby came earlier than expected and your donation made a difference for mother and child.

After our Wish List came out in our last newsletter stating we were in need of a DVD player in our office, one appeared.

Diapers and wipes are donated to us on a regular basis. When we are out, we purchase them ourselves from the donations of the Adopt-A-Crib program.

After a used toddler bed was donated, a mom who has been searching for one for several months was happy to have one for her toddler.

Gently used car seats, activity centers, and toys have been generously donated and given to families in need.

I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me. Matthew 25:40