



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXITING SKILLS

These exiting skills are the knowledge and skills that children are expected to demonstrate by the completion of a particular grade. All numerical references refer to paragraph numbers in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

*“The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ.” (St. Pope John Paul II).*

As catechists, we must remember that catechesis is a moment in the process of evangelization. The goal of a religious education program should be facilitating a child’s relationship with Jesus Christ and forming disciples. We hope these exiting skills can be a guide to help you in that process.

*Note: These exiting skills are part of our larger grade-by-grade curriculum, which will be released for 2021-2022 and give a better context for these skills and how they fit into different publishers’ curricula.*

## Kindergarten

1. Make the sign of the cross. (2157)
2. Identify the Bible as a special book that we treat respectfully. (102-103)
3. Retell the story of Jesus’ birth. (525)
4. Name the members of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. (531-533)

## Grade 1

1. State that God is the creator of the world. (290)
2. Give the meaning of and properly use these liturgical words: amen & alleluia.
3. State the two great commandments that Jesus taught: love of God and love of others. (2196)
4. Define prayer as talking and listening to God. (2559-2561)
5. State that we are created to love, by love and for love. (356, 1604)

## Grade 2

1. Describe Jesus as sent by God so that we may know God’s love for us. (458)
2. Identify Mary as the Mother of Jesus. (494)
3. Recite the Our Father (2857—2865), Hail Mary (2676—2677), and the Glory Be. (257)

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4. Identify the Church as God's family. (1655)
5. Identify Baptism as the sacrament through which we become children of God and members of the Church. (1218)
6. Recite an Act of Contrition. (1451—1453)
7. Define the Eucharist as a sacred meal. (1329)
8. Define the Eucharist as a celebration. (1324—1327)
9. Define liturgy as the official prayer of the community. (1140—1141)
10. Identify Jesus Christ as the model of what it means to be a human person as a gift. (614, 2013)

## Grade 3

1. Describe creation as all that God has made, both visible and invisible. (326)
2. Identify God's love for creation as a major theme in the Old Testament. (295)
3. Acknowledge God's creation as an expression of divine love reflecting God's wisdom and goodness. (339)
4. Display reverence for the Bible and explain why Christians revere the Bible. (102-103)
5. Identify praise, thanksgiving, petition and contrition as forms of prayer. (2626-2643)
6. State that life is a gift and each person is created as gift. (2378, 2785)

## Grade 4

1. Describe creation as having intrinsic goodness and perfection. (339)
2. Recite the Apostles Creed. (194)
3. Define Sacrament as a visible sign of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (1131)
4. Define the liturgical year. (1168—1173)
5. Identify the basic elements of the liturgical year: Advent (524), Christmas (525), Lent (540), Easter Triduum (1168), Easter (639—644), Pentecost (1076), and Ordinary Time (1168—1173).
6. Memorize and recite the Ten Commandments.
7. Define sin as refusal to love God, self and others. (1849)
8. Define conscience. (1778)
9. Explain why human beings are persons to be loved, and not to be treated as objects. (356, 1604)

## Grade 5

1. Recite the Nicene Creed
2. Give Biblical examples of how Jesus is truly divine and truly human
3. Define the seven sacraments
4. Define the Cardinal virtues
5. Explain the five forms of prayer
6. Explain the role of Church leaders and their authority

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7. Explain a variety of vocations as saying yes to God's call.
8. Answer the question 'Who Am I?' in relation to teachings in Theology of the Body

## Grade 6

1. Describe Mary as the 'Mother of God'
2. Identify those who made covenants with God in the Old Testament
3. Define the importance of the Eucharistic Liturgy
4. Define the Theological Virtues
5. Create a personal prayer including praise, petition, thanksgiving and adoration
6. Identify how the Holy Spirit works in the lives of God's people
7. Explain the 7 Catholic Social Teachings
8. Explain what it means to be 'Made in the Image and Likeness of God'

## Grade 7

1. Describe the Holy Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith
2. Explain, using Biblical context, how Jesus is a priest, prophet and king
3. Give examples of how each of the 7 sacraments is a visible sign of God's grace
4. Identify the five precepts of the Church
5. List the seven petitions of the Our Father
6. Identify the gifts of the Holy Spirit
7. Explain the role of Scripture and Tradition
8. Explain the result of original sin

## Grade 8

1. Summarize the events in the Acts of Apostles, including the beginning of the Church
2. Connect the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation
3. Explain the difference between mortal and venial sins
4. Lead various types of vocal prayer, including Lectio Divina
5. Explain the influence the Church councils had on the history of the Church
6. Identify the major events in the history of the Catholic Church
7. Explain how the church is 'universal'
8. Describe the importance of spousal love