



PRESS RELEASE

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Calvary Preschoolers To Get Boost from New Curriculum

Charlotte, N.C., July 14, 2008 – When you think of an investigator, a preschool child is probably not the image that immediately comes to mind. However, an innovative curriculum will soon make investigators out of curious young learners at Calvary Child Development Center. During the 2008–2009 school year, pre-K students in select classrooms at Calvary will use *The InvestiGator Club™ Prekindergarten Learning System*, an inquiry-based approach that has proven widely effective. Pre-K teachers at the center will receive hands-on instruction by one of the program’s authors, Beth Alley Wise, on July 22 and 23. In addition, Wise will host a Parent Information Night on July 23 for parents to learn more about the new system.

A fully integrated curriculum, *The InvestiGator Club* recently underwent an independent, year-long study of its effectiveness among over 500 students nationwide. The results bode well for participating pre-K students at Calvary. Conducted by the Educational Research Institute of America (ERIA), the study concluded that children in classrooms using *The InvestiGator Club* show a significant increase in knowledge and skills in critical learning areas. This increase is evident among all students, regardless of economics, gender, ethnicity, special needs, or primary language.

Investigating Their World

After five years of research, *The InvestiGator Club* was created in 2005 to meet the need for a high-quality core curriculum for pre-K classrooms. Robert-Leslie Publishing, The Early Childhood Company®, designed the comprehensive system to spark children’s own curiosity about the world around them through hands-on activities that address all ten critical learning domains, including literacy, science, math, language, and art.

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Pre-K students at Calvary will spend their time learning with an engaging cast of animal investigators led by Dilly Gator and her friends Rosalita Sausalita, Manny Salamander, Great Auntie Lu, Chuck Wood, Bruno Buzzbee, and JT Gator. The children will accompany the characters through a series of escapades and adventures that lead to investigations of the world around them.

The preschoolers will also build problem-solving and critical thinking skills through an innovative new teaching tool called *Flapboards*[™] (PATENT PENDING), magnetic lift-the-flap storyboards and *Flap Fillers* that allow for numerous story possibilities and build problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

About Calvary Child Development Center

The Calvary Child Development Center began in 1977 as a nonprofit Christian preschool. Currently, its enrollment has grown to over 800 children in preschool, full-time daycare, and extended care programs and is one of the largest childcare centers in the United States. As a leader in excellence and quality child care, Calvary serves children ages six months through five years with hands-on, developmentally appropriate activities that target all aspects of early childhood development. In addition, Calvary is a faith-based center emphasizing spiritual development through daily Bible lessons, songs, Bible stories, and scripture verses.

For the last 18 years, Calvary has sponsored an Early Childhood Education Conference in March. At this year's annual conference, Robert-Leslie Publishing had the privilege of introducing *The InvestiGator Club Prekindergarten Learning System* to educators from across the Southeast for review. The response from participants far exceeded our expectations. Calvary CDC is always looking for ways to enhance their curriculum by staying on the cutting edge of early childhood education. Through this research-based curriculum, Calvary CDC will employ new and creative ways for children to investigate and explore God's world. For Calvary Child Development Center information, call Pat Collins, Director, at 704-341-5361. Calvary is located at 5801 Pineville-Matthews Road in Charlotte.

About The InvestiGator Club

Since its inception, *The InvestiGator Club* has become an essential component of successful pre-K programs educating thousands of children and has been endorsed by a growing roster of early childhood specialists. The science-based system is in widespread use in Head Start, public, and private pre-K classrooms in 36 states and in Mexico and the Virgin Islands.

For more information about *The InvestiGator Club* and Robert-Leslie Publishing, visit www.investigatorclub.com or phone 1-888-345-PREK (7735).

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