

Curriculum

~~ Grade - 3's Preschool ~~

Religion – We say a prayer to start our day and sing a good-bye prayer at the end of our day. Before eating snack, the preschoolers will sing the Grace. We have a formal bible story time where we hear different stories from the bible and sometimes use flannel figures or puppets. We spend a lot of time on the Christmas & Easter stories. Our preschool units include – God made the world, God made me special, Jesus loves me and takes care of me.

Spelling– Just for fun we might learn to spell words during the course of the school year. Y-E-S- and N-O, M-O-M and D-A-D are a few that we always learn. Of course the children learn to spell their names.

Phonics – There are many times during the school year that the children learn about letter sounds. The first letter of the month might start with the first letter of a student, so we will sound it out. Besides letter sounds, we learn rhyming words.

Handwriting - There is no formal handwriting, but the 3's are beginning to write on their own and we help them by showing them how to hold the crayon or marker correctly, and by giving them opportunities to write their name. Every day the children are able to paint and draw at the easels, use play doh, and cut with scissors. This all helps to develop the fine motor skills needed in handwriting.

English – As a three year old preschooler, vocabulary is still developing. Sentences may not be complete or trying to communicate the idea into words may not be easy. We try to give the children time and attention to help them develop the confidence to complete that idea or sentence. We would also repeat that sentence correctly for them to hear it.

Literature – The children get a variety of different fiction & non-fiction books to look at. Stories include poems and rhyming words. A Mother Goose unit and a visit from Mother Goose herself is a part of our preschool literature program.

Reading – During play time, the preschoolers have access to the book rack and can look at books by themselves or with the teachers. After snack time, there is another opportunity to read books with the teachers, parents, or by themselves. At the end of the day, a more formal story time with the teacher reading to the whole class takes place. They are also indirectly reading the many sight words labeled around the classroom, including their name written on their locker, mailbox, nametag, and chair.

Math – We are counting indirectly every chance we get. We count the calendar days, count picture patterns, count forwards & backwards while singing songs and finger plays. We also review the more familiar geometric shapes. The children play with counters, blocks, number & shape puzzles, and other math manipulatives.

Science – Each month the preschoolers explore something different on the science table including insects, shells, leaves, rocks, dinosaurs, magnets, and seeds. They use magnifying glasses to get up close to make observations. We watch a volcano erupt and explore several different tactile materials in the sand/water table throughout the school year.

Social Studies – We learn to share with our classmates and play together in a friendly and caring way. Preschoolers are learning to take turns, wait patiently and help one another. They are becoming aware that some people like the same things and some people like different things. If something is not going well, they learn to try to solve their problems without hurting their friends.