

## **PK 3 Curriculum**

### **Early Literacy**

Students are exposed to literacy in a variety of ways. PK 3 students learn the alphabet. Each letter and its sounds will be introduced. Children are taught to recognize and identify their name. A great deal of picture books will be read in a group setting, and the children will also explore books on their own. We will learn and repeat simple nursery rhymes and finger plays.

### **Early Math**

Early math consists of exploring the numbers 1 - 10 through counting and sorting. The children will count and sort by size and color. We will learn and identify a circle, square, triangle, star, hexagon, heart, diamond, oval, and rectangle. PK 3 students will match by shapes, colors, numbers, and letters.

### **Science**

The science curriculum includes exploring the world we live in through nature walks, plant growth, weather, and our five senses. We will also discuss animals and their homes.

### **Health and Safety**

It is very important to teach health and safety in PK 3's. The children will learn proper bathroom etiquette and hand washing. Students will discuss and learn the rules that are appropriate for the playground and the classroom.

### **Social Studies**

In social studies we will talk about community helpers and see them first hand. We will discuss where we live and where others around us live.

### **Social Development**

In PK 3's social development is one of the main objectives throughout the year. The children will develop fine motor skills through cutting, coloring, and tracing. We work on hand - eye coordination. We also encourage socialization skills and independent behavior, all while having fun.

### **Spanish**

Spanish is offered one time each week for 20 minutes. Students will demonstrate receptive and productive knowledge of the language. They will explore some of the same themes they learn in the regular classroom, such as colors, numbers, calendar, weather, and emotions. The language is taught with emphasis on speaking.

## **Technology**

Preschool tech classes consist of familiarizing students with the components of the computer including mouse operation and simple keyboarding in conjunction with learning the letters of the alphabet. Students are allowed to explore and experiment using age-appropriate software programs such as Kid Pix, Starfall, and other Internet sites designed for children.

## **Media Center**

Students receive library orientation and become accustomed to coming to the Media Center on a weekly basis. They are introduced to computer basics and allowed to explore independently as well as through guided teaching the basic use of a computer. Students are exposed to a variety of literature through read-aloud and other media such as Flannel Board, Puppets, CDs, DVDs, and Internet. Students select books to look at based on personal interest through independent browsing within a well-defined area of the Media Center. Book care is emphasized. Listening skills and following directions are developed as well as an understanding of library behavior.

## **Art**

Art is an important part of your child's early childhood education. Children are active learners, and making art is a hands-on activity that expands imaginations and exercises creativity. It also develops small motor control and eye/hand coordination, and sharpens children's powers of observation. Children learn the fundamentals of art — color, line, shape, form and texture — by painting and drawing, making collages, fashioning three-dimensional objects out of clay, and talking about their work. Three year olds recognize patterns, learn about primary colors, and discover how to mix two colors to make a third. By creating art and looking at it, children gain an understanding of composition, balance, and symmetry.

## **Music**

Children participate in creative movement, imitating and creating rhythmic patterns on instruments as well as through body percussion. Emphasis is put on developing steady beat, developing listening skills and singing on pitch through simple music games and songs.

## **Physical Education**

Physical education programs for preschool children focus on providing opportunities for children to master motor skills and learn about physical movements. These programs are important since the skills learned at a young age provide the foundation for a person's

attitudes toward physical activity later in life. Preschool physical education programs should therefore be designed to promote both fitness and child development. Students have PE once a week for 35 minutes. The goals of this program are: developing efficient movement skills, improving and maintaining physical fitness, enhancing coordination, reinforcing skills needed to cooperate with others, offering methods to resolve issues of cooperation in a mutually satisfying manner, and stimulating interest in anatomy, health, safety and the environment.