

What do we do in Preschool?

The following is our daily activities with *some* of the goals and objectives we are working on at those times. We follow the Early Childhood Learning Standards that were developed by the Illinois State Board of Education. You can view our learning standards on the ISBE website. Research shows that children ages 3-5 learn best through play so the largest portion of our day is spent in Choice Time. This hour of time is mandated by the State of Illinois.

Journal/books

Children are able to draw and write in their notebooks. After journals children read books with the teachers. Objective: development of writing and drawing skills, vocabulary, letter recognition, pre-reading, etc.

Gross Motor

Outside if weather permits or inside for bean bag games or music.

Objective: develop strength and coordination of large muscles, improve balance and posture, practice emerging physical skills, follow simple safety rules, cooperate with others.

Group

Typically consists of a story and discussion related to the book. For example after reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar discussion and charting is done related to butterfly life cycle and sequencing, recall, vocabulary, relating new information to previous knowledge.

Objectives: attention, recall, questions, vocabulary, predicting, letters/sounds, counting, colors, shapes, positions, graphs, science concepts, community/family, music, group rules, comprehension, rhyming, etc.

Snack

We sit as a group for snack to learn basic table manners and share in conversation. The students do as much for themselves as possible, learning to ask for help if needed. We often have snack as a choice, but encourage groups of students to sit together.

Objectives: language enrichment, listening skills, recall, counting, colors, patterns, socialization, manners, language development, sharing, sensory experiences, oral motor skills, and fine motor skills/self-help.

Choice Time

Learning Centers: Table Toys, Art, Writing, Sensory Table, Computer, Blocks, Dramatic Play, Science, Math, Music and Movement, Library, Cooking

Children are free to choose centers/activities of their choice. They are encouraged to complete activities, improve attention skills, and clean-up activities. Teachers rotate centers to encourage a variety of learning experiences by questioning, encouraging, and challenging. Observations and notes are taken to monitor assessment of skills.

Objectives: pre-math, pre-reading skills, fine motor, language development, social-emotional development, turn-taking, cognitive development, build self-esteem and independence, fosters imagination and creativity, and experimentation with a variety of materials.