

Overview of Preschool 3 Curriculum

Our 3-year-old preschool program uses Abeka curriculum. The Abeka curriculum features a traditional, biblical approach to teaching and learning, cross-subject integration, spiral review, and plenty of hands-on activities.

Preschool *cognitive, language, and prewriting* skills are formally assessed with a pre-assessment (September/October), a mid-assessment (January/February), and a post-assessment (May). The pre-assessment is reported on the 1st quarter report card, the Mid-assessment is reported on the 3rd quarter report card, and the post-assessment is reported on the 4th quarter report card. The skill levels are communicated through the codes **DNM** (does not meet), **ME** (meets expectations), and **EE** (exceeds expectations).

Personal/Social skills are reported every quarter using the same codes of DNM, ME, EE and are observations made by the classroom teachers. Fine and Gross motor skills are tracked throughout the year through activities and teacher observations.

The activities will help develop their spiritual, personal, social, cognitive, language, and fine and gross motor skills.

Formally assessed *cognitive* skills:

- Distinguishes between small and large items.
- Distinguishes between empty and full items
- Distinguishes between long and short items
- Counts 3 objects
- Gives 2 objects
- Identifies 6 colors
- Points to 6 body parts
- Completes a 3-piece puzzle
- Follows 2-step directions in proper sequence

Formally assessed *pre-writing* skills:

- Emerging shape development
- Tracing Name

Informally assessed *gross motor* skills:

- Balance on one foot
- Jump forward 10-24 inches
- Catches large ball
- Walks up stairs (alternating feet)
- Walks on tiptoes

Informally assessed *fine motor* skills:

- Beginning scissor skills
- String beads on shoelace
- Makes ball out of clay
- Builds tower of cubes

Formally assessed *language* skills:

- Names 4 pictures of common actions
- Answer questions regarding physical needs
- Speaks clearly (articulates familiar words)
- Names 5 pictures of common objects
- Asks questions (how, why, where, when)
- Uses personal pronouns
- Delivers 1-part verbal message

Informally assessed *personal/social* skills:

- Plays simple group games
- Associative play
- Puts toys away with supervision
- Shares and takes turns
- Initiates interactions with familiar adults
- Responds to initial greeting by adult
- Expresses displeasure verbally
- Tells full name

Overview of Preschool 4 Curriculum

Our 4-year-old preschool program uses Abeka curriculum and Foundations Literacy Program. The Abeka curriculum features a traditional, biblical approach to teaching and learning, cross-subject integration, spiral review, and plenty of hands-on activities. Foundations Literacy Program is implemented to begin developing the critical foundational literacy skills in preparation for kindergarten.

Preschool 4 early literacy and math skills are formally assessed with a pre-assessment (September/October), a mid-assessment (January/February), and a post-assessment (May). The pre-assessment is reported on the 1st quarter report card, the Mid-assessment is reported on the 3rd quarter report card, and the post-assessment is reported on the 4th quarter report card. The skill levels are communicated through the codes **DNM** (does not meet), **ME** (meets expectations), and **EE** (exceeds expectations).

The formal assessments are aligned with Virginia's kindergarten readiness standards. The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) is used to assess early literacy. The formal math assessment aligns with the state standards for PreK students.

Personal/Social skills are reported every quarter using the same codes of DNM, ME, EE and are observations made by the classroom teachers. Fine and Gross motor skills are tracked throughout the year through activities and teacher observations.

Formally assessed *literacy* skills:

- Name Writing
- Upper-case alphabet recognition
- Lower-case alphabet recognition
- Letter sounds
- Beginning sound awareness
- Print and word awareness
- Rhyme awareness
- Nursery rhyme awareness

Formally assessed *math* skills:

- Geometry:
 - Shape recognition & properties
 - Composing shapes
 - Extending patterns
 - Recognizing patterns
- Numeracy:
 - Counting & cardinality
 - Comparing & ordering
 - Composing & decomposing
 - Numerals (1-20)
 - Sharing Fairly
- Computation:
 - Addition
 - Subtraction

Informally assessed *gross motor* skills:

Runs, jumps, climbs well
Beginning to skip
Hops on one foot
Walks up stairs (alternating feet)
Walks on tiptoes

Informally assessed *fine motor* skills:

Scissor skills (simple shapes, lines)
Thumb in opposition with each finger
Folds paper (horizontally & vertically)
Completes simple puzzle (6-10 pieces)

Informally assessed *personal/social* skills:

Plays simple group games
Associative play
Puts toys away with supervision
Shares and takes turns
Initiates interactions with familiar adults
Responds to initial greeting by adult
Expresses displeasure verbally
Tells full name

Preschool 3 and 4 Specials:

Art: Students have an art class in addition to the art that is integrated into the daily program. Students learn about different techniques and about working with different media.

Chapel: The entire preschool school joins together in the church chapel for a short service each Wednesday morning. This is a time of worship, prayer, and age appropriate bible studies.

Physical Education: Our physical education teacher helps the students develop gross motor skills.

Tablet Time: Students utilize educational programs to reinforce letters and numbers.