



ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL

Preschool Curriculum

Our preschool program follows the *Creative Curriculum* model. This award winning curriculum aligns with Head Start Child Development, Early Learning Framework, and state early learning standards.

Children in our program learn through exploration and discovery. This process helps children develop confidence, creativity and life long critical thinking skills.

The preschool program is developed around themes that may change from year to year. The activities and centers that the children participate in are developed to support these themes and skill acquisition.

The preschool curriculum is divided into six domains, which are:

- Aesthetics
- Affective
- Cognition
- Physical
- Social
- Language/Communication

Every week, a variety of activities and experiences are planned to correspond with all six domains. Although we believe no one facet of development can be isolated from the rest, we believe that purposeful planning for each domain results in a more comprehensive approach to instruction.

Religion:

- Bible stories related to activities and seasons
- Focus on learning about God and how much God loves us
- Prayer to start and end our school day

Language Development:

- Opportunities are provided for children to interact with a print rich environment and high quality literature
- Sing songs and learn poems with all themes
- A balanced approach is used to introduce basic reading and writing components appropriate for preschool children

Math Development:

- Practice counting to 10
- Graph and sort many items
- Look at patterns and shapes
- Do the calendar and count the days of the month daily
- Have games and puzzles available to work on

Science:

- Science projects: seed germination, hatch chicks from eggs, and watch caterpillars turn into butterflies
- Children interact with scientific tools and have opportunities to explore materials such as: magnets, items from nature, sensory bottles, five senses activities, animal characteristics and habitats
- Learn simple measurement
- Texture table is available daily

Social Studies:

- Study peoples-likeness and differences, their cultures and holidays
- Multicultural activities and materials are used to support classroom themes

Art:

- Learn the use of scissors, gluing and pasting
- Work with playdough
- Work with other art materials through open-ended art activities and special projects
- Finger paint
- Identify colors, forms and shapes
- The easel is ready for painting daily

Physical Education:

- Practice running, jumping, hopping, skipping, galloping and balance beam in the gym
- Play outdoors and in the gym
- Play ball and other simple games

Technology:

- Computer in the classroom for students to play simple games and learn the keyboard
- Four-year-old class goes to the computer lab once a week

Social Skill and Study Development:

- Cooperate and play with peers, practice personal and group responsibilities
- Independent and group work
- Work on listening skills, how to follow directions and responding to an adult

Enrichment Classes for the 4s:

The 4s have the opportunity to participate in Spanish, Computer, and Music classes each week.