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St. Luke's MMO and Preschool Two Year Old Curriculum

The objectives for the children in the Two Year Old program are ongoing. The teachers and children get to know each other through playful interaction which helps create a caring and loving bond. The teachers introduce specific activities that help the students to develop cognitively, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

The Music Program is incorporated into their daily activities allowing time for the children to respond to music by moving or dancing, explore by making sounds and "playing instruments", finding rhythm, and using their voice to make music by singing.

The Art Program introduces the children to a variety of art materials and provides them with an opportunity to be creative. Students will begin to develop their fine motor skills by drawing, cutting, and gluing along with learning basic colors and shapes. The children will also practice following multistep directions as well as working slowly and carefully.

During Library, the children continue to develop language skills by enjoying picture books, felt board stories, rhymes, puppet shows, educational DVDs, books on CD, or exploring other thematic materials. They are also learning to sit for longer periods of time.

Cognitively, the children will participate in thematic units to cover basic skills. All thematic units include simple activities in the beginning such as using a glue stick or stickers. The activities increase in difficulty as the year continues introducing the use of scissors and allowing more independence. Colors, numbers, and shapes are covered almost every day using file folder games and other group activities. Early literacy skills are developed by exposing children to many different types of books and stories. Using materials provided by 1-2-3 Read Virginia, a new reading module will be introduced every month starting in October. A main focus for this age group is learning school rules. Through the year the students practice sharing, using kind words, and being a good friend.

Month	Skills/Concepts	Themes
September	Learning names of classmates, learning and following school rules	Welcome to School, Friends, All About Me
October	Introducing Library time and routine, 1-2-3 Read Virginia reading module introduced	Community Helpers, Farm Animals, Halloween
November	Writing with pencils, using stickers, nursery rhymes introduced	Fall, Family, Thanksgiving
December	Building skills (playing with Legos, blocks, potato heads)	Christmas, The Birth of Baby Jesus
January	Cutting with scissors, primary colors, water play introduced, being healthy	Winter, Animals in Winter, Clean and Healthy
February	Numbers 1-5, opposites	Dinosaurs, Valentine's Day, Transportation

March	Basic shapes (square, circle, and triangle)	Dr. Seuss' Birthday, St. Patrick's Day
April	Introduction of a variety of science activities including water play, dirt/soil, and real bugs	Spring, Easter, Bugs, Science Fair
May	Review shapes, colors, numbers, and name recognition	Mother's Day, Father's Day, Ocean Animals

The children explore objects with all senses, begin to link cause and effect, and enjoy rhyming activities. They begin to point and name colors, shapes, and body parts. Children discover scribbling, which is the beginning stage of giving meaning to marks on paper (prewriting skills). At this age, vocabulary is developing so that children are asking questions, talking about events and expressing needs.

Socially, the children start forming relationships with adults and peers and express emotions while playing with others and participating in group routines. The collaborative play allows children to express themselves verbally as well as learning sensitivity to the feelings, interests, and needs of others.

Emotionally, the children are given opportunities to display a positive approach to new experiences, to feel safe and secure and to demonstrate a sense of trust. Imaginative play is encouraged in the kitchen/housekeeping area, blocks, and indoor play to help foster positive feelings about themselves and their abilities.

Physically, the children utilize the playground and play toys, children engage in activities that assist in the development of gross and fine motor skills such as running, skipping, and climbing.

Spiritually, the children participate in saying a blessing before snack, sing songs about God and Jesus, hear stories about God and Jesus, and have opportunities to visit the sanctuary for special events. They also learn that God created the world, that Jesus is God's son, and that God loves them very much.

Written Evaluations are sent home in May along with photos and work samples collected throughout the year.

Special Events include the Christmas Program in December and the Spring Family Picnic in April.