



www.stlukespreschoolva.com

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

The Four Year Old program develops both social and academic school readiness skills needed to be successful in Kindergarten. We use Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning which can be viewed online at <http://www.earlychildhood.virginia.gov/documents/foundationblocks.pdf>. The teachers introduce specific activities that help the students to develop cognitively, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

The Music Program allows 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 develop their fine motor skills by drawing, cutting, and gluing along with learning basic colors and shapes. They experiment with different textures and engage in activities that require hand-eye coordination. The children 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 and concepts. Throughout the year the students will practice writing the upper case letters of the alphabet, numbers 1-10, and their first names using the Handwriting Without Tears Curriculum. On a daily/weekly basis, the students practice cutting, gluing, coloring, writing their first names, graphing, counting, as well as listening and participating in large groups.

Month	Skills/Concepts	Themes
September	Basic colors, body awareness, rhythm, writing first name	All About Me, Mat Man, Colors, Space, Introduction to Handwriting Without Tears Program
October	Being safe, using scissors, lacing, gluing, numbers/counting	Fire Safety, Farm/Harvest, Halloween, Five Senses, Fall Weather, Shadows
November	Being thankful, outer space, numbers/counting,	Thanksgiving, Pilgrims, Native Americans
December	AB pattern (stripes), counting, lacing	Christmas, The Story of Baby Jesus
January	Shapes, rhyming words	Winter, Snow, Dad's Day, Hibernation
February	Healthy eating, counting, shapes	Valentines' Day, Acts of Kindness, Dental Health, Magnets
March	Rhyming, review five senses, color spectrum, graphing	Dr. Seuss' Birthday, Oceans, St. Patrick's Day
April	All letter review, personal information, numbers 1-10, recycling	Easter, Spring, Kindergarten Readiness, Recycling

May	Sequencing, Mother's Day preparation, growth, Graduation practice	Mother's Day, Insects, Growing, Graduation
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Children will tell simple stories with an increase in vocabulary and sentence length. "Writing" these stories and ideas progresses throughout the year with daily teacher directed prewriting activities. Children begin to know personal information, identify upper and lower case letters of the alphabet, specific shapes and colors, body parts and common objects. Children will begin to recognize and count numbers, understand size comparisons, duplicate patterns, and group objects by category.

Socially, circle time activities promote the understanding and respect of the classroom rules, how to take turns speaking and functioning as one of a group. Children are responsible for cleaning up their own space as well as toys and play well in a group.

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. They learn to accept correction and/or redirection when appropriate. They begin to display a sense of humor, transition from activities with ease, and become aware of other's feelings.

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, climbing, and balancing. During indoor play, fine motor skills are developed while building with blocks, working with puzzles, and using scissors and glue to create art.

Spiritually, the children participate in prayer during their day including a blessing before snack time, sing songs about God and Jesus, hear stories about God and Jesus, and participate in by-monthly chapel lessons in the sanctuary with the church Pastor. They also learn that God created the world, that Jesus is God's son, and that God loves them.

Written Evaluations are completed in October and May. Parent Conferences are held in March.

Special Events include the Christmas Program in December, Dad's Day in February, Mom's Day in May, Jacob's Road Elementary School Bus Trip in May, and Preschool Graduation in May.