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## St. Luke's MMO and Preschool Three Year Old Curriculum

The Three Year Old Program reinforces the skills learned during the toddler years and introduces more academic skills such as tracing their name, recognition of shapes, colors, numbers, rote counting from 1-10, and using scissors. The teachers develop specific lessons 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 and concepts. Throughout the year the students will be introduced to the upper case letters of the alphabet using the Handwriting Without Tears Curriculum. They will also learn to recognize their names and begin learning to write it. On a daily basis, the students practice coloring, cutting, and counting.

Month	Skills/Concepts	Themes
September	Making new friends, following school rules, body parts, self-awareness, harvesting	School, All About Me, Apples
October	Changing of seasons, fire safety, calling 911	Fall, Farm, Safety, Halloween
November	Giving thanks, the first Thanksgiving, harvesting food	Thanksgiving, Pilgrims, Native Americans
December	Giving and sharing, the true meaning of Christmas	Holiday Traditions, Christmas, The Birth of Baby Jesus
January	Hibernation, winter scenes, changing seasons	Winter, Forest Animals, Day and Night
February	Dental Health, eating healthy foods, showing others you care	Valentine's Day, A Healthy Me
March	Importance of reading books, spring planting, new growth, environment	Dr. Seuss' Birthday, Spring, Weather, St. Patrick's Day
April	Meaning of Easter, basic skill review- shapes, colors, counting, and letters	Easter, Dinosaurs, Shapes, Spring
May	Summer scenes, showing mom and dad you care, facts about insects	Mother's Day, Insects, Summer, Father's Day

Nursery Rhymes and poems are used to develop awareness of rhyming words, sounds, and patterns. Their scribbling starts to represent letter like forms. Children begin to explore and describe similarities, differences, and the attributes of things.

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. Children begin to sit for longer periods of time, display good manners and begin to understand right from wrong. Children begin to clean their own work space and toys and help the teacher with simple tasks when appropriate.

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. During indoor play, fine motor skills are strengthened while building with blocks, working with puzzles and using scissors to cut lines.

Spiritually, the children participate in saying a blessing before snack, 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 April.

Special Events include the Christmas Program in December and the Sunshine Program in May.