

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The SFCS preschool educational program is based on the philosophy that God created each child with unique differences. Because of these differences, each child will possess varying degrees of developmental readiness. Every child will go through a cycle of developmental stages but at a rate and pattern of growth particular to himself, especially in the early years.

Each aspect of development - physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual - relies on and supports the others. We appreciate and anticipate that readiness for any task has its roots in the biological and maturational make-up of the child. Therefore, we do not try to produce, speed up, or ignore maturational readiness.

Using a multi-sensory approach in our learning environment, it is our goal that each child will develop his own unique God-given personality, have an awareness of his place in the world around him, and develop an appreciation for his environment. It is our desire to provide opportunities for the whole child to develop spiritually, physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually through an interactive environment. Our approach is grounded in sound child development theory and appropriate practices.

Themes are used to introduce information, and learning takes place as a child explores and manipulates real objects and events. Pre-Kindergarten learning activities are planned to developmentally impact the following domains:

Language	Science	Creative Arts
Literacy	Social/Emotional	Approaches to Learning
Mathematics	Physical/Health	Bible

The program is designed to provide age appropriate development in the following skills:

Language	Safety	Group Skills
Large Motor	Auditory memory	Problem Solving
Fine Motor	Life Skills	Math Skills

Theme designed curriculum allows the teacher to integrate language, writing, listening, speaking, math, science, art, music, dramatic play, and culture into activities that are meaningful and appropriate.

Enrichment Activities Include:

Field Trips	Service Projects	Dramatic Play
Guests	Grandparents' Day	Finger Plays
Spanish	Sign Language	Music/Movement
Book Fair	Christmas Program	
Library	Art	

Classroom Centers Include:

Art	Manipulative	Language/Reading
Science	Dramatic Play	Math
Computer	Block/Building	

Pre-Kindergarten Three - Instructional Goals

Christian Character Development:

- Participates in prayer
- Learns Bible verses and Bible characters
- Participates in chapel by reciting pledges
- Learns to show empathy and concern for others
- Learns to apply Bible lessons to daily situations

Social/Emotional Development:

- Learns to participate in circle activities
- Learns to carry out responsibilities like putting away toys, cleaning up after projects, and taking care of his/her bathroom needs
- Learns to accept limits (last in line, taking turns, giving a turn, time out)
- Learns to work in centers with other children
- Learns to negotiate and work out problems with classmates
- Learns to work within the class schedule
- Learns to sit attentively during circle time
- Learns table manners during snack time
- Learns to sit properly and quietly during chapel

Motor Skills Development:

- Learns to use scissors correctly—how to hold and how to cut
- Learns how to hold a pencil correctly
- Learns to use markers, crayons, and brushes appropriately
- Learns to manipulate small objects—such as puzzles, art work, and peg board—into finished projects
- Develop gross motor skills (hop, skip, throw, catch)

Cognitive Domain:

- Learns to recognize his/her name
- Learns to recognize the individual letters in his/her name
- Learns to orally recite the alphabet
- Learns to recognize the upper-case letters of the alphabet
- Learns the pledge to the American Flag
- Learns the pledge to the Christian Flag
- Learns the pledge to the Bible
- Learns to recall stories, songs, and fingerplays
- Learns nursery rhymes weekly
- Learns to identify the following shapes:
 - Circle - Oval - Square - Triangle
 - Heart - Rectangle - Star

- Learns to identify the following colors:
 - Black - Brown - Orange - Purple - Yellow
 - Blue - Green - Pink - Red - White

- Learns to group: big versus little
- Learns to sort by size, color and shape
- Learns to count from 1-15
- Learns to identify written numbers from 1-10
- Understands space order words (in, out, over, under, up, down)
- Identifies parts of the body (eye, ear, nose, mouth, shoulder, neck, elbow, etc.)
- Participates in morning calendar activities (month, day, weather, etc.)