



Winfree Memorial Preschool Three-Year Old Curriculum

The teachers introduce specific activities that help the children to develop cognitively, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. We use **The Milestones of Child development created by Virginia's Early Childhood Development Alignment Project.**

Creativity and Art: Introduces the children to a variety of art materials and provides them with an opportunity to be creative. Children will develop their fine motor skills by drawing, cutting, and gluing along with learning basic colors and shapes. They will also be exposed to music, dance, and drama in their daily activities.

Manipulative Play: Children begin to learn to use their hands. Fine motor skills develop through several different stages from sensory awareness to in-hand manipulation and tool-use. These skills are essential for the development of other activities of daily living. In the three curriculum they will be given activities that will help them grow in dexterity, control and eye-hand coordination. During indoor play, fine motor skills are developed while building with blocks and Legos, and working with puzzles.

Cognitive Development: Children will learn to think, explore, and problem solve as they begin to understand the world around them. Children will gain new knowledge and skills as they engage in hands on activities in a group setting. Throughout the year the children will practice skills and concepts such as sequencing and recall of stories and they will use writing tools to draw representations of their worlds. In addition, they will be exposed to math concepts like counting, shape recognition, sorting and classification.

Sensory Skills: The children will engage in sensory play activities by involving touching, pouring, pinching, sorting, and moving actions. They will primarily use their hands to explore, and in doing so, they build upon their fine motor skills that will later be used for writing, buttoning clothes, zipping jackets and tying shoes.

Science is one of the most important subjects a child can learn because of its relevance to our daily lives. These skills help children to generate ideas, make decisions and to use evidence to understand key issues.

Integrating math and science concepts in everyday activities enhances cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development, and thus their overall growth. Skills and concepts that children learn while they are young will expand as they gain experience and knowledge over time. The children will watch things grow, build cities, and learn life cycles, etc. We will use graphs and designs to learn during science exploration.

Social & Emotional Development: The children will develop problem-solving and independence skills. They will navigate new friendships and engage in group pretend play settings. In group time they will learn how to sit, listen, take turns, and follow directions. They will demonstrate an increased understanding of language through actions and responses to directions and questions. They will have opportunity to enjoy music activities, singing, and finger plays, along with games, performances and books. They will be exposed to simple rules and routines and will learn to manage transitions.

Spanish: The children will learn the Spanish language as it is integrated into the classroom through games, songs, and fingerplays, they will also be able to identify Spanish colors and numbers throughout the year.

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 bimonthly chapel lessons in the sanctuary with our church minister, Cynthia Collins. They also learn that God created the world, that Jesus is God's son, and that God loves them. During Christmas, they will learn about the birth of baby Jesus. During Easter, they learn that Jesus gave us new life.

Outdoor classroom: Physically, the children utilize the playground and play toys to develop gross motor skills. They engage in activities such as running, skipping, climbing, and balancing. There are a variety of equipment pieces that provide challenges for all levels of development.

Literacy: The teachers will help the children develop literacy by continually exposing them to oral and written language, and by building on prior knowledge and language experiences. Pictures, play, and the printed word combine with oral language to help your child understand the symbolic representation that underlies reading and writing. We will encourage print awareness by helping them see the printed word, and the nature of printed words and books.

Conferences: Each teacher will create a portfolio for your child with work examples, and documentation of learning. We will meet with you during parent teacher conferences twice during the school year. Once in November and again in May. During the November conference is a wonderful time to discuss with your child's teacher your expectations for your child's year at Winfree.