

ST. JEROME EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

CURRICULUM GUIDELINES - THREE YEAR OLDS

The developmental milestones outlined below provide an overview of the curriculum emphasized in St. Jerome ECC's three year old program. The skills noted are typical, expected outcomes for children at the conclusion of their three year old program. The concepts have been compiled using the following resources for this specific age/developmental level.

- Faith Development – Loyola Press God Made Me and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Level 1 (infused)
- Safe Environment Curriculum - Three Year Olds- Diocese of St. Petersburg (2005)
- Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers, 5th Edition
- Florida Early Learning & Developmental Standards (2010)
- NAEYC Accreditation & Program Standards (Revised 2006)
- Diocesan Standards & Benchmarks for Early Childhood (Age 3-Gr.2)
- Reading With TLC Lively Letters Phonics Curriculum (1990)
- Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Readiness Curriculum ABC 123 Just for Me! (Pre-K)

FAITH FORMATION

A. Faith Development Concepts

1. Plays, works, and prays happily with others.
2. Develops a sense of awe, wonder, respect, gratitude, and stewardship for God's creation.
3. Develops a sense of community and worship.
4. Knows that God loves, protects, and provides for them.
5. Recognizes that prayer is talking with God.
6. Learns traditional prayers including; the sign of the cross, the Lord's Prayer, bedtime and table prayers.
7. Asks for, listens to, and talks about Bible stories.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT CONCEPTS

A. Spiritual Development

1. Appreciates God's goodness and personal love for them.
2. Respects all people and all forms of life.
3. Develops a sense of self worth.
4. Develops a spirit of prayer and sense of God's presence
5. Develops a sense that God loves all individuals and gives us families composed of members who help each other.
6. Understands that God calls us to forgive those who hurt us.
7. Develops a proper respect for the body as part of God's creation.

B. Behavioral Development

1. Understands that parts of their bodies should be respected.
2. Recognizes that feelings can be managed
3. Learns how friends treat each other with respect.
4. Reports to trusted adults, uncomfortable situations or relationships with others until believed.

C. Cognitive Development

1. Understands the difference between "good" touch and "bad touch".
2. Develops a sense that individuals are loved by important people in their lives.

3. Knows that there are “good” and “bad” choices.
4. Understands that it is alright to say “No”.
5. Learns how to experience forgiveness
6. Knows that parts of their bodies are private and should be respected.
7. Understands that there should be no secrets and recognizes the importance of letting trusted adults know about uncomfortable situations or relationships with others until believed.
8. Knows that families love and care for each other.
9. Appreciates the uniqueness of each person.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Gross Motor Development

1. Shows characteristics of appropriate health and development.
2. Demonstrates increasing control of large muscles.
3. Demonstrates increasing coordination of large muscles.

B. Fine Motor Development

1. Demonstrates increasing control of small muscles.
2. Shows improving eye-hand coordination.
3. Uses various drawing and art tools with developing coordination.

C. Self-Help

1. Actively participates in self-care.
2. Actively takes part in basic health and safety routines.

D. Health

1. Exhibits auditory abilities to support healthy growth and development.
2. Shows characteristics of good oral health.
3. Shows physical needs are met.

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

A. Eagerness/Curiosity

1. Shows eagerness and curiosity as a learner.

B. Persistence

1. Sustains attention for brief periods and finds help when needed.

C. Creativity & Inventiveness

1. Approaches daily activities with creativity and inventiveness.

D. Planning & Reflection

1. Shows initial signs of planning and learning from their experiences.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Pro-social Behaviors

1. Develops positive relationships and interacts comfortably with familiar adults.
2. Interacts with and develops positive relationships with peers.
3. Joins in group activities and experiences within early learning environments.
4. Shows care and concern for others.

B. Self-Regulation

1. Follows simple rules and familiar routines with support.
2. Begins to use materials with increasing care and safety.
3. Adapts to transitions with support.
4. Shows developing ability to solve social problems with support from familiar adults.

C. Self-Concept

1. Shows growing confidence in their abilities.
2. Begins to independently initiate and direct some experiences.

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

A. Listening and Understanding

1. Listens to and understands spoken language.
2. Shows understanding by following simple directions.

B. Communicating and Speaking

1. Shows improving expressive communication skills.
2. Shows increased vocabulary and uses language for many purposes.

C. Early Reading

1. Shows an appreciation and enjoyment of reading.
2. Demonstrates beginning phonological awareness.
3. Shows awareness of letters and symbols.
4. Demonstrates comprehension and responds to stories.

D. Early Writing

1. Begins to use writing, pictures, and play to express ideas.
2. Shows beginning writing skills by making letter-like shapes and scribbles to write.

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

A. Mathematical Thinking

1. Demonstrates interest in mathematical problem solving.
2. Sorts objects into groups by one characteristic.
3. Shows knowledge of numbers and counting.
4. Recognizes some geometric shapes.
5. Shows beginning understanding of spatial relationships and position words.
6. Demonstrates beginning ability to compare and contrast.
7. Engages in activities that explore measurement.

B. Scientific Thinking

1. Uses senses to collect information through observation and exploration.
2. Begins to use simple tools for observing and investigating.
3. Begins to compare objects.

C. Social Studies

1. Begins to recognize and appreciate similarities and differences in people.
2. Begins to understand family characteristics, roles, and functions.
3. Shows awareness of some social roles and jobs that people do.
4. Demonstrates awareness of group rules.
5. Demonstrates awareness of the environment around them.

D. The Arts

1. Uses many different creative art materials to express and explore.
2. Engages in musical experiences.
3. Engages in creative movement and dramatic play.
4. Shows understanding and appreciation of artistic creations or events.