

St. James Episcopal School

A Parish Day School of St. James Episcopal Church

Curriculum Guide

Beginners

Program for 2 year olds



EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD...
MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT

Beginners

Program for 2 year olds

Language Arts

Expressive

- Encourage use of vocabulary, phrases and sentences
- Encourage use of simple verbs
- Introduce sequencing of objects and story characters
- Encourage response to “what,” “when” and “where”

Receptive

- Introduce and develop listening skills
- Develop understanding of daily routine

Reading Readiness

- Introduce left to right progression
- Share books, poems and finger plays with children
- Participate in rhyming games

Motor Skills

- Encourage development of fine motor skills
- Encourage development of gross motor skills

Math

- Introduce numbers 1-10 by rote
- Introduce number concept 1-3
- Introduce relating numbers to self (2 eyes, 1 nose, 5 fingers, etc.)
- Introduce shapes (triangle, rectangle and oval)
- Introduce classification of objects by color, shape and size
- Master 2-7 piece puzzles
- Math your way – Introduce pattering, matching, one-to-one corresponding

Science

- Introduce awareness of the 5 senses
- Introduce nature and world around us
- Introduce seasonal and weather changes
- Develop an awareness of basic concepts: hard/soft, hot/cold, wet/dry, sink/float, movement and special properties of air

Health & Science

- Introduce body parts and uses
- Introduce proper nutrition
- Introduce awareness of good health and safety rules

Social Skills

- Encourage development of self-help skills
- Encourage development of healthy concept of self
- Encourage development of acceptable expression of emotion
- Encourage development of participation of daily routine and group games
- Introduce proper manners

Social Studies

- Introduce concept of ourselves, our families, and the world around us
- Introduce awareness of community helpers
- Introduce awareness of holidays
- Introduce awareness of land and water masses

Art

- Introduce color, shapes and texture
- Introduce primary colors and secondary colors
- Introduce and experience skills with various art media (clay, paint, markers, tissue, etc.)

Physical

Gross Motor

- Jumps with two feet
- Claps to music
- Walks upstairs and downstairs
- Walks on tiptoes
- Walks on line
- Throws a small object 2 feet
- Catches a rolled ball and rolls it forward

Fine Motor

- Paints with large brush
- Tears paper
- Strings five large beads
- Scribbles with markers and crayons
- Rolls, pounds and squeezes clay
- Builds at least a six block tower
- Works with manipulative (pegs, puzzles, stacking ring, etc.)
- Turns single page of book
- Scrunches tissue paper
- Uses one hand consistently

Religion

- Feels accepted, loved and special
- Says grace before snacks and meals
- Participates in Morning Prayer
- Learns Christian values through experience and example
- Participates in special Chapels throughout the year, as deemed appropriate by the teachers

Beginner's Thematic Units

UNITS

INTRODUCED/REINFORCED OBJECTIVES

August & September:

Starting School
All about Me
Under the deep blue sea

Life skills (washing hands, etc.), body parts,
big/little, 1-2-3 concept, shapes, primary colors

October:

How big I grow
Fall season
Halloween

Shapes, touch/smell, size, colors,
hard/soft, wet/dry

November:

Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes
Thanksgiving

Positional words, empty/full, size/shape, colors,
touch/smell, visual discrimination

December:

Winter fun
Christmas

Seasonal changes, snow, winter clothes, identifying
body parts.

January:

Transportation

Positional words, sequencing (first, next, last)
liquid/solid, float/sink

February:

Old McDonald's Farm

Sharing, sequencing, visual and auditory
discrimination

March:

Community helpers
People in our neighborhood

Visual memory, hot/cold, self-esteem, sequencing,
auditory memory

April:

Easter, Spring with the animals
Metamorphosis, The five senses

Weather/seasonal changes, sequencing,
sensory awareness

May:

Circus around the world
Zoo animals

Animal recognition, continents
map/globe recognition