

St. James Episcopal School

A Parish Day School of St. James Episcopal Church

Curriculum Guide

Pre-Kindergarten

Program for 4 year olds



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

Pre-Kindergarten
(4 year old program)

Language Arts

Expressive and Responsive

- Develop listening skills
- Develop vocabulary
- Develop communication skills

Reading Readiness

- Develop left to right progression
- Introduce capital and lowercase letters and their sounds
- Develop top to bottom progression of print
- Enjoy listening to and discussing story books
- Retell stories
- Engage in reading and writing attempts
- Identify labels and signs in their environment
- Participate in rhyming games
- Understand that print carries a message
- Identify letters and make some letter-sound matches
- Use known letters or approximations of letters to represent written language
- Promote literacy-based play activities

Motor Skills

- Develop gross motor skills
- Develop fine motor skills

Writing

- Writes first name
- Draws recognizable pictures
- Dictates stories
- Keeps a journal

Math

- Introduce numbers 1-20
- Develop concept of size and shape
- Develop counting skills
- Develop patterning skills

Science

- Extend development of the five senses
- Develop concepts of weather and seasons
- Explore plants and animals
- Develop appreciation for the world around us

Health & Safety

- Continue awareness of the body
- Continue awareness of proper nutrition
- Continue awareness of good dental hygiene
- Continue awareness of good health and safety roles

Social Skills

- Develop self-help skills
- Develop healthy self-concept
- Develop skills in acceptable expression of emotion
- Understands and participates in daily routines and activities

Social Studies

- Develop awareness of Texas culture and history
- Develop concept of ourselves, our family and the world around us
- Develop awareness of community helpers
- Develop awareness of holidays

Art

- Experience and develop concept of line, color, shape and texture
- Develop skills in modeling, constructing and drawing
- Develop skills with various art media
- Develop recognition of primary and secondary colors

Physical

Gross Motor

- Improve loco motor skills; walking, running, jumping, hopping, galloping, and starting to skip
- Improve coordination
- Improve balance

Fine Motor

- Strings small beads
- Follows a sequence of holes when lacing
- Introduce: lacing, tying shoes
- Works a puzzle of 10 or more shapes
- Uses crayon or pencil with control
- Connects a dotted outline
- Reproduces shapes with models (circle, square, triangle, and rectangle)
- Reproduces numerals with model (0-10)
- Uses scissors with control (straight line and curved line)
- Folds and creases paper two times
- Works from top to bottom in visual motor activities when directed
- Develop self-help skills (zipping, buttoning, snapping)

Spanish

Beginning a language in junior high or high school does not provide much time for learning to communicate effectively. Students who start at this early age have a distinct advantage.

- Practical and sequential application of communication skills using songs, games, storytelling:
 - Greetings and farewells
 - Days of the week
 - Months of the year
 - Some colors, shapes, numbers 1-10
 - Body parts
 - Some commands and expressions, such as sit down, stand up, show me, look listen repeat, help me, be quiet
 - Some clothing, food, animals, holiday vocabulary
 - How to ask and answer some questions, such as "What is your name?" , How are you?"
- Increase student's adaptability to different environments and modes of acting and thinking

- Prepare students for a world in which nations and peoples are increasingly interdependent
- Help students to increase their sensitivity to and understanding of the language, values, customs and traditions of others
- Foster a sense of humanity and friendship

Religion

- Feels accepted, loved, special and included in the world that our god has created
- Says grace before snacks and meals
- Participates in daily Morning Prayer
- Attends Chapel weekly, developing appropriate Chapel behavior
- Recites age-appropriate prayers and hymns
- Retells and acts out some Bible stories
- Learns and exhibits Christian values through experience and example

PRE-K UNITS OF STUDY

September:

Rain forest
I'm Special: Me
Family
Friends
Apples
Teddy Bears

October:

Pets
Fire Safety
Community Helpers
Nighttime animals
Monsters and make believe
Spiders
Five Senses
Transportation

November:

Fall – Leaves
Indians/Pilgrims
Thanksgiving

December:

Christmas
Christmas Story

January:

Winter – weather
Night/day sky
Snow – ice
Snowmen
Good health
Bears
Winter animals – Penguins and Bears

February:

Dinosaurs
Valentines
Healthy habits
Dental health

March:

Birds
Spring
Easter
Nursery rhymes

April:

Farm animals
Insects
Pond life
Zoo
Western – Texas

May:

Seeds – plants
Flowers
Oceans
Mother's Day