

Crabapple Academy

Senior Preschool



Preschoolers are full of energy, eagerness and curiosity. Creativity and imagination begins to blossom in every medium: dramatic play, art, storytelling, science and motor skills. Vocabulary and intellectual skills are expanding rapidly. We begin to see our preschoolers express ideas, solve problems and plan ahead. Our Senior Preschool is designed for older threes who have mastered potty training and are ready for more independence in the classroom.

Our curriculum is designed to challenge, interest and encourage our Senior Preschool children. Each child is taught to begin to think, reason, question and experiment. Positive self-concept is fostered when children make connections themselves, rather than simply hearing and reciting information. Some lessons include the entire group (music and story time for example) but much of the day is spent in small groups of about five children so that the students can work under the close attention of the teacher on fine motor skills, memory exercises, sequencing, patterning, phonics, etc.

Each day we include the following activities: story reading and library time to encourage literacy, phonics and letter recognition songs and games, art creating and appreciation

activities, music, dancing and manipulative activities such as lacing cards (engaging small motor skills) and a math and science activity (such as counting bears or sorting shells).

To encourage group interaction and respect for teachers, peers and ourselves, each day our Senior Preschool begins with Circle Time. This is a time when the teacher guides the children to discuss the weekly theme, the date, the weather that day, etc. Senior Preschool kids then sing along to catchy songs featuring phonics, sign language, Spanish or letter recognition through use of letter flash cards.

Our Senior Preschool plays outdoors or in the gym twice daily. We understand that at this age children need fresh air and plenty of room to run, so the Senior Preschool playground is full of wonderful gross motor activities such as slides, swings, tricycles and a large sand area. We understand that, in order to engage their small motor skills, children may have to get their hands in the sand, dirt and leaves and we encourage healthy outdoor play. If your child comes home with a little dirt on their clothes, we are confident they will also be wearing a smile on their face.

We anticipate and expect your child to learn a great deal in our Senior Preschool program intellectually, socially, emotionally and in gross and fine motor skills. We promise to make our curriculum fun and challenging. We also promise to make the Senior Preschool class atmosphere loving, respectful, kind and comfortable both for you and for your child.

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about."



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Senior Preschool Class Schedule



6:30-8:00 AM	Centers* in classroom
8:00-8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:30-9:00 AM	Clean up, potty, free play
9:00-9:20 AM	Circle Time (Morning Announcements, Show and Tell, Weather, Menu, Calendar, Discussion of Theme)
9:20-9:45 AM	Teacher-directed themed activity and cleanup (art, music, math)
9:45-10:30 AM	Outside Time
10:30-11:15 AM	Organized manipulatives
11:15-11:30 AM	Story time/prepare for lunch
11:30-12:00 PM	Lunch
12:00-12:15 PM	Personal Hygiene (potty, wash hands)
12:15-12:30 PM	Language and literacy time (reading, Spanish, or writing activity)
12:30-2:20 PM	Quiet Time, Nap
2:20-2:45 PM	Wake up, put away mats, potty, wash hands
2:45-3:15 PM	Snack
3:15-3:30 PM	Clean up from snack
3:30-4:15 PM	Outside time
4:15-4:45 PM	Language and literacy time (reading, Spanish, or writing activity)
4:45-5:15 PM	Afternoon Centers
5:15-5:45 PM	Music and Movement
5:45-6:30 PM	Clean up, departure

**During Center times the children can choose from activities developed by the classroom teachers (art, library, music, fine motor, nature and science, etc).*