



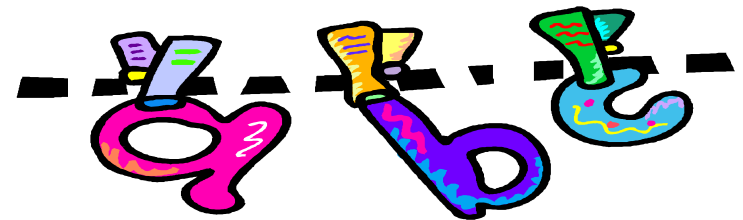
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Trinity Lutheran School Early Child- hood



Trinity Lutheran School exists
to develop well-rounded,
life-time, Christian disciples.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

The central goal of Trinity Lutheran School both in its Day school program and its Early Childhood Program is to provide a **CHRIST CENTERED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**. Within this environment it is our purpose to promote contented, enriched and involved members of the Body of Christ.

Trinity Lutheran School's Early Childhood curriculum focuses on developing the total child. Our goals are on the spiritual, academic, emotional, social and physical needs of each child as an individual. We lay the foundation for later school success by providing a stimulating, challenging and caring environment that allows the child to develop.

Teachers endeavor to know, understand and treat each student as a special and unique God-given individual. In this school community all strive for friendliness, care for one another, trust and respect for each person, service to others, and especially service and witness to Christ.

Parents are the primary educators of their children. The goal of Trinity Lutheran School is to establish an environment for Christian learning, which aids parents in the development of the whole child. It is our goal to establish open and effective lines of communication between home and school, which will allow us to serve each child better.

How does play create learning?

1. Self-directed play in a safe environment teaches decision-making.
2. Negotiating with peers teaches language skills, problem solving, recognition of other's feelings.
3. Discovery learning indulges a child's sense of wonder and independence.

Questions about their play help children set a plan, make decisions, and think at a higher level.

What is the teacher's role in play?

1. A teacher should provide lots of time for play.
2. Create an independence-promoting environment (this means the child can walk in the door and find everything they need for play-or they can ask the teacher to find it).
3. A teacher should provide multi-purpose props.
4. Helping plan the play (ask the children when they arrive what they are going to play today).
5. Providing a safe environment
6. Helping to act out stories.
7. Settle disputes
8. Replace violent play.

Creating self-confidence through a love of learning.

1. Through play children foster their love of trying new things.
2. Fostering this love instills the desire to continue learning.
3. This love - developed early- creates children who desire to learn.

By fostering this desire, children continue to grow confident in their abilities to face new ideas and environments and people, resulting in learning!

Why Do We Play at School?

Play is a very important part of our early childhood program. Whether your child is in our Preschool, Pre-K or Kindergarten program they will spend part of everyday in play.

Play for children is:

1. Symbolic and meaningful. It helps children to act out their problems, worries and fears.
2. Social. It helps children to regulate their emotions.
3. Using and developing imagination.
4. Governed by rules and roles
5. Filled with language.
6. Facilitated by adults.
7. THE WAY THAT CHILDREN LEARN!
8. Often misunderstood.

Importance of Play in Early Childhood Years:

1. Socialization (getting along with others).
2. Discovery Learning (helps children to problem solve).
3. Helps children to develop empathy and care for others.
4. Helps to develop emerging academic skills.

Purpose of play in Early Childhood Years:

1. Language development.
2. Social learning
3. Learning to be part of a group
4. Cognitive development

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

PRESCHOOL: Children registering for Preschool must be three (3) years of age on or before September 1st of the current school year. In addition, they must be potty trained . This includes being able to attend to all bathroom needs on their own.

PREKINDERGARTEN: Children registering for Pre-kindergarten must be four (4) years of age on or before September 1st of the current school year.

KINDERGARTEN: Children registering for Kindergarten must be five (5) years of age on or before September 1st of the current school year.

DOCUMENTATION: If your child has been tested or screened for speech, social or learning difficulties we ask that documentation is provided at the time of enrollment.

Preschool - 3 year olds

Monday/Wednesday - 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

Tuesday/Thursday - 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

Monday/Wednesday - 12:45 to 3:00 p.m.

Optional 3rd Day - Friday - 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.
12:45 to 3:00 p.m.

Prekindergarten - 4 year olds

Monday/ Wednesday/Friday - 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

12:45 to 3:15 p.m.

Monday through Friday - 1:00 to 3:15 p.m.

Kindergarten

Full Day - Monday through Friday - 8:15a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Half-day—Monday through Friday - 8:15 to 11:15 a.m.

INFORMATION NEEDED

EVIDENCE OF BIRTH DATE

You will need to provide your child's birth certificate (original or photo copy) to enter our Early Childhood program.

Non-American children will need to provide a passport or visa.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Illinois law requires that every child be fully immunized against

- DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS, PERTUSSIS (Whooping Cough), POLIO, MEASLES, RUBELLA, MUMPS, CHICKEN POX, HEPATITIS B and HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE TYPE B (Hib) before entering school.
- **The law requires evidence of a physical examination by a qualified physician within 12 months of entering school.**
- **All kindergartners will need to have a dental examination form on file with the school.**

The following immunizations fulfill the necessary requirements as stated by law:

DPT OR TD: 4 or more doses with the last dose qualifying as a booster and received on or after the 4th birthday.

POLIO: 3 or more doses with the last dose qualifying as a booster and received on or after the 4th birthday.

MEASLES/MUMPS/RUBELLA: One dose of the Rubella and Mumps vaccines administered at 12 months of age or older. Two doses of the measles vaccine are required for kindergarten admission, the first dose must have been received on or after 12 months of age, the second dose no less than one month later.

CHICKEN POX: One dose of the Chicken Pox vaccine or proof of having had the disease.

HEPATITIS B: A 3-dose vaccination requirement for children 2 years of age or older.

HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE TYPE B (Hib): One dose for children 2 years of age or older entering a school program below the kindergarten level.

At all times your private physician's recommendations should be followed. If for some reason your child cannot receive these immunizations, please notify the school.

POTTY TRAINING

Wearing a pull-up or plastic pants is NOT considered potty trained.

Due to health, safety, and legal concerns please teach your child to be independent in their bathroom needs.

Bathroom accidents do happen, but if wet or dirty pants occur twice in a week we will ask you to keep your child home until they are accident free.

If your child has a bowel movement in their pants during the school day **an adult will be called** to come and clean them up and help them change into clean, dry clothes.

DRESS

The school council and the faculty of Trinity Lutheran School request all pupils dress in a manner, which befits a Christian who lives to show honor to Christ.

The following are guidelines are for Preschool through kindergarten:

Students may not wear the following:

1. Shirts with wording or pictures of poor taste.
 2. Cowboy boots.
 3. Hats of any kind in the building.
 4. Flip-flops or sandals without backs.
- Tube tops, halter tops, or shirtless bib overalls.

Please do wear:

1. Shorts, tights, or bloomers under dresses.
2. Socks or tights with any type of shoes.
3. Soft soled, non-marking shoes.
4. Comfortable play clothes.

EXTENDED CARE

The purpose of the Trinity Lutheran School Extended Care Program is to assist parents in providing a safe and secure environment for those children, age 5 and older, enrolled in Trinity Lutheran School who must arrive before and/or remain after the regular school day.

Students who arrive between 7:00 am. and 8:00am. are required to go directly to Before School Care which is held in the multi-purpose room.

After school Extended Care is open to all students 5 years of age and older each day from 3:00 pm. to 5:30 pm. A participation fee is charged, which includes snacks.

Specific guidelines and fee schedules for both of these programs are published annually and are available in the school office.

ATTENDANCE

Parents should notify the school when a child will be absent. The attendance line at Trinity may be reached by dialing 829-7513, waiting for the greeting and then pressing 2. A written excuse needs to be turned in when a child returns after an absence. **Students recovering from an illness must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.**

All students who are tardy to class must first report to the school office. After 5 tardies equal a half day absence, while 10 tardies in a quarter will equal a full day absence.

SKILLS WE TEACH

Each skill is taught at the appropriate age level.

SPIRITUAL SKILLS

- Learn to know Jesus
- Learn to know His love
- Learn to share that love in word and example

EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

- Group activities
- Sharing/taking turns
- Helping others
- Getting along with others
- Following directions
- Listening and paying attention

PHYSICAL SKILLS

- Print name
- Copy numbers and letters
- Playing games
- Physical education activities
- Tracing and cutting
- Drawing, coloring and painting

ACADEMIC SKILLS

- Experiences with colors, shapes, and sizes
- Experiences with music and books
- Experiences with the five senses
- Experiences with numbers
- Experiences with the alphabet
- Experiences with the computer

DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

Discipline will be handled in a Christ-like manner:

- Praising good behavior
- Changing the environment
- Redirecting the child
- Quietly removing the child from the group to allow time for reflection on his/her actions. This will be followed up with a discussion on the problem and how to solve it.
- Contacting parents when a concern is ongoing and disruptive to the normal functioning of the classroom.

TYPICAL DAILY ACTIVITIES

KINDERGARTEN

Opening

Religion

Math

Language Arts

P.E./Large motor development

Learning Centers:

Dramatic play, tactile table, art, science, housekeeping, music, reading, writing, blocks/puzzles

Computers

Snacks

Music

Library

PREKINDERGARTEN

Jesus Time

Learning centers:

Housekeeping, blocks/puzzles, computer, art, science, music, tactile table

P.E./large motor development

Snack/Story Time

PRESCHOOL

Jesus Time

P.E. activities/large motor

Snack time

Circle time/stories/music

Sharing time

Learning Centers/Free Play

Art, listening/reading, blocks, science, math, puzzles, dress-up, Housekeeping

ACADEMIC READINESS – WORK HABITS

1. Listens and follows directions.
2. Starts and completes work.
3. Works carefully.
4. Cleans up after work.
5. Works independently.
6. Works without disturbing others.
7. Approaches work eagerly and try to do his best.
8. Recognizes capital and lower case letters of the alphabet.
9. Encourage listening of beginning sounds.
10. Recognize and identify numerals 1 - 10. Practice counting.
11. Recognize and identify basic colors and shapes.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

1. A practical interest in God (what He looks like, where He lives).
2. May confuse God and Jesus. May think of God as two separate Persons.
3. May wonder over God's omnipresence and omnipotence.
4. May become overly fearful that God sees whatever he does.
5. Able to say simple prayer, memorized and spontaneous.

SPECIAL NEEDS

1. Assurance that he is loved and valued.
2. Wise guidance.
3. Opportunity for plenty of activity, and to play with children in his age group, equipment for exercising large muscles.
4. Opportunity to do things for himself, freedom to use and develop his own powers.
5. Background training in group effort, in sharing, and in good work habits that he will need later.
6. Opportunity to learn about his world by seeing and doing things.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

1. Speech should be intelligible.
2. Most children of this age can carry on a conversation if the vocabulary is within their experience.
3. Should use some pronouns correctly.
4. Speech should match the patterns of grammar used by the adults of his family and neighborhood.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Can take turns and shares, but doesn't always want to.
2. Often fears loud noises, the dark, animals, and some people.
3. Notices when another child is angry or sad - more sensitive to the feelings of others.
4. Invents games with simple rules.
5. Understands and respects rules - often asks permission. Seek adult permission.
6. Has a good sense of humor, and enjoys sharing jokes and laughter with adults.
7. Takes part readily in group activities.

ABOUT YOUR 3-YEAR OLD CHILD

CHARACTERISTIC BEHAVIOR

The 3 year old is full of wonder and spends a lot of time watching, observing, and imitating.

Three year olds are interested in perfecting motor skill, and it is common for them to spend the entire morning going down a slide or riding a favorite tricycle.

Three year olds have very little memory for past events and do not understand "yesterday" and "tomorrow" the way adults do.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Develops a taller, thinner, adult-like appearance.
2. Tries to throw, catch, and kick a ball.
3. Can brush teeth, wash hands, and get a drink without help.
4. Eating is serious business - they eat well and talk little. Spilling often.
5. Weight 25—44 pounds Height 34—43 inches

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Talks so that 75 - 80 % of speech is understood.
2. Talks in complete sentences of 3 - 5 words.
3. Enjoys singing and can carry a simple tune.
4. Identifies common colors such as red, blue, and yellow.
5. Can say their age.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Seeks attention and approval of adults.
2. Enjoys making others laugh and being silly.
3. Enjoys playing alone but near other children.
4. Still does not cooperate or share well.
5. Accepts suggestions and follows simple directions.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Learning that Jesus is our best friend.
2. Learning that God is always with us.
3. Learning echo prayers.

ABOUT YOUR 4-YEAR OLD CHILD

CHARACTERISTIC BEHAVIOR

A four year old is best described with the words "energetic" and "imaginative". Often impatient and silly they discover humor and spend a great deal of time being sill and telling you "jokes".

Imagination suddenly becomes greater than life for the four year old, which confuses reality and "make-believe".

Four year olds feel good about the things they can do, show self-confidence, and are willing to try new adventures.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Love for speed (running), climbing, swinging, and riding.
2. Eye-hand coordination continues to develop.
3. Maybe a picky eater. Growth rate slows. Requires less food.
4. Dresses self without much help. Better at "un" doing. (unzip, unsnap, and unbutton).
5. Needs 10 - 12 hours sleep each night.
6. Height: 37—46 inches. Weight: 27—50 pounds.

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Can recognize some letters if taught, may be able to print name.
2. Speaks in fairly complex sentences.
3. Has basic understanding of concepts related to number, size, weight, colors, position, and time.
4. Names 6 to 8 colors and 3 shapes.
5. Asks a lot of questions including ones on birth and death.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Takes turns and shares (most of the time) - changes the rules of a game as it goes.
2. Persistently asks "why?".
3. Begins to understand danger - fearful of dark and monsters.
4. Lies sometimes to protect self and friends, but doesn't truly understand the concept of lying.
5. May name call, tattle freely and feel intense anger and frustration..

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

1. An understanding that God loves everyone.
2. Able to say simple prayers, echoed and memorized.
3. Learning to forgive and say I'm sorry.

ABOUT YOUR KINDERGARTENER

CHARACTERISTIC BEHAVIOR

Five year olds are cheerful, energetic, and enthusiastic. They enjoy planning and spend a great deal of time discussing who will do what.

Five year olds are more sensitive to the needs and feelings of others around them. "Best friends" are very important.

Many five year olds will be going to kindergarten. Be sensitive to the needs of a five year old returning from school. They may want to rest, play alone, be free for a while from adult-directed activity, or catch up with group happenings.

All day kindergarten children need to be given every consideration when they return to your home, as they may be tired, talkative, hungry, or want to share the day's happenings.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Period of slow growth. Body lengthens and hands and feet grow larger.
2. Girls usually about a year ahead of boys in physical development.
3. Good general motor control, though small muscles not so fully developed as large ones.
4. Eye-hand coordination improving
5. Activity level high.
6. Attention span still short, but increasing.
7. Handedness usually established.
8. Weight: 31 - 57 pounds. Height: 39 - 48 inches.