

Lacey Parent Cooperative Preschool Goals and Objectives for the Pre- K Children's Program

Our Philosophy:

Children of this age learn best through exploration, play, and social interaction. We provide a stimulating environment with learning centers set up for art, science discovery, pre-math manipulatives, table games and puzzles, blocks, dramatic play and books. The following objectives are achieved within scope of our philosophy.

Language and Literacy

Goal: children will acquire language and literacy skills through developmentally appropriate activities (understanding what young children are like and creating activities and providing experiences that are in tune with their developmental characteristics.)

Objectives:

1. To recognize their own name in print. Examples of how this might occur:
 - A. When children arrive they find their name on the check in board
 - B. Name cards will be used at circle time for circle activities and jobs
 - C. Sensory activities to learn how to make the letters in their name
 - D. Write a letter in shaving cream, finger paint, trace it, write it in Yogurt, paint it with a brush, use glitter and glue, glue beans on the letters of your name etc.
 - E. Small muscle activities to prepare children for writing skills. (Cutting activities, playdough, gluing etc.)
2. Awareness of print by labeling objects in the school. (door, clock, shelf, blocks, table, etc.)
3. Bookmaking with children building on the child's interest. Parents and teachers dictate the stories of children; children can illustrate their stories. The stories are read back to the children. Children learn that their words have meaning and value. They begin to understand that print is symbolic for their own thoughts. Some children will even sight read from their books.
4. Begin to understand left to right progression. Teachers and parents can show and demonstrate through reading at circle time and other activities when it is naturally appropriate.
5. Rhyming words and sounds. Accomplished through engaging children in fingerplays and nursery rhymes.
6. Folder games and board games that teach children readiness and for math and reading

Mathematics:

Goal: Children will acquire basic knowledge of numbers and beginning math skills through developmentally appropriate activities.

Objectives: Children will:

1. Count and identify numbers (through folder and board games, and other learning materials and cooking projects, as well as through helping children identify number concepts through their explorations and daily interactions with materials at school.)

2. Select and classify, and sort objects on the basis of specific attributes (size, shape, color, more than, less than, the same etc.) Hands on concrete experiences with learning materials and parents asking open ended questions)
3. Identify and draw a square, circle, and triangle (through the use of materials that involve shapes, art activities that involve drawing these shapes, gluing, cutting etc.)
4. Demonstrate color recognition skills (through the interaction with games and materials)
5. Demonstrate simple patterning skills (using materials such as the parquetry blocks and pattern boards, and learning materials at the school.
6. Work on graphing skills as a part of the daily curriculum: weather patterns, favorite dinosaurs, science activities such as the growth of a plant from a seed etc.

Discovery Science

Goal: Children will develop the beginning skills related to the scientific process

Objectives: children will:

1. Discuss observations during science experiments and with parents and the teacher while engaging in the activities at school. (Example: during water play observing what sinks and what floats, while outside observing what kinds of bugs live in the grass or the dirt, what would happen if the bug lived in a jar instead of the grass? etc.)
2. Explore using the 5 senses (by interacting with materials and activities in everyday curriculum)
3. Attempt to predict outcomes (example cooking projects, measurements activities, experiments etc.)
4. Identify body parts (through the use of books, songs, games etc.)

Personal and Social Growth/ Life Skills

Goal: Children will develop the skills necessary to make friends, solve conflicts, and function effectively in-groups and independently.

Objectives: children will:

1. listen to others, share, and take turns (this happens when children are engaged in large group play; also children will participate in "partner time". Children are paired up with another child by randomly selecting a name card from the can to play a learning game. Through circle time activities and VIP days
2. Participate in clean up activities
3. Follow directions (through games, at circle time, snack time, art activity instructions etc.)
4. Care and respect for others
5. Ask for whatever they need
6. Problem solving skills (as demonstrated by the teacher and the parent helpers, also by asking children if they can think of solutions when conflicts arise.

Music

Goal: Increased awareness and appreciation of music

Objectives: children will learn:

1. To participate in group singing
2. Develop social skills by playing cooperative musical games
3. Recognize that music can express moods and feelings
4. Refine listening skills by noticing changes in tempo or pitch
5. Explore cause and effect by experimenting with musical instruments
6. Improve small muscle skills by learning finger plays and playing musical instruments

Large Motor Activities

Goal: To develop large muscle skills such as running climbing, jumping, skipping, hopping, balancing, increase body strength, and coordination.

Objectives: children will learn

1. Coordinated eye hand movements by catching, throwing, woodworking, sidewalk chalk, using material in the sandbox such as shovels, buckets etc.
2. Develop muscle skills through the use of outdoor equipment and organized games
3. Increase spatial awareness through swinging, climbing, up, down, over, under, in, out etc.
4. Demonstrate persistence and endurance through playing group games, pumping on a swing, hammering nails, riding tricycles etc.
5. Enhance and develop social skills as they share equipment and play games