

LITERACY

Through Self Expression we:

- *Act out stories from our imaginations
- *Express fantasy through dramatic play
- *Work on our ability to draw and write about our lives
- *Learn to find our voices and take risks through pretend play

In Reading we:

- *Enjoy ongoing exposure to different genres of books
- *Engage in pre-reading activities, such as pretending to read
- *Begin to learn how to hold the book correctly
- *Listen to stories in small and whole groups
- *Act out stories as a means of solidifying understanding and sequencing
- *Have group discussions about books we read together
- *Predict what will happen next in a story
- *Start to remember the events of a story in sequence (beginning, middle and end)
- *Identify elements of a book, such as cover, author, illustrator

We Explore Phonics by:

- *Exploring sounds and letters of the alphabet
- *Learning about our names as our first sight words
- *Creating rhyme awareness and practice
- *Increasing our verbal memory with songs and poetry

In Writing we:

- *Use marks and letters to represent writing
- *Explore some letters, especially those in our own names
- *Use art as a form of written communication (create and tell)
- *Use materials to encourage fine motor development
- *Create books

St. Joseph Camp Springs Pre-Kindergarten Program

The Pre-K program at St. Joseph Camp Springs School grows out of our mission to strengthen the child's individual, intellectual, physical, spiritual and emotional growth through love and support. We feel committed to preparing children for success at a very young age, as their experiences here will be the foundation for all future learning. At St. Joseph Camp Springs School, we view success as happiness, a love of learning, a feeling of one's self worth, and the ability to thrive in multiple situations.

In order to best honor and prepare our children in the Pre-K program, we attend to the joyful elements of exploration as a guide to growth; we recognize children's interests, expand their knowledge around subject matter meaningful to them, and we introduce children to ideas and experiences that we feel may heighten their engagement in their own learning.

MATH

To learn about numbers in Math we:

- *Count! Counting is the cornerstone of how we become more familiar with numbers
- *Use mathematical tools to help us practice counting
- *Work toward counting accurately with one to one correspondence
- *Learn to recognize numerals
- *Cultivate number sense by understanding quantities that are greater, less than, or equal to one another
- *Learn about number sequence through counting and sorting materials or manipulatives
- *Use mathematical language when learning about math

In Geometry we:

- *Sort objects by attributes such as color, shape, and size
- *Learn about spatial relationships by working with shapes, colored blocks, and everyday items
- *Use mathematical language to name proper shapes
- *Learn to recognize geometric shapes throughout our classroom and greater learning community
- *Find geometric shapes in nature
- *Begin to look at how fractional parts make up the whole
- *Build, build, build with blocks of all shapes and sizes
- *Identify sets and pairs

To learn about Quantities we:

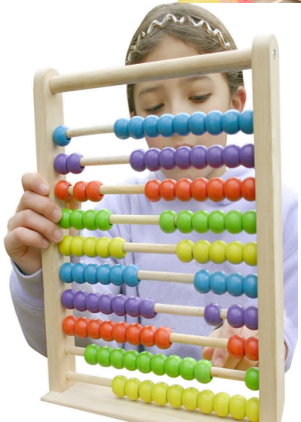
- *Count!
- *Do basic graphing of meaningful events and items in our lives
- *Estimate proper weights and measurements
- *Make predictions

SCIENCE



To learn Science Skills we:

- *Learn what observing feels and looks like
- *Explore the world around us
- *Have the opportunity to practice answering open-ended questions
- *Make hypotheses when investigating new concepts or explorations
- *Learn to use science tools



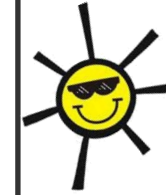
SELF DISCIPLINE

To learn about Empathic Listening and Kindness we:

- *Learn to be a part of a larger group and how we fit into that dynamic
- *Learn about problem solving and conflict resolution through conversation, modeling and practice
- *Practice identifying, naming, and managing our emotions
- *Use words to express our emotions
- *Learn about the consequences of our choices and actions
- *Begin to develop a vocabulary to identify our needs and feelings

To Foster Self-Expression we:

- *Learn and practice sharing information verbally
- *Express our needs and wants using simple sentences
- *Have time to participate verbally and through movement in whole and small group settings
- *Learn to listen to the ideas of others and to take turns when speaking
- *Express ourselves in writing through dictation of our feelings, ideas, and stories
- *Recount rhyming songs, short poems,



St. Joseph
Camp Springs

Pre-Kindergarten
Ages 3 & 4



Our Guiding Statements:

- Children at play are children who are learning
- Intentional lesson planning centered on student interests leads to meaningful connections and a greater love of learning
- Experiences where children are free to express themselves every day in a child centered manner are critical
- Play is the precursor to the executive functions which are the root of academic success throughout life
- Playing is a joyful, indispensable part of childhood