

**MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to offer a Christian atmosphere to young children that is rich with understanding, encouragement and educational opportunities.**

## **PHILOSOPHY**

Children are welcomed into a loving and caring environment that is healthy and safe. **Creative Curriculum** is implemented through developmentally, age appropriate practices and regular assessments to meet the needs of every child and reflect the goals and objectives of the curriculum. Teachers follow the **Florida Standards** and individual assessments to prepare and carry out lesson plans. Children will engage in activities that promote learning and development in the areas of **social, emotional, physical, language, cognitive and spiritual**. Teachers will implement techniques of **Positive Behavior Support** to help support both a sense of individual worth and being part of a community while building a child's self-concept and stimulating positive decision making. The children will learn about prayer and faith through spiritual lessons and experiences.

**CURRICULUM** :Our curriculum is CREATIVE AND THEME BASED. We provide a variety of Learning Centers the children can choose from.(Block-Transportation, Dramatics-Housekeeping, Library, Science, Manipulatives, Music, Arts – Crafts and Writing). Children can select their own activities during the day from age appropriate materials that are available. We offer open-ended activities that are both child-initiated and teacher-directed. Throughout the day, children have the opportunity to work individually or in large or small groups. The schedule provides for alternating quiet and active play. We select theme topics each month that we use as a guideline for lesson planning, but we also use the **Emergent Curriculum** concept of developing a lesson plan around a child's idea, question, or interest. Creativity and flexibility in the schedule give the children many opportunities to be a part of the activity that most interests them. The **Creative Curriculum** outlines 38 different developmental areas that the teachers observe in children. Each Sept., Jan. and April the teachers complete a screening tool on each child in their care.

**COMMUNICATION:** Communication is important. We provide a **teacher mailbox** in each classroom for comments, questions and suggestions. We use **verbal and written communication** on a regular basis to inform parents about their child's day at school. We do developmental screenings on each child, three times a year, and have a **teacher/parent conference** at least twice a year. Parents will sign off on information given to them at each conference. If you would like to specifically observe your child's interaction in the classroom, we can schedule a time for you to participate in a day's activities. Please discuss this with your child's teacher.

## **PARENT-PARTICIPATION**

Parents are always welcome to attend **field trips** and participate in special events and fund raisers.

Two parents serve on our **Pre-school Board** for a 2-year term. Are you interested in serving?

Parent input on **program planning** is always welcome. We appreciate all ideas and suggestions. A written or verbal comment to a board member, teacher or the Director will be discussed at the monthly pre-school board meetings. Yearly **parent surveys** give parents the opportunity to voice concerns and ideas to benefit the program.

**Volunteers** in the classroom are welcome, although it is our experience, that volunteering in your own child's classroom can sometimes inhibit your child's normal classroom activity. Your child may tend to concentrate too much on the fact that you are sharing your time with other children and your child may miss out on opportunities to interact as usual. Parents interested in volunteering in any area of the Center, can speak with the Director about days and times that are available.

**Parenting classes, Bible studies** and other opportunities for growth are offered each school year.

We have many books, brochures, videos and informative articles available to parents on a wide variety of topics. These materials are loaned, for a 2 week period, to any parent.