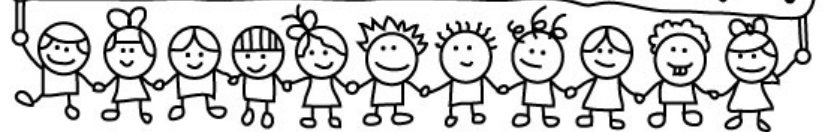




HE Parks Preschool

Parent Orientation
2019-2020 School Year

LEARN. PLAY. GROW.



 **hoffman estates** park district 847-885-7500



Staff Introductions

Early Childhood Program Manager: Natalie Wood

Triphahn Center:

Room 102: Mrs. Stoll & Mrs. Wendland
M-Th a.m. 4's, M-F a.m. 4's & M, T, Th p.m. 3's

Room 103: Ms. Carrie
MWF a.m. 3's & T,Th a.m. 3's

Room 104: Ms. Colleen & Ms. Joyce
MWF a.m. 4's & T,Th a.m. 4's & M, T, Th p.m.4's

Willow Rec Center:

Room 3: Ms. Asiya & Ms. Dilnaaz
M-Th a.m. 4's and M-F a.m. 4's
Ms. Karen & Ms. Rachel
M, W, Th p.m. 4's

Room 4: Ms. Rachel & Ms. Karen
M, W, Th a.m. 3's and T, Th a.m. 3's



2019-2020 Calendar

1st day of school:
Monday, Aug. 19 or Tuesday, Aug. 20

School Calendar was mailed in late July.
Calendar also posted on Preschool page
of website: heparks.org
- Holidays, Winter/Spring Break, Picture Day

Severe Weather Days: TC - Dist 54, WRC - Dist 15

Automatic Preschool Payments: Aug 15 - March 15 (8)



Teacher/Child Orientations

Preschool PREP Day!

Wednesday, Aug 14

15 minute timeslot

- Meet the teachers
- Turn in paperwork
- School supply drop-off

1st Day of School

3 year olds:

Last Name A-L: attend 1st hour

Last Name M-Z: attend 2nd hour

Parent stays with child for the hour.

4 year olds:

- Parent stays with the child for the first 20 minutes.

- Child attends rest of class without parent.



Your High Quality Preschool!

DCFS state-licensed

IL Dept. of Children & Family Services

- Not required for park districts
- Random, unannounced visits
- Review children's files
- Review staff files
- Review staff qualifications
- Observe classroom
- Document any safety hazards



Preschool Philosophy

The Hoffman Estates Park District preschool program promotes child development which supports academic excellence. Developmentally-appropriate instruction is provided in an environment that values cultural diversity and nurtures a love of learning.

Our preschool program focuses on the development of the whole child. Our play-based curriculum incorporates a variety of learning opportunities designed to develop problem solving, creativity, self-expression, and academic skills. Children participate in a variety of activities everyday, including art, music, creative movement, dramatic play, math, science, block play, group discussions and outdoor play.

Our qualified teachers combine this diverse curriculum through a healthy balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed learning which develops a child's physical, social, language, cognitive and creative skills. And through encouragement, understanding and respect, we provide a positive, safe and nurturing atmosphere for learning.

Our program supports our community. Children learn about our community through field trips and community events. We believe that children learn best when parents and teachers work together and support each other, therefore, we encourage the active involvement of parents.



The Way Children Learn...

Developmentally Appropriate Instruction

- Learning through Play
- Hands on learning
- Learning centers
- Balance of child initiated & teacher directed activities



Developing the Whole Child

4 Major Developmental Areas:



Social-Emotional Development

- regulating emotions/behaviors
- sustain positive relationships
- participate cooperatively in group situations



Language Development

- listening and understanding language
- using language to express needs
- using conversational and communication skills




Cognitive Development

- Demonstrate a positive approach to learning
- Remember and connect experiences
- Use classification skills
- Use symbols and images



Physical Development

- Demonstrate traveling skills
 - Demonstrate balancing skills
 - Demonstrate gross motor manipulative skills
 - Demonstrate fine motor strength and coordination
- 



Curriculum

Creative Curriculum GOLD

9 areas of developmental learning:

4 areas of development:

- Social-Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Language Development
- Cognitive Development

5 areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Arts
- * English Language Acquisition



IL Early Learning Standards

State standards on what should be taught in early childhood.



Classroom Activities



Classroom Activities include:

- Language: story time, group discussions, letter recognition & writing
- Art: art activities - process art, free art table
- Music: songs & finger plays
- Math: manipulatives, table activities
- Science: experiments & sensory play
- Movement: gym, playground
- Dramatic Play: social interaction, problem solving
- Blocks & Building



Literacy & Language Curriculum

Two predictors of early reading success =

1. Alphabet recognition
2. Phonemic awareness

Being able to say the names of the letters is not the same as "knowing" the letters. In order to read, children must know the letters out of sequence and learn the most frequent sound that is attached to the letter.

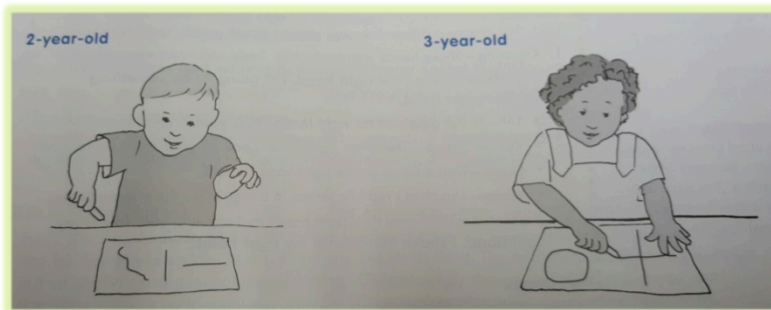


Letter Learning

Children need opportunities to:

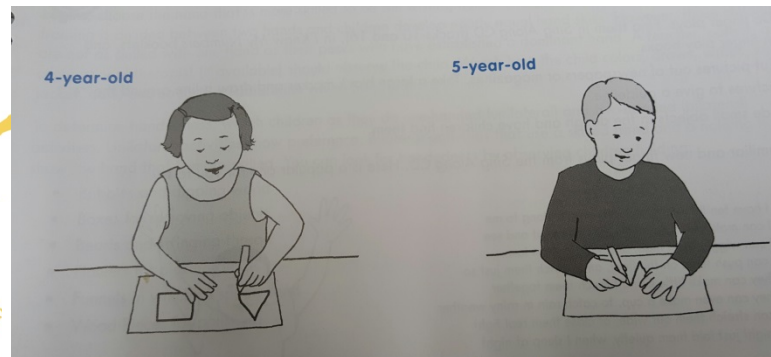
- Hear the sounds
- See the letters being used in their environment
- Write the letters - while saying the letter name
- Make letter books

Writing Readiness



2 year old: All fingers palm grip, elbow high & no use of helper hand. Scribbles

3 year old: All fingers palm grip, elbow lower, starting to use helper hand. Draws lines.



4 year old: Thumb and 1-2 fingers grip, helper hand holds paper. Draws lines and circles.

5 year old: Mature grip, helper hand, writes & draws.



Handwriting Without Tears

Letter Tracing & Writing

3's: Letter/sound recognition

4's: Writing Journal

Order of letter learning/writing

L F E H T I

U C O Q G S J D P B

R K A M N V W X Y Z

Our Art is PROCESS Art!

It's about the "process" of the art experience,
not about the end product.





Assessment Reports

Assessment Timeline:

September: **Ages & Stages**

- Parents complete this initial screening.

November: **First Initial Progress Report**

- Highlights child's adjustment to school

January: **First Formal Assessment Report**

- Reviewed at Parent-teacher conference

May: **Second Formal Assessment Report**



A typical day in preschool...

1. Doors open, children hang belongings in cubby & wash hands **
2. Brief Learning Center Exploration
3. Circle Time
4. Learning Centers Exploration
(Theme Based Curriculum / Topic)
5. Clean Up
6. Music & Story Time
7. Large motor play outside or in gym
8. Dismissal

*** We strongly encourage our children to develop their self-help skills during this part of the day. Children will be encouraged to hang up their coat and bag and wash their hands without parent assistance.*



Communication

1. "Daily Talk" - at dismissal time
2. Monthly e-newsletters
3. Reminder emails from Program Manager

**** Make sure we have your correct email address!**

4. HE Parks Website

*** Parents are welcome to speak to the teachers anytime with any questions.***



Parent Volunteers

- 1) Classroom Volunteer
- 2) Field Trip Chaperones
- 3) Class Parties / Picnics
- 4) Sharing Family customs/traditions
- 5) Translators



POLICIES

1) Potty Trained

- No pull-ups or diapers allowed
- Children must be able to take care of bathroom needs themselves
- Dress children in easily accessible clothing.



POLICIES

2) Drop Off & Pick Up

- A parent/caregiver must sign-in their child at drop-off.
- Anyone is able to drop-off the child.
- At pick-up, only those with a Pick-Up Card may pick-up the child.
 - Must show pick-up card & ID.
 - Without a card, the teacher will call the parent for approval.



POLICIES

3) DCFS Paperwork

A DCFS file must be complete for each child prior to beginning school.

- Emergency Forms
- Physical / Health Exam Form
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Discipline form
- Authorization sheet



POLICIES

4) Sickness & Absences

- Please keep your child home if s/he is sick.
- If your child has contagious disease, you must contact Program Manager to report.
- You do not need to call into school if your child will not be at school.
- If you are taking an extended vacation, please do let the teachers know.



POLICIES

5) Snacks

- All snacks served must be nut free.
- Snacks also must be store-bought, pre-packaged and whole.
- Milk is now required to be offered when there is not a dairy option.
- Snacks must contain 2 out of the 4 meal components: fruit, veggie, grain, dairy.
- Please see your child's teachers for their snack menu policy.

**** Birthdays: Non-edible treat is preferred.**



POLICIES

6) Discipline

Positive Discipline & Guidance

- We teach the children how to behave.
 - Problem solving
 - Self control
 - Negotiation
 - Assuming responsibility for their actions



Field Trips

Some trips parents bring to location.
Other trips the class takes the HE Parks Bus.

All trips have been rolled into the tuition fee.

Example of field trips:

Library, Nature Center,
Pumpkin Farm, Fire Station



Fundraisers

All room materials & family events are supported solely by fundraising dollars.

Savers Donation Drive

Picture Sales

Yankee Candle Fundraiser



What You Can Do!

READ to them!

PLAY with them!

TALK to them!

SING with them!