



WHY CHOOSE SMARTY PANTS PRESCHOOL?

WHY PRESCHOOL MATTERS

Preschool is far more than a stepping stone. It is the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Between birth and age six, a child's brain develops at an incredible rate, making early childhood the most important time to nurture social, emotional, and academic growth.

At **Smarty Pants Preschool**, we believe these early years should be intentional, joyful, and developmentally rich. Our thoughtfully designed program supports the whole child through engaging, age-appropriate learning experiences that build confidence, curiosity, cooperation, and early academic skills.

For more than **25 years**, we have been proud to partner with families during this critical stage of development. Our graduates leave prepared for kindergarten with strong social skills, independence, and a genuine love of learning. We understand that choosing a preschool is a big decision. While larger centers may work for some families, many are drawn to the personalized attention and close-knit community of a small private preschool. At Smarty Pants, children are known, supported, and celebrated every day.

We would be honored to be part of your child's early learning journey.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PRESCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD

Choosing the right preschool is an important decision, and we understand that families often explore multiple options. Some families consider FCPS Pre-K programs (if their child will be four years old by September 1st). These programs typically serve 20 students with one teacher and one instructional assistant and are often based on income eligibility or a peer role model for children with identified disabilities (IEP). While this can be a great option for some families, others are looking for a more personalized, relationship-based experience. At **Smarty Pants Preschool**, we offer a small, private preschool program designed to support the whole child in a nurturing, community-centered environment.

WHY FAMILIES CHOOSE SMARTY PANTS PRESCHOOL

- Small Class Sizes and Individualized Attention - Our small class sizes allow teachers to truly know each child and provide individualized support. Children build strong relationships with consistent caregivers, feel secure in their environment, and gain confidence as learners.
- Experienced, Qualified, and Consistent Teachers - Smarty Pants Preschool is proud to employ highly qualified and experienced early childhood educators who are passionate about teaching children ages 2–5. Our teachers bring energy and creativity to core academics while supporting growth in communication, independence, creativity, problem-solving, and social cognition. We invest in ongoing professional development so our teachers stay current with the latest research and best practices in early childhood education. This commitment ensures a high-quality, consistent learning experience for every child.
- Focus on Social-Emotional Learning - Early education is about much more than academics. Values such as empathy, kindness, respect, and resilience are woven into our daily routines and curriculum. Children learn to manage emotions, build positive relationships, set goals, and make responsible decisions. Each child's social and emotional needs are supported through individualized instruction and thoughtfully planned group experiences.
- Nature-Inspired Learning - Nature is an integral part of the Smarty Pants experience. Daily outdoor play and nature-based learning encourage curiosity, creativity, and a deep connection to the natural world. Our campus features a large fenced playground with a mud kitchen, fairy garden, sandbox, outdoor music station, and more, as well as a beautiful wooded nature trail with an active stream just steps from the school. Children explore forests, meadows, gardens, and streams throughout the year, using hands-on experiences to support learning in science, math, and engineering. We believe nature-based learning strengthens academic performance, critical thinking, and overall well-being.
- Strong Family Partnerships - Smarty Pants Preschool values close collaboration between teachers, administration, and families. Open communication and shared support create a strong sense of community that often lasts long after graduation. Many former students and families continue to visit, reflecting the meaningful relationships built here.
- Happy Teachers and Low Turnover - Our teachers are given autonomy, support, and time to build meaningful connections with their students. This positive work culture leads to happier teachers, lower turnover, and a consistent classroom experience where educators truly know the children and families they serve.
- Supporting the Local Community - As a small, privately owned preschool, Smarty Pants supports local families and jobs while offering a highly personalized experience. Families benefit from timely communication, strong relationships, and staff who are deeply invested in each child's success.

Choosing **Smarty Pants Preschool** means choosing a warm, intentional, and enriching early learning experience that prepares children not only for kindergarten, but for a lifetime of learning.