

ERNA KROUCH PRESCHOOL

3's & Pre-K CURRICULUM GOALS

Our curriculum is centered around a series of themes that build upon or reinforce each other. The topics are chosen to enrich a child's self awareness of others, create an appreciation of diversity, and to stimulate each child's natural curiosity and excitement as the social, botanical, biological and physical world is explored. Children participate in hands-on experiments, lessons, creative drama, creative movement, music, and art activities related to the topics, and geared appropriately to their developmental ages and stages.

Language skills and vocabulary are increased through lessons, labeling, and discussion. Children are encouraged to bring items from home that they can present and explain in their own words. Interest in books is encouraged and children may act out stories or create their own books. Reading readiness tasks, word boxes, beginning letter sounds, and rhyming word games are presented to stimulate each child's own eagerness to read and write.

Math concepts are introduced as children sort, classify by shape and size, count objects, perform simple addition and subtraction manipulations through math games, flannel board math activities, and measure or graph material found in their own environment.

Large muscle coordination is developed as children participate in creative movement, P.E. activities, and outside play. Fine motor, and hand/eye skills are honed using table manipulatives and puzzles.

Social interaction and cooperative play is encouraged as children start to role play, take turns, or work on projects together. They also learn to function independently and as part of a group, follow directions, and respect the rights of others.

Through art, children explore media, gain sensory and creative experiences, and master the use of tools, such as crayons, scissors, hole punches, and paint brushes.

Children have opportunities for singing and vocal development, movement, listening, exploring musical instruments, creating, and exploring musical concepts. Through musical games, dance, and activities which stress the steady beat, children develop their motor skills and basic timing. Playing musical instruments contributes to the development of fine motor skills, and listening to music enhances auditory perception and discrimination.

Learning Without Tears is the curriculum used for teaching handwriting and letter recognition. The children enjoy it because they use manipulatives to learn their letters and the correct formations.

SAMPLE THEMES AND TOPICS

SELF AWARENESS -	All About Me, Getting Acquainted, I Am Special Health, Safety and Nutrition The Senses, Feelings, Self-Concepts; Manners
SOCIAL STUDIES -	All Kinds of People and Children of the World, Native Americans of the Woodlands and Plains; Oklahoma Land Run Day Surprises and Celebrations World Geography—Oceans, Continents, States Communities and Careers
PHYSICAL WORLD -	Colors – Primary, Secondary (mixing); Light – Prisms Shape and Size; Music Makers Magnets; Weights and Measures Things that Go/Move - Cars, Buses, Trucks, Trains, Planes Machines and Tools, Gears and Levers Water and Air (Wind), Sink/Float, Change of State Temperature and Weather – Seasons Snow – crystals; Crystals – rocks Rocks and Volcanoes Fossils and Dinosaurs World and Space Trees – Seasonal Changes, Uses for wood products; Going Green Fruit and Seeds – Harvest, Dispersal, Planting and Growing Grass Family – uses, weaving Flowers

LIVING WORLD -

Butterflies, Insects/Bugs, Ants, Bees, Centipedes, Millipedes

Zoo – Animals in the woodlands, rainforest, grassland

Bears and Hibernation

Nocturnal Animals

Marsupials

Fish – Life in the Pond; Life in the Ocean

Reptiles and Amphibians

Farm, Pets, Chicks, Birds