



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOLS

Hope Lutheran School is committed to providing quality academic instruction; equipping students for life-long learning; recognizing each child's unique abilities; and nurturing each child in body, mind, and spirit in a community that shares and lives the Christian faith.

Curriculum Outline – Preschool (3 year olds)

Spiritual Development:

- Teachers model and may verbally share their faith in Jesus.
- Children hear and learn praise and worship songs and finger plays.
- Children may learn simple Bible verses.
- Children participate in community service projects such as collecting items for local charities, baking, singing for our Church congregation or senior center.
- Children are introduced to the Bible as God's Word, Jesus as our Savior and teachers and students discuss how Bible stories relate to our lives today.
- Children are introduced to and practice daily prayer.

Social and Emotional Development:

- Teachers provide a warm friendly environment conducive to the total development of happy young children.
- Teachers set clear limits and apply them consistently.
- Teachers encourage children to become self reliant in routine activities.
- Teachers encourage and facilitate for children using words to solve problems when dealing with emotions of themselves or others.
- Teachers are aware, inclusive and respectful of children, families and their home culture.
- Appropriate classroom and eating manners are explained, modeled and encouraged.
- Large and small group activities and "center time" facilitate appropriate verbal interactions and interpersonal development, from solitary play to cooperative play.

Cognitive Development:

Social Studies:

- Teachers include age appropriate learning about our community, its helpers, our country and our planet

Science:

- Exploration of: Seasons, gardening, senses, body and nutrition, properties of materials, critters of the world, weather, our earth and it's resources, light-color-reflection, and magnets.

Math:

- A wide variety of materials for open-ended and intentional exploration of shapes, size, pattern, color, counting, building, problem solving, sorting, ordering and number recognition are provided daily. Cooking projects are offered at intervals.

Literacy:

- Teachers provide a print-rich environment.
- Writing materials are available daily for open-ended use at writing centers (book making, signs, list making etc.).
- The teacher offers a wide range of children's non-fiction and fiction literature at story time including rhymes and poetry.
- Teachers use open-ended questions and supply needed vocabulary for children during interactions.
- Teachers listen to children's ideas with respect.
- Classroom library and listening center are available.
- Name recognition is guided throughout the year.
- Students are invited to dictate their own stories with their artwork.
- Field trips may include a play or puppet theater production.
- Dramatic play center encourages making of literature-based props.

Fine Arts development:

- Children are given open-ended and intentional opportunities daily to produce work using a wide variety of media as follows: Papers, manipulative materials, crayon, charcoal, chalk, paints, paint tools, collage & constructions, scissors, earth materials
- Emphasis is placed on the process of discovery and exploration versus the end product.
- Special projects may be included such as art appreciation and emulation of famous artists technique, paper mache' and/or woodworking.
- Children enjoy hearing a wide variety of music.
- Children hear, learn and sing songs and finger plays
- Children use a variety of instruments to create sensitivity to rhythm and beat.
- Children are invited to participate in creative dance and drama.

Gross and fine motor development:

- Children are provided open-ended and intentional opportunities to achieve widely held expectations in gross motor development such as: hopping, balancing, ball skills, body & space awareness, perception, running, chasing, changing direction, climbing, game playing, dance & crawling.
- Children have use of a wide range of equipment such as balls, balance beam, climbing structures, mats, trikes, tunnels, scooters etc.
- Children are provided daily open-ended and intentional activities and materials to develop age appropriate fine motor skills such as: manipulatives, stringing beads, painting, pouring, pegboards, puzzles, building, play dough, proper use of and practice with writing instruments and scissors, fastening garments.