

FOUR's Class

Our FOUR's class offers many opportunities for children to grow and learn academically, socially, physically, and spiritually. Our faith-based preschool program for FOUR's follows a number of Bible stories to teach children that God is all-powerful, good & trustworthy.

We also focus on a letter a week to provide age-appropriate academic instruction in preparation for future school success.

We use a hands-on approach to provide positive learning experiences by teaching a monthly or bi-weekly theme.

Each room has scheduled times for group play, one on one pull out during center times, art, sensory experiences, music movement, science, imaginative play, etc.

We focus on language development through reading aloud stories, engaging with the students during free play, conversational lunchtime, and special times for children to pray together and share about themselves.

The children are also given individual classroom responsibilities to teach independence and care of the school.

Curricular decisions are closely linked to and are shaped by on-going assessments and observations made by the director and staff. Such decisions are based on the fundamental concepts of the curriculum being age-appropriate, individually appropriate, and culturally relevant. We use guidelines and curriculum based on theory and research in child development, family studies, and early childhood education.

Program Goals

We expect every student who enters our program to advance from his/her current skill level academically, socially, behaviorally, and physically. It is our hope that all students in our program will leave with the following skills or lessons:

- Our students will learn that God loves them and that they can talk to God anytime, anywhere. They will learn about God through His Word and stories from the Bible.
- Our students will learn how to follow basic routines and class rules.
- Our students will learn how to clean up after themselves.
- Our students will learn to be confident and ready to separate from their parent.
- Our students will practice and improve on sharing materials and toys with other students.
- Our students will practice and improve in their fine motor skills, gross motor skills, listening skills and communication skills.

In addition to the overall program goals, our FOUR's class focuses on the following skills:

- Reviewing and continuing to build upon skills from previous classes.
- Being able to state first and last name.
- Using appropriate 3 finger grasp when using pencil and scissors.
- Knowing all the letters in their first name.
- Using fingers to accurately touch count items to 10.
- Being able to rhyme words.
- Being able to retell simple stories in sequence.
- Knowing concepts of reading such as front to back, flow of book, which page comes first and reading left to right.
- Being able to write name w/ 1st letter capital and all other lower case and most of the letters in the alphabet.

Below is a sample schedule of a FOUR's classroom. This can vary by teacher and year depending on the teaching style and classroom dynamics.

0920-0930	Arrival
0930-1000	Morning Meeting and Prayer
1000-1030	Learning Time
1030-1100	Craft/Hands-on Activity
1100-1130	Recess – outside playtime or downstairs
1130-1200	Lunch
1200-1230	Music/Storytime (Dismissal for Regular FOUR's)