

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The First Presbyterian Preschool strives to provide an environment in which a child explores his or her own capabilities and that will develop a positive self-image that will further their desire to learn and appreciate their expanding world. We facilitate the child's natural curiosity and wonder about God's world through play.

We believe play is one of the most important parts of the learning environment. Play is instrumental in developing all phases of growth: social, emotional, physical and cognitive. We believe play is a child's work; an area where he or she can develop self-expression, concentration, self control and cooperation.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Our teachers have Bachelor's and/or Master's degrees, extensive training in Early Childhood and development, CPR and First Aid certification. Their Christian commitment and ability to nurture young children is highly valued. Hope College students are also a great addition to your child's classroom experience.

MEMBERSHIP and RESPONSIBILITIES

We believe a cooperative partnership between family and school is essential for each child to maximize their potential. As cooperative members, our parents and/or guardians are expected to:

- *Assist the teacher & provide a healthy snack at preschool 4-5 days per semester
- *Participate as a committee member for special events
- *Attend orientation and conferences

(A non-cooperative option is available)

FOUR-YEAR-OLD-CLASSES

Two classes for four year olds
(Children must be 4 by Sept.1)

- *M/W/F AM 9:15-11:30
- *M/W/F PM 12:30-2:45

ENRICHMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ Gym Days
- ✓ Music and Movement
- ✓ Field Trips
- ✓ Art Projects
- ✓ Father's Night
- ✓ Mother's Day Tea
- ✓ Family Night



First Presbyterian Preschool

Program for 4's and 5's

659 State Street
Holland, Michigan 49423
616.392.9022
www.fppreschool.org

First Presbyterian Preschool is licensed by
the State of Michigan Department
of Human Services.



PROGRAM

Our preschool allows students to be curious, improve motor skills, create, explore, and develop skills that benefit their social and cognitive development. We provide a balance of structured and unstructured activities. These activities change daily as they relate to the current theme(s). During daily free play, students select activities from a variety of planned projects. Our goal is to engage active learners with developmentally appropriate activities. We introduce them to key concepts appropriate for kindergarten readiness. Our curriculum enables each child to independently and cooperatively develop intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically. The four year old program continues to help children adjust to a school routine. The classroom teacher provides a balanced approach to learning and playing and aims to meet the needs of each individual child.

PRESCHOOL OBJECTIVES

The classroom setting and daily routine will provide children with experiences in the following areas:

Social/Emotional Development

- ✓ make & express choices, plans, and decisions, taking turns
- ✓ participate in group routines
- ✓ attend and follow directions individually and in groups
- ✓ interact with other children and adults
- ✓ take care of own needs
- ✓ separate from parent
- ✓ make good use of choice time
- ✓ express feelings in words

Fine Motor Skills

- ✓ control small muscles needed for functional use of pencils, crayons, scissors, painting, buttons, etc.
- ✓ sensory/tactile awareness

Gross Motor Skills

- ✓ move in locomotive ways (running, jumping, hopping, marching, climbing)
- ✓ move in rhythmic pattern and act upon movement directions
- ✓ understand spatial awareness of self and others

Language Development

- ✓ engage in conversation with others, asks questions
- ✓ express oneself and understand others
- ✓ participate in songs, finger plays and poems
- ✓ answer simple questions
- ✓ write stories as a group

Creative Play

- ✓ role play
- ✓ make models out of blocks, Play-doh and other materials
- ✓ draw, paint, and use varied materials
- ✓ outdoor play time

Math Readiness

- ✓ name and identify basic shapes
- ✓ sort and match objects
- ✓ recognize and copy patterns
- ✓ number recognition and rote counting
- ✓ develop awareness of time: yesterday, today, tomorrow
- ✓ explore, sort, and compare manipulatives

Reading Readiness

- ✓ recognize the difference between letters and numbers
- ✓ rhyming words, introduce concepts about print, Zoo-phonics.
- ✓ opposites, days of week, months of year
- ✓ recognize and write own name
- ✓ show an interest in books/stories
- ✓ explore and gather information

Science

- ✓ name and identify basic colors
- ✓ expand awareness of God's world
- ✓ explore weather and seasons
- ✓ build awareness of five senses
- ✓ discuss good health habits
- ✓ field trips (Hope College Science Center, DeGraaf Nature Center, Dental office, etc.)