



Junior Jaguars Preschool Curriculum Overview

The St. Joseph of Cupertino Junior Jaguar Preschool Program has adopted the Houghton Mifflin Pre-K curriculum. This series is a comprehensive curriculum that includes Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science, Fine Arts, and Health and Safety. Within each component, there are activities that help to develop the cognitive, social/emotional, and physical abilities of the children. We are currently in the process of adopting a Religion curriculum which will foster the spiritual development of our preschoolers. Religion will be approached simply and in the context of the child's life.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- learn about God's love for them
- develop a natural wonder for and curiosity about God and our world
- demonstrate attitudes of love and respect for self and others
- learn and practice prayers and songs

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- utilize play so that they can order, generalize, and interpret experiences
- utilize thinking skills and process information
- begin to understand the symbolic relationship between written and spoken forms of communication
- show increasing ability to reason logically or use strategies to solve challenging problems
- demonstrate competence in real-life mathematical concepts including number sense, shapes, time, classification, measurement and patterning
- demonstrate:
 - emerging literacy skills, including an interest in books, songs, and stories;
 - awareness of letter symbols, words in the environment, and their relationship to sound;
 - emerging writing skills;
 - concepts of print and phonological awareness

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- learn to be responsible for their behavior and classroom materials
- participate in large and small group activities
- begin to develop relationships with others and be aware of others' feelings and needs
- show an increasing awareness of his/her own physical characteristics, preferences, and experiences
- be able to recognize and take pride in his/her own skills and accomplishments
- build cooperative relationships with adults
- develop the ability to share with others and take turns
- develop a positive self image
- be able to use language to communicate and express him/herself

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- refine the ability to move in a coordinated way (gross motor movements)
- refine the ability to plan and coordinate the use of grasp, release, strength and control of fingers and hands for functional and play activities (fine motor skills)
- show increasing independence in performing personal care routines and self-help skills that support healthy growth and prevent the spread of infection