

Discovery and exploration are key as we embrace being three years old. Through the use of themes, children engage in many different experiences as they learn about the world that God created around them. Using a variety of activities, children will explore math, literacy, science, creative representation, music, and social skills.

A full size gym and an outdoor playground are incorporated into lesson plans as well. Parent involvement is encouraged through volunteering for Classroom Helpers, field trip chaperones, and parties.

PURPOSE

At St. Lorenz Lutheran Preschool, we will strive to share the love of Christ in all we do as well as:

- Provide a pleasant social & developmental experience in a classroom setting
- Promote a healthy attitude toward school and group activities
- Encourage creative expression in a classroom setting
- Offer activities for developmental growth
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Encourage self-control
- Provide faith building opportunities

GOALS

By the end of the school year our goal is that each child will:

- Know that Jesus loves them
- Have acquired age appropriate social skills
- Successfully use scissors, glue, and paints
- Identify colors and basic shapes

PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

The preschool curriculum at St. Lorenz is taught thematically. Incorporated into each theme are lessons pertaining to each of the following areas:

- Bible stories & crafts
- Math activities
- Science experiences
- Art & Music activities
- Emergent Literacy activities
- Physical activities in the gym or outdoors

RELIGION

God is our friend. He loves us. We can respond to God's love by praying and showing God's love to each other. We will listen to stories from the bible and sing songs in praise to God. Students will also take part in group and echo prayers.

Our Religion materials are from Concordia Publishing House *One in Christ*. Preschoolers daily participate in Jesus Time or Chapel.

SCIENCE

The children are encouraged to develop their sense of wonder and to make observations and predictions while exploring different materials to discover God's world around them.

MATH

Children are naturally curious and have a built-in desire to learn first-hand about the world around them. They want to make sense out of things and find out how things work. Math concepts are taught throughout the themes that we teach as well as using practical application through our everyday activities. Math concepts, such as patterning, graphing, calendar, sorting, and counting are introduced.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Children are exposed to a variety of literature including nursery rhymes and poetry. Writing materials are available to develop pre-writing skills and stories are dictated and shared with the class. Listening and speaking skills are developed through the use of stories, poetry, reading their own stories to the classroom, group discussion, following oral directions, and taking turns at circle time. Language development is encouraged in all play areas and on an individual basis.

ART AND CREATIVITY

Preschoolers have opportunities to create with a variety of art medium. Children are encouraged to create their own unique works of art and have access to the Art Table supplied with art materials. The focus is on the process rather than the product.

Music covered in the classroom includes songs, rhythm instruments, movement, and music enjoyment.

LARGE AND FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

Large motor skills are developed with classroom games and movement activities, recess, and gym activities including running, hopping, galloping, marching, balancing, ball skills, parachute, bean bag activities, scooters, and group games.

Fine motor activities include lacing, stringing (beads, buttons, etc.), drawing, painting, working with play dough, completing puzzles, using puppets, and constructing with blocks, legos, and other manipulatives.

SOCIAL GROWTH

Children are encouraged to develop their social skills, share, and communicate their feelings and wants. They are encouraged to begin to develop empathy. Self-help skills such as dressing and cleaning up after oneself are also stressed. The three-year olds are paired up with a buddy from an older grade and will create a special friendship with them.

**St. Lorenz Lutheran School
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Three-Year-Old Curriculum

Teachers

Michelle Kroeger

Kasey MacKinnon

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Principal

Joshua D. Swartz

Assistant Principals

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