

## 5 Day Pre-kindergarten Curriculum

The Pre-k at EDS is a center-based program designed to foster independence. Children enrolled in the Pre-k are exposed to and encouraged to explore a variety of concepts in an environment that promotes choices. Nurturing the child's belief in their personal capabilities is a key component. There is a strong emphasis on promoting self-help skills and problem solving in all aspects of the day. Children are engaged in conversations that help them learn how to think versus what to think. Listening, communicating, negotiating, sharing, respecting and empathizing are interpersonal skills that are strongly encouraged throughout the day as well. Concepts are taught to the children through the use of weekly themes/topics that are introduced during a morning meeting session. Each center provides opportunities for children to develop a particular skill set that reinforce these concepts. The centers are comprised of snack, create/art, discovery, math and communication.

### **Snack Center**

This center allows children to experience life skills including decision-making, freedom of choice, problem solving and responsibility. They choose when to visit the center and decide what they will eat and/or drink. They may also choose not to visit the center. While at the center they are responsible for pouring their drink and setting their snack on the table. If a spill occurs they are encouraged to problem solve what they need to do next.

### **Create/Art Center**

Lots of fine motor practice takes place at this center. In addition, children explore many different art mediums and techniques.

### **Discovery Zone**

Skills developed at this center include but are not limited to observing, estimating, investigating, classifying, experimenting, evaluating, weighing, measuring and graphing.

### **Math Center**

The focus here is on providing the children with many opportunities that encourage math readiness. Math skills such as counting, recognizing numerals, measurement, shapes, patterning and graphing are introduced at this center.

### **Communication Station**

Listening, speaking, pre-reading and writing/fine motor activities take place at this center. For example, children may listen to a story on tape, dictate to the teacher, complete a letter search, draw pictures of experiences in a journal or do letter rubbings.

## **Thematic Units**

September- Five Senses, Mexico, Apples

October- Germany, Fire Safety, Fall, India/Halloween

November- Pilgrims, Indians, Mayflower, Turkeys (U.S.)

December- North Pole (Santa/Reindeer/Polar Bears) Holidays

January- Snow, Antarctica, Penguins, Martin Luther King, Football

February- Groundhogs, Presidents, Valentines, Chinese New Year

March- Dr. Seuss, Ireland/St. Patrick's Lions/Lambs/Wind, Easter

April, Easter, Water Cycle, Australia, Week of the Young Child

May- Mother's Tea, Signs of Spring, Camping, Misc Fun.