



### **Class & Curriculum Information**

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, play is an essential part of a child's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development. Research has shown play can also help children gain experience in solving problems as well as cooperation with others.

## **Three Year Old Class**

(Ms. Samantha, Ms. Amy & Ms. Samantha)

- The three year old room is designed with early education in mind. We set up our rooms in a manner that helps children progress in their learning and development as described by the

Standards for three year olds. The flow of the room is designed with activity areas and seating to promote active participation.

- We have two to three circle times a day where we introduce concepts and units which include print and phonological awareness, sentence segmenting, letter recognition, open ended questions, manners, and problem solving. We also have daily small groups where children focus on concepts that may require more individualized teacher guidance.
- One of our main focuses is encouraging children to learn independence. We allow children to select their own lunches and snacks, as well as set up for nap time and assisting the teacher in simple tasks throughout the day. Materials and toys are arranged throughout the classroom so that children can direct their own play and participate as independently as possible.
- Throughout the year we offer fun hands-on activities that enhance each unit. For example, during farm week we often have horses visit and have raised baby chicks. During insect week we raise caterpillars and often have a variety of real bugs. During community helpers we often have visits from the sheriff's canine unit and firefighters.
- Science is another large part of the three year old room. We have at least one science experiment per unit that the children can actively participate in with teacher guidance. We also incorporate a variety of food experiences.
- We try to foster children's creativity with a variety of art activities. Art is divided into two aspects that include free expression and art that corresponds with each unit.
- We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. These activities include Spanish, sign language, Stretch and Grow, Music, Tumble Bus and Chapel.
- Our outside play offers opportunities to develop social skills and physical development.
- Children must be potty-trained before they can enroll in this classroom.
- The Florida ratio for this class is 1:15. Here at St. Christopher's we try not to have any more than eighteen full- time children in the class and have three teachers.