

# ***A Typical Day at Kennett Square Preschool***

## ***Ω Arrival***

When students arrive they put away their belongings and find their nametags.

### ***\*Here is what they are learning***

Students learn to be responsible and independent by putting their belongings away. They also learn to recognize (read) their name and their classmates' names.

## ***Ω Free Choice/Educational Games***

While students work one-on-one with their teacher or aide the other students have free choice time. During this time they can choose to do puzzles, play educational games, work on *Handwriting Without Tears* activities, explore the dramatic play centers, play with Legos, blocks or beads, science, social studies centers, and more! The teacher or aide will be available to facilitate free play activities.

### ***\*Here is what they are learning***

All of our free choice activities encourage socialization, sharing, cooperation, development of language skills and vocabulary skills. During this time the teacher or aide will be available to facilitate free choice activities.

**Puzzles-** Development of fine motor skills and problem solving skills.

**Educational Games-** Development of skills such as colors, numbers, letters, shapes, etc.

**Handwriting Without Tears Activities-** (playdough, chalk slates, drawing, coloring, legos, blocks, stringing beads, ripping paper, shaving cream, sponge writing/drawing etc.) Development of fine motor skills needed for handwriting. Also develops creativity.

**Dramatic Play Centers (dress up, kitchen play, dolls, puppets etc.)-** Encourages creativity, imagination and vocabulary development.

**Science and Social Studies Centers-** Hands-on exploration of science and social studies concepts.

## ***Ω Project/Activity Time***

While students are engaged in free play, the teacher and/or aide will be calling students to the table to work (one on one) on writing their name and a project or activity. Our projects and activities are based on the theme we are teaching. Our themes are centered around the season, letters, shapes, colors, numbers.

### ***\*Here is what they are learning***

Students learn to: write their name, cut, follow directions, recognize shapes, colors, letters, numbers, patterns, etc. In addition, while the teacher or aide is working one on one with students they are having conversations about the project. These conversations help foster the development of language skills and vocabulary.

### **Ω Circle Time**

Circle time exercises include greeting each other, saluting the flag with the Pledge of Allegiance and Flag Song, calendar, weather report, songs, movement activities and finger plays.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn to follow directions, listening skills, number recognition, counting, patterning, the days of the week, months, seasons, weather, rhyming and vocabulary development. In addition, they are exposed to science and social studies concepts.

### **Ω Group Time**

This is a time when teachers will pull the students together to share the lesson for the day. Depending on time, some teachers may combine this with their circle time. The lesson for the day may include books, movement activities, songs, games, visuals, finger plays and discussion.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn to follow directions, listening skills, math skills, literacy skills, science and social studies concepts.

### **Ω Story Time**

Students come together to hear stories. Books are chosen usually to coincide with the theme or topic we are learning about. Sometimes books are just chosen because they are just great children's stories!

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students are learning early literacy skills such as narrative skills, comprehension skills, print awareness, print motivation, vocabulary development and listening skills. In addition, they are exposed to science and social studies concepts, shapes, colors, numbers and letters. Most importantly, we hope to be fostering a love of books.

### **Ω Snack Time**

Students have snack time each day. During this time they wash their hands and then sit with their classmates at a table, participate in passing out cups, napkins and the snack. They sing "The Thank You Song" and then begin eating. When they are finished they clean up their area and read a book of their choice.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn manners, independence, responsibility and social skills.

### **Ω Outdoor Recess**

Students go outside everyday, unless the weather does not cooperate. During this time students play in the sandbox, on the playground equipment, with wheelbarrows and ride bikes.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn socialization, communication and cooperation skills. They are also developing their gross motor skills.

### **Ω Show and Tell**

Students are asked to bring items in for “Sharing Time” or “Show and Tell.” The items may be centered around a theme at times. During this time students are encouraged to tell their classmates about the item.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn important communication and listening skills. They are also building their vocabularies.

### **Ω Handwriting Without Tears Time**

This program was developed by an occupational therapist that has a true understanding of the development of motor skills in order to teach a child to write. You will notice that our writing tools (pencils, chalk, crayons, markers) are small. This is to encourage the proper pincher grip.

*\*The activities teachers choose are based upon the age and readiness level of students and the program they are enrolled in. Some teachers may choose to incorporate this time into their project/activity time and free choice time. All students will work with the below activities in some capacity.*

<Some examples of activities for 3 year olds- Three year olds will string beads, draw, color, paint, cut, use playdough, write with chalk on slates, use blocks and Legos, use wet, mini sponges to write on slates, button, snap, zip, use sensory materials such as rice/corn, rip paper, shaving cream, do puzzles, use letter and number stamps and more!

<Some examples of activities for 4 year olds- Four year olds will do the above activities, but they will also be introduced to a new letter each week. They will be instructed on how to correctly form a letter and then given time to practice using a variety of developmentally appropriate activities.

<Some examples of activities for Pre-K students- Pre-K students will do the above activities. They will also focus on a letter of the week, but they will be using The Handwriting Without Tears Workbook to practice the letter.

#### **\*Here is what they are learning**

Students learn proper grip and their motor skills are properly developed. They are also being exposed to letters, numbers and shapes. Students learn to cut, write their name and letters.