



Munchkin Room (4 and 5 year olds)

Our program is designed to maximize the educational and social benefits for your child's future success. Below you will find an overview of the skills we help our students develop in the Munchkin classroom during the course of the school year to prepare the students for kindergarten.

Social and Emotional Development

- Self-esteem: Sharing, appreciating differences, star student, building positive self awareness, completing individual goals within the classroom, managing transitions
- Social Skills: Cooperation, teamwork, problem solving, table manners and discussion during meal time and group time, learning how to respect yourself and one another, multicultural awareness, identifying feelings, coping mechanisms, stages of play, self direction and independence
- Self-Help Skills: Dressing themselves (winter gear), cleaning up, unpacking their lunch and opening bags and containers, bathroom etiquette, drop off and pick up routines

Approaches To Learning

- Show interest in discovering and learning new things, risk taking- choose new as well as a variety of familiar activities, using new ways to solve problems or explore objects

Language and Literacy Development

- Show comprehension of stories, directions and conversations, follows directions that involve a 2 or 3 step sequence of actions, is able to seek teachers help when needed to resolve conflict, be able to communicate in sentences, shows beginning understanding of concepts and print, begin to associate sounds with words or letters, journals, weather and calendar helpers, songs, games, basic sight words

Creativity and the Arts

- Participate in art and music experiences, show others and/or talk about what they have made or done, share experiences, ideas, and thoughts about art and creative expression

Cognitive Skills

- Name writing, colors/shapes, reciting their birthday, reciting their address and phone number, upper and lower case alphabet, alphabet sounds, pre-reading skills, recognizing and duplicating simple patterns, positional references, cause and effect, sequencing, rhyming and opposites
- Math: Counting games and songs, board games, graphing, counting by 5s and 10s to 100, introduction to numbers 0-30, can rote count
- STEM Subjects (science, technology, engineering, math): With guidance from teachers, we can engage children's opportunities to engage in STEM learning and develop their critical thinking skills. Children will experiment, combine new substances, build, knock down, collect, sort, and have fun while learning.

Gross and Fine Motor Skills

- Gross Motor: Creative/movement, climbing, swinging, is able to do the monkey bars, mirroring actions, group games, walk up and down stairs with alternating feet, balance and control
- Fine Motor: Cutting, building, gluing, painting, drawing, using the tripod grasp to hold a pencil, lacing, puzzles, using eye hand coordination to perform a variety of tasks

Spanish and Sign Language

- Basic Skills: Alphabet, numbers, colors, shapes

Religious Education

- The children will develop an awareness of God, prayers before mealtime and snacks, reading bible stories and learning about the Saints, visiting the church, empathy, respect and values through developmentally appropriate activities, including being kind and loving to each other. Celebrate major liturgical holidays

Research Based Curriculum with Themes

- Theme Based
- Basic Skills- Color, Letter, Number, Shape
- Opposites/Rhyming/Sight Words: Begin in January
- Social Studies/Art
- Science/STEAM
- Music and Movement

End of Year Keepsake

- An accumulation of your child's work throughout the year

Daily Rest Time

- Rest time is provided daily as a time for quiet and to gather energy. Naps are to be peaceful and supervised. If a child is not asleep after 30-40 minutes, the child is welcome to engage in quiet activities on his/her cot so as not to disturb other children who are resting.

Daily Outside Time

- Outdoor play is an important part of your child's day at the NELC. We believe it is vital to the total health of a child. We will go outdoor each day, weather permitting. We go outside at least 3x daily unless the air temperature/wind chill is below zero or the air temperature is above 95 degrees.

Theme Based Units

- Welcome to the NELC
- Nativity County Fair
- Apples
- All About Me
- Community Helpers
- Friendship/Manners
- Catholic Schools Week

- American History
- Earth Week
- Ocean
- Fire Prevention
- Halloween
- Fall
- Thanksgiving
- Winter
- Chef Week
- Advent
- Christmas
- New Year's Day
- Germs
- My Plate
- Human Body
- Five Senses
- Dinosaurs
- Lent
- Valentine's Day
- Dental
- Favorite Authors
- Dr. Seuss
- Music
- St. Patrick's Day
- Spring
- Easter
- Rainforest
- Conference Prep
- April Showers
- May Flowers
- Bugs/Butterflies
- Graduation
- Goodbye My NELC Friends
- STEM Activities
- Monster
- Unicorns
- Hot Chocolate
- Asian American
- Black History
- Native Americans
- Food Around the World
- Famous Painters
- Christmas Around the World