

# Goals for the Good Shepherd Curriculum

## Specials

### Art

“Just as the spirit of the artist is in the things the artist makes, the spirit of the child is in the things the child makes. True education helps children discover and revel in that spirit.” (Frederick Froebel)

To help them clarify, understand and appreciate the world around them, each child will enjoy a variety of art experiences. These carefully planned experiences will:

- encourage the development of independent thinking.
- provide an outlet for the expression of individual feelings.
- allow exposure to a wide variety of materials, encouraging the expression of ideas, such as various drawing papers, crayons, markers, scissors, glue, paste, tempera paint, watercolors, finger paints, modeling materials, wood, chalk, pastels, gadgets, cardboard, sand, Styrofoam and “junk.”
- explore the lives, works and techniques of artists such as Marc Chagall, Paul Klee, Vincent Van Gogh and Claude Monet.

### Music

To allow them the opportunity to explore music, having fun with sounds, rhythm and movement, each child will enjoy a variety of musical experiences. These carefully planned experiences will:

- allow them to feel the beat of music.
- encourage the beginning development of pitch in singing.
- teach traditional, holiday and folk songs which make up a rich part of our cultural heritage.
- encourage the children to learn newer songs which reinforce the concepts they are learning in the classrooms.
- provide opportunities to express individual feelings in song and movement, such as skipping, walking, marching and galloping.
- explore the sounds of rhythm and Orf instruments.

### Creative Movement

Experiences in Creative Movement provide for increased self-esteem, motivation and encouragement while developing gross motor (large motor) skills. Each child will:

- explore whole-body movements using music and songs in play.
- refine awareness of separate body motions through partner play and independent play (right and left sides, arms, legs, head and hands).
- play cooperatively, interact and take turns while refining attention skills.
- follow sequences of play through multi-step directions.
- be encouraged to participate while allowing for creativity at each child’s individual rate of development.
- improve general balance and coordination through practice and exposure.

**Chapel**

Beginning with our 3s' classes, children go to Chapel one day a week for 20 minutes while they are engaged with the Rector or Associate Rector of the church. Children experience God at their own developmental level as they hear and talk about stories from the Bible from books written for preschoolers. The children are encouraged to ask questions and learn how they can use these stories in their lives. Chapel teaches them to praise God through song, prayer and story; to experience the joy of worshipping with school peers; that the Bible is a book of stories about God; that we are all a part of God's family; and that the church is a warm, safe and caring place. Parents are welcome to join their child's class for Chapel.