

Luray United Methodist Preschool

Readiness Skills for 3 year olds

The preschool area is inspired by *Creative Curriculum* which emphasizes a child-sized, comfortable, safe, and orderly environment. Our program supports self-exploration, socialization, and decision making by the child and incorporates Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Comprehensive Standards into centers and curriculum.

Preschool activities alternate between teacher-directed, child-directed, and small group activities. A daily routine is followed to provide consistency and stability.

We believe that children grow through discovery play and an investigation of things in their world. We encourage the children to use pretend play and creative thinking, and provide them with opportunities for decision making and choices within appropriate limits. Through this approach, we strive to instill a love of learning in the children, to prepare them with the social skills they need to be successful, and to help them progress through developmental stages. Above all, our environment is where children are treated as individuals with love and respect, and where children learn to show love and respect for themselves and one another.

By creating an environment for inviting, hands-on activities that allow for much exploration, children can spend as little or as much time at whatever centers they wish to go to. Because this is usually their first school experience, we want them to feel welcome, safe, and happy.

Learning Centers:

- Writing Center
- Art Center
- Gross Motor
- Dramatic Play
- Visual Arts
- Emerging Math
- Literacy and Language
- Fine Motor