



Vernon Hills Park District Young 3's 2011-2012

We know the information contained in this handbook will be useful to you as you prepare for the Young 3's program. Please read all the materials that you receive and feel free to ask questions at any time. We want you to feel a part of our program by offering your support through suggestions, comments and participation. Thank you.

Philosophy:

We believe in the importance of fostering the mental, physical and social growth and development of the preschool child within a planned environment provided by trained personnel and the cooperative involvement of the parents. We achieve this mainly through play, a young child's most important work. Through play, a child gains a sense of self, as well as developing social relationships with other children and adults. Children also are given the opportunity to develop both small and large motor skills, as well as cognitive and language skills. We recognize that each child is unique and special, with individual interests and needs. Above all, we want our time together to be comfortable, relaxed and happy. We hope that both you and your child will be pleased with our program.

Curriculum:

Our curriculum is a developmentally appropriate program for your child. Our main emphasis is on socialization; however, your child will be exposed to the following curriculum throughout the school year:

Sharing and cooperation in small and large groups

Art projects

Colors

Small and large motor skills

Music: songs, fingerplays and musical instruments

Dressing skills

Nature

Weather

Seasons

Holidays

Families

Nursery Rhymes

Cooking

Health and Nutrition

Fairy Tales

Arrival and Departure

The teachers will open the classroom door/building door and greet you at the scheduled time of your class. Please be on time as much as possible when dropping off and picking up your child at the end of class.

Sign-In Sheets

It is very important that you sign-in each day. We need you to list a phone number (or numbers), where you can be reached, if needed

Data Form

Please fill out and return the data form to us on the first day of school. It is very important that you list any allergies your child might have. When the snack list is made we will list food allergies at the top of the page, so that everyone will be aware.

Snacks

We ask that parents sign up for snack days. When it is your snack day, you will need to bring snacks, juice/milk, napkins and cups for 14 students. Please make your snack as healthy as possible- reserve cookies and other sweets for special occasions and birthdays.



Birthdays

We celebrate birthdays during our snack time. **PLEASE DO NOT** send cake or full size cupcakes. Mini cupcakes, ice cream cups, mini muffins, cookies, etc. are much easier for the teachers to serve and less wasteful/messy for the children.

Health

Children who are ill should not be sent to school. Please do not send your child to school with any of the following symptoms:

- has a persistent cough
- has a runny nose
- has a sore throat
- has a fever the night before or the day of school (child must be fever free 24 hours before returning to school, without the aid of medication, i.e. Motrin, Tylenol, etc.
- vomits the night before or the day of school

-has diarrhea the night before or the day of school

When you send a sick child to class, you expose the children and teachers to the illness. Please be considerate and keep your child home. Please do not be offended if we call and ask you to come to pick up your child. We understand that sometimes a child may seem well before school but becomes ill during class time. If your child is not feeling well, but wants to come to school, please remember it is in his/her best interest to be at home resting. The recovery time will be quicker. Please notify the school at once if your child has a communicable disease.

Field Trips

During the course of the school year, we go on several field trips. On days that there is a field trip, there will be no regular preschool class. We will meet at the field trip destination, transportation is provided by parents. Some expense is involved. We'd like to ask that you send CASH ONLY to cover the cost of the field trip.

School Bags

We provide school bags for each child. We prefer that your child bring this bag, rather than a back pack. You might want to personalize their bag for easy recognition. Be sure to check their bags after each class for papers and projects that will be sent home.

What To Wear

Think of your child's comfort and provide simple clothing that is free of complicated fastenings. Think of the messy art materials and other messy activities and provide clothing that is washable.

I look forward to a wonderful Young 3's program this year. Any questions or comments, please call me at the Sullivan Center at 847-996-6808, or e-mail gailh@vhparkdistrict.org.

Gail Herrmann
Early Childhood Supervisor