



MOM'S DAY OUT & PRESCHOOL

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

Our mission is to encourage children to discover, share and celebrate who they are, as they learn to love God, themselves and others in a caring, Christian environment.

Philosophy

We recognize that each child is a unique individual and we offer a warm supportive environment enabling each child to build their self-confidence, self-esteem and a sense of belonging.

To Our Prospective Families

Thank you for considering one of our early childhood programs at First Place. As any parent knows the experiences that a young child encounters can have a powerful impact in their life. Studies show that learning begins with children at a very early age and that the people around them as well as the experiences that they have throughout their early years should be positive, loving, encouraging and uplifting.

The early years are a time of rapid growth and change for all children. During this important time, a child will progress from independent play to parallel play and then to interactive play with others. Our MDO and Preschool programs maintain a balance between child and teacher-directed activities which encourage exploration, creativity, independent thinking, person responsibility, social and emotional growth and self confidence. To assist First Place parents with the spiritual training of their children, we also incorporate God's Word into daily lessons along with our weekly Bible teaching.

We believe that for each child to be successful that there needs to be a partnership between school and home working together with the best interest of the child in mind. We look forward to building a relationship with each of our families.

PRESCHOOL

8:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

At First Place, we have created an environment that is rich in challenges which address the social, emotional and academic needs of each child. In each classroom, you will find a, loving teacher who develops a sense of family within the class. The typical day in the classroom includes academic instruction through circle time, stories, crafts, manipulative games, and learning centers. Bible, music, recess, Spanish and computer are in place to enrich the daily learning for our preschoolers.

Our Preschool classes are taught by degreed and or certified teachers experienced in early childhood education and supported by a classroom aid all of whom receive on going early childhood training as well

Our preschool is designed to equip preschool aged children (3's and 4's) with the necessary experiences and training to help transition them into either a Pre-K or Kindergarten program, including those offered at Carrollton Christian Academy.

The First Place Preschool, which is licensed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS), provides a curriculum, based on a developmental approach to learning. The curriculum, which includes language, math, science, Bible, music and art, teaches through a variety of learning experiences. One of the more important areas associated with a preschool experience is a child's social and emotional development. We strive to provide the environment and direction to enhance each child's growth. Our program stimulates creativity, promotes socialization and fosters a healthy self-esteem.

There are mid year and end of year parent/teacher conferences for the parents of 4 year old preschoolers to communicate with parents about the progress of their child accompanied by a progress report card.

Special events and celebrations are scattered over the year for all preschoolers and the 4 year old classes venture out on a few field trips. We celebrate fall with a Fall Festival Day, we have Muffins with our Moms and Donuts with out Dads to reinforce the activities associated with studying the letter "M" and "D" in the 4's classes. We celebrate Thanksgiving with "Pumpkin Pie with Parents". We celebrate fall, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and the end of the year with class parties. This year's field trips included the Flower Mound Pumpkin Patch, Lil' Chef's Academy, ASI Gymnastics and Dallas Children's Theatre. Each year we also select a charity or organization to support with a food drive and at Christmas time we do a Christmas Program for our parents.

The 3's cap off their year with a "Show Off" day to showcase some of the activities that they will take away from this year's class.

The 4's graduate at the end of the year as we send them off to "big school" for Kindergarten.

PRE K 4'S CURRICULUM

PERSONAL / SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL

- Displays Self Control / Self-Confidence
- Completes Activities
- Interacts Well with Other Students
- Engages in Conversations
- Classroom Behavior Management

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Pledges
- All About Me
- My Family
- Community Helpers
- American Natives
- Thanksgiving Traditions
- Christmas
- Holiday Celebrations

BIBLE Daily as part of Curriculum - Weekly with Bible teacher

READING / LANGUAGE ARTS

- Frog Street Press
- Recognizing Upper and Lower Case Letters
- Recognizing Name in Print / Writing Name
- Letter Sound Recognition
- Discriminating Between Words / Same—Different
- Discuss Rhyming Pairs
- Beginning writing
- Spelling by Memory (name, number words, colors)
- Listen to and Discuss Stories
- Relate Experiences in Complete Sentences
- Begin Sight Readers

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Tracks Left to Right
- Pencil/Scissors Hold / Glue Usage
- Block Handwriting
- Participates in Art Activities

MATH

- Calendar Activities
- Sorting / Classifying
- Exploring Numbers
- Graphing
- Patterns
- Counting to 100
- Writes to 10 (20)
- Informal Measuring
- Exploring Addition
- Exploring Subtraction
- ACSI/Math Their Way

SPECIALS

ART: Daily in class
COMPUTER: In class daily (2nd semester)

LIBRARY: Ongoing

MUSIC: - twice a week

P.E.: Daily recess

SPANISH: - twice a week

MOM'S DAY OUT

Monday-Thursday 8:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Our **MDO program** recognizes the importance of learning through play. We provide this opportunity by offering many different age appropriate center activities allowing for learning and discovery along with peer interaction in a structured environment. We believe as many experts do, that play is a very important and essential part of a child's learning and developmental process.

Through center play, children have an opportunity for trying out and mastering new skills, concepts and experiences. Play can help children develop the knowledge they need to connect in meaningful ways to the challenges they encounter in school. Play also contributes to how children view themselves as learners. As they play, they learn how to resolve challenging social, emotional, and intellectual issues by coming up with new solutions and ideas. They experience the sense of power that comes from examining and sorting things out on their own. This ultimately helps children to develop a positive attitude toward learning.

Although academics are not our primary emphasis, early childhood educational concepts are presented as part of our daily activities and centers. Our goal is to provide a balance of guided activities that help your child grow in the development of their own unique abilities. The activities and games are designed to challenge the child at their different developmental stages, preparing them for the preschool experience the following year.

The staff that works in these age groups is trained in a variety of early childhood workshops helping to equip them with the necessary tools to work with and care for their assigned age group.

MOM'S DAY OUT SUMMER "CAMP"

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Our First Place "summer camp" program runs seven weeks in the June/July timeframe and includes lots of fun activities including water play, entertainers, bounce house, petting zoo, creative crafts and much more combined with a Biblical theme that uses daily music helping to teach and emphasize the Bible concepts.

Most all classes can participate in the on campus entertainment and activities. Only the older 2 classes are able to participate in field trips taken off campus. The cost of the activities and field trips is included in the registration fee. All field trips are taken by school bus or school van.

At the end of the summer session, a short music program is presented to the parents, showcasing what the kids have learned throughout the summer program. The classes that typically participate in the program are the 2's-1st grade.

