

Villa Primavera Preschool

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Mission Statement

Villa Primavera Preschool provides a safe and healthy learning environment for three and four year olds, where each child receives personalized attention. Here, children are provided with opportunities to develop their unique talents and interests through active learning.

We practice the philosophy of educating the “whole child”. Joy in life, respect for others, appreciation for nature, and obedience are essential to our program. Creative play, singing, nursery rhymes, and poetry are emphasized.

Our daycare offers an English – Spanish program as an integral part of our daily activities. With experienced bilingual American teachers the children hear English and Spanish throughout the day and develop the ability to express themselves in both languages.

Villa Primavera Preschool has secure grounds, a large patio, and a garden with a playground carefully designed and built for children. The classrooms are equipped with furniture and toys imported from the USA.

Our goal is to provide a wholesome learning environment and a solid educational basis for your child’s future.

Curriculum

CONTENTS:

1. General Knowledge
2. Social and Emotional Development
3. Creative Development
4. Physical Development
5. Language Skills
6. Listening Skills
7. Structure and Math Related Skills

1. General Knowledge

Children love to learn and discover the wonders in nature and in their environment. Everything is significant and fascinating in their eyes. In Villa Primavera Preschool we use numerous enjoyable activities in order to encourage and develop children's natural interests and abilities.

- How things work and why
- Colors, shapes, days of the week
- People and places, culture, occupations
- Nature: seasons, weather, animals, birds, plants and gardening
- Routine: daily activities

2. Social and Emotional Development

Respect and esteem for self, for peers, and for teachers are basic to our program. Through mutual sharing and cooperation, children develop the ability to interact, forming positive relationships with others.

Social and emotional development is stimulated through group activities and through “white space,” or quiet, individual play where children discover their own talents, cultivate their own creativity and develop a healthy sense of pride in their achievements.

- Story time: telling and participating
- Table games and group activities:
 - Finger games
 - Indoor and outdoor group games
 - “White Space”: looking at books, coloring a picture, independent play
- Music
 - Singing and circle games
 - Movement and dancing
- Manners: eating, sitting correctly
- Behaviors: classroom conduct
 - Respecting self, classmates and teachers
 - Hygiene: hand washing, using facilities
 - Cooperation and teamwork in block play
- Safety

3. Creative Development

Self-discovery through free play is critical to a healthy childhood. Free play is guided to encourage cooperation, creativity and physical development.

Through active role play, unstructured play in nature, and expression in art, the individual gifts and unique characters of children flourish and thrive.

Children learn to express themselves and to develop self-confidence and pride in their work.

- Dramatic play area, role play
- Block corner: design roads, castles, houses, farms and zoos
- Arts and crafts
- Story-time
- Individual quiet play
- Outdoor free play
- Sandbox

4. Physical Development

Children develop at their own pace, and both gross and fine motor skills are challenged at personal levels. Through active exercise and play, children improve control of large body muscles. Fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination are developed through arts and crafts, manipulative games, free-play, coloring and block play.

Gross motor skills include:

- Running Games and relay races
- Circle games (skipping, jumping, running, hopping, balancing)
- Playground

Fine motor skills include:

- Table games (puzzles, play dough, coloring, mini blocks)
- Out-door play (sand box, sand and water cart, gardening)

5. Language Skills

At Villa Primavera Preschool English and Spanish are incorporated naturally into group activities and play. Through songs, poems, and simple conversation, as well as passive listening, children learn new phrases; communicate needs, and articulate thoughts. This basic foundation in both English and Spanish prepares children for any future bilingual education.

Reading Readiness Games allow children to develop specific skills essential for their success in learning to read. The games teach children the following skills:

- To develop eye-hand coordination – a guide to later pencil use
- To expand speaking vocabulary
- To concentrate
- To observe
- To follow directions

6. Listening Skills

Listening skills are fundamental for cooperative group learning and are a valuable tool throughout life. Developing listening skills to spoken English is an integral part of our day. Children follow simple instructions, listen to peers, and absorb new vocabulary through passive learning. Our goals are for children to be able to hear, understand, and respond.

- Stories: story time will be interactive with the teacher asking the children questions
- Auditory discrimination and rhyming games
- Finger games and poems
- Show-and-tell

7. Structure and Math Related Skills

Mathematical thinking processes and problem solving strategies are encouraged and creatively taught throughout the course of the day. Through a range of structured activities and play, children develop a cognitive understanding of space, quantity and volume, the basic concepts of geometric relationships, balance, and sequence.

- Blocks: unit blocks, mini unit blocks
 - Size, shape, length, weight, quantity, volume
 - Balance and building techniques

- Parquetry (play tiles)
 - Shape, pattern and color
 - Symmetry, division and geometric relationships
 - Categorizing and sorting
 - Sequencing, matching and counting

- Puzzles
 - Shape and color relationships
 - Memory
 - logic