

Preschool

The School

Emmanuel Preschool is recognized throughout Alexandria as a high quality program serving children from age 2 through kindergarten entry. The preschool combines structure and freedom under a caring environment in which children, through their play and their relationships with children and adults, receive a solid foundation for all of their other school - and life - experiences.

The Program

Each class has a "home base" where children start the morning, share circle time, read a story and eat snacks and lunch. In addition, each class plays daily on equipment that develops large motor skills. Another daily happening is "Choice Time," in which boys and girls choose from several play centers designed to develop eye-hand coordination; perceptual and cognitive skills; social awareness; imaginative play; language; and other important skills. Centers are Block Room, Library, Houseplay Room and Art Room. We also are concerned for our preschoolers' spiritual growth. Religious songs, grace, prayers, weekly chapel with Emmanuel's rector and special holidays all help the children come to know God better.

The Children

The most important thing preschoolers do each day is play. This is the way they discover themselves and the world around them. This is the way they develop the skills they will use later for "book learning," problemsolving and just plain coping. By recognizing and encouraging verbalizations of joy, excitement, fear, anger, sadness, etc., we make it easier for our children to get along with themselves and with others. The more they talk about their feelings, the more they begin to understand them.

Registration:

Preschool registration will take place on February 20, 2010, beginning with registration for church members and current students. The age for eligibility for the 2010-2011 school year is that all children must be 3 or 4 by September 30, 2010. For enrollment in the 2's class, the child must be 2 by September 1, 2010. Emmanuel uses a lottery system for slots open to the community. For more information, click on preschool activities or contact Dr. Becky Harmon, preschool director, at (703) 683-0303.