

Hilton Presbyterian Church Hilton Preschool

Self-Selected and Self-Directed Activities

To encourage children to use their natural curiosity, explain their knowledge, and refine their skills, the classrooms are arranged in centers of interest, with furniture, equipment, and material available to the children on their own terms. These centers suggest activities in:

- > Block building and other forms of construction
- > Fantasy translated into dramatic play
- > Book browsing, pictures
- > Creative experiences through art media (clay, glue, scissors, paint, etc.)
- > Experiences with puzzles, matching activities, small muscle motor development, counting, visual discrimination
- > Opportunities that lead to learning about people, their occupations and their contributions to the community
- > Opportunities to write, explore the world of letters and words
- > Science centers for seeing, touching, and experimenting with our world.

Outdoor experiences are a vital and integral part of the living-learning activities. Outdoor equipment permits a child freedom of movement, the challenge to explore, and the chance to be boisterous and joyfully active. Each preschool group will have some time outdoors each day, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, activities for running, jumping, ball play, tumbling, and other gross motor skills are provided in the Fellowship Hall.

Teacher-Directed/Group Experiences

For part of the morning, children are based in small groups according to age and differing abilities. At other times, the total group can be together and still provide an individualized experience for each child. These occasions involve:

- > Music and movement: Including singing, bodily rhythms, circle games, listening to recordings, working with instruments
- > Language experiences: such as story-telling, books, discussion, poetry, dramatization, show-and-tell, letter introduction
- > Eating together: a time for shared pleasures and spontaneous talk
- > Opportunities to play simple games, learning to take turns
- > Short lessons in science, math, and social studies, which are relevant to a preschooler's life.

Because we are a Church Preschool, one of our objectives is to help the children grow in their understanding and appreciation of God's love for them and all people, and to help them grow in their willingness and ability to respond to this love. Young children learn to have respect for their own worth as children of God through being loved and respected by adults in their group, who are seeking to love them as they are.

Parents are encouraged to call the preschool office, 596-1939, if they have any questions or concerns. We value your input and suggestions for your child's preschool experience.