

The 4's Program

The 4's Program of The Community Synagogue Early Childhood Center is designed to prepare the children for kindergarten. Teachers plan developmentally appropriate activities and experiences to enhance readiness skills. Literacy, math, and science concepts are integrated into the daily classroom experience. The children are prepared to be lifelong learners. Our program focuses on socialization, self-esteem, problem solving, listening skills, following directions, and building independence and self-reliance. The children are exposed to creative arts, cooking, movement, music, yoga, and indoor and outdoor play experiences. Jewish holidays, customs, values, and traditions are celebrated in a warm and loving way.

Social/Emotional Objectives

- Develop positive relationships
- Express needs/feelings
- Join others in existing play
- Develop problem solving skills
- Seek assistance from peers
- Improve hygiene skills (toileting/hand washing)
- Take responsibility
- Gain independence
- Demonstrate respect/concern for others
- Practice good manners/turn taking/sharing
- Demonstrate leadership skills (class jobs)
- Develop positive self image
- Follow classroom routines
- Manage transitions

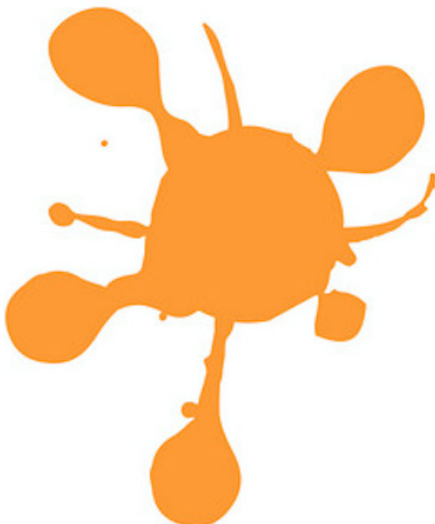


Gross/Fine Motor Activities

- Using scissors
- Working with pencils, markers, crayons
- Holding writing tools correctly
- Using paintbrushes/fingerpaints
- Building with Legos/blocks
- Using beads and lacing cards
- Creating with Playdoh/clay
- Folding paper
- Tracing
- Dancing
- Jumping
- Climbing
- Stretching
- Throwing
- Kicking
- Practicing yoga

Jewish Customs, Holidays, And Values

- Learn about Shabbat
- Engage in daily prayers and songs
- Perform mitzvot on a daily basis
- Give tzedakah
- Begin to learn some Hebrew words
- Celebrate holidays
- Discuss holidays/foods/customs
- Celebrate with clergy and family in the sanctuary
- Learn about Israel and its rich culture
- Discover Jewish history



Cognitive Goals:

Maintain longer focus
Organize and recall information
Problem solve/Make predictions
Ask questions to gain understanding



Language/Literacy Objectives

Recognize upper/lower case letter names
Identify letter sounds
Distinguish words that begin with the same sound
Learn rhyming words/word families
Recite fingerplays/songs
Identify name in print
Discuss stories (details, predictions, comparisons, sequence of events, character traits, fantasy vs. reality)
Gain understanding by listening to others in group discussions
Ask/answer "w" questions
Follow 2 & 3 step directions
Be exposed to various types of books (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, wordless, repetitive, alphabet)
Identify the parts of a book and concepts of print (left to right)
Form shapes and letters
Write name in upper/lower case
Begin to label pictures using inventive and conventional spelling

Math/Numeracy Objectives

Be exposed to numbers to 100
Demonstrate 1 to 1 correspondence
Recognize numerals 1 - 20
Count up to 50 and higher
Sort by color, size, texture, shape
Understand the concepts of more and less
Identify all colors and how they are mixed together
Identify 2 & 3 dimensional shapes
Identify similarities/differences in objects
Recognize and extend patterns
Sequence objects by size
Engage in more complex block play
Deepen understanding of calendar concepts
Explore measurement and quantity
Be exposed to graphs/interpretation of results



Cognitive Goals Continued



Science Objectives

- Explore sequence of life cycles
- Learn about animal habitats
- Perform simple experiments
- Observe and interpret data
- Explore solids and liquids
- Understand sink and float
- Work with light and shadows
- Identify parts of plants and their role in the environment
- Understand seasons/adaptation to weather changes
- Observe changes in nature
- Predict/ask questions
- Learn about the body
- Understand the 5 senses
- Work with physical science (ramps, levers, towers)

Social Studies Topics

- Family
- Friends
- Neighborhood
- Community - Go on class trips
- Community helpers
- Jobs and careers
- Environments (earth, desert, rainforest, ocean, arctic regions)
- Secular holidays
- Recycling and conservation

