

# **ST. JEROME EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER CURRICULUM GUIDELINES - FOUR YEAR OLDS**

The developmental milestones outlined below provide an overview of the curriculum emphasized in St. Jerome ECC's four year old program. The skills noted are typical, expected outcomes for children at the conclusion of their four year old program. The following resources are utilized for this specific age/developmental level.

## **I. Faith Formation Curriculum**

Resources: Step by Step; Celebrating the Lectionary; & Wee Celebrate the Seasons; & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Level 1

### **Faith Development Concepts**

1. Plays, works, and prays happily with others.
2. Develops a sense of awe, wonder, respect, gratitude, and stewardship for God's creation.
3. Develops a sense of community and worship.
4. Knows that God loves, protects, and provides for them.
5. Recognizes that prayer is talking with God.
6. Learns traditional prayers: the sign of the cross, the Lord's Prayer, bedtime and table prayers.
7. Experiences the love of God and Jesus.
8. Explores in active ways the Bible stories that form the Catholic Christian faith.
9. Celebrates their place in God's family.

## **II. Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for 4 to Kindergarten (2017)**

Additional resources: Creative Curriculum for Preschool, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

NAEYC Accreditation & Program Standards (2018)

Diocesan Standards & Benchmarks for Early Childhood (Age 3-Gr.2)

Refer to the separate publication with the above title for the full and detailed list of standards for each of the following domains.

- I. Physical Development
- II. Approaches to Learning
- III. Social & Emotional Development
- IV. Language & Literacy
- V. Mathematical Thinking
- VI. Scientific Inquiry
- VII. Social Studies
- VIII. Creative Expression Through the Arts

## **III. Safe Environment Curriculum, Diocese of St. Petersburg, Ages 3-5 (2005)**

### **Spiritual Development**

1. Appreciates God's goodness and personal love for them.
2. Respects all people and all forms of life.
3. Develops a sense of self worth.
4. Develops a spirit of prayer and sense of God's presence.
5. Knows that God loves all individuals & gives us families composed of members who help each other.
6. Understands that God calls us to forgive those who hurt us.
7. Develops a proper respect for the body as part of God's creation.

### **Behavioral Development**

8. Appreciates that parts of their bodies should be respected.
9. Recognizes that feelings can be managed.
10. Learns how friends treat each other with respect
11. Reports to trusted adults uncomfortable situations or relationships with others until believed.

### **Cognitive Development**

12. Understands the difference between “good” touch and “bad” touch.
13. Develops a sense that individuals are loved by important people in their lives.
14. Knows there are “good” and “bad” choices.
15. Understands that it is alright to say “No”.
16. Knows how to say I’m sorry.
17. Learns how to experience forgiveness.
18. Knows that parts of their bodies are private and should be respected.
19. Understands that there should be no secrets and recognizes the importance of letting trusted adults know about uncomfortable situations or relationships with others until believed.
20. Knows difference between safe and harmful relationships.
21. Learns that when an adult makes a mistake, it is never the child’s fault. (ie. In cases of sexual abuse, the child is never at fault.)
22. Knows that families love and care for each other.
23. Appreciates the uniqueness of each person.