



Junior Jaguar Preschool Curriculum Overview

The St. Joseph of Cupertino Junior Jaguar Preschool Program has adopted the Houghton Mifflin Pre-K curriculum. This series is a comprehensive curriculum that includes Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science, Fine Arts and Health and Safety. Within each component, there are activities that help to develop the cognitive, social/emotional, and physical abilities of the children. We utilize the Handwriting Without Tears program for writing. The primary focus is proper hand grip while exposure and practice with writing letters and numbers. We use the "I Am Special" Religion curriculum from Our Sunday Visitor which will develop the children spiritually. Religion will be approached simply and in the context of the child's life.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- learn about God's love for them
- develop a natural curiosity and wonder about God and the world
- demonstrate attitudes of love and respect for self and others
- learn and practice prayers and songs

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- utilize play so that they can order, generalize and interpret experiences
- utilize thinking skills and process information
- begin to understand the symbolic relationship between written and spoken forms of communication
- show increasing ability to reason logically or use strategies to solve challenging problems
- demonstrate competence in real-life mathematical concepts including number sense, shapes, time, classification, measurement and patterning.
- demonstrate emerging literacy skills including an interest in books, songs and stories, awareness of letter symbols, words in the environment and their relationship to sound, emerging writing, concepts of print and phonological awareness

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- learn to be responsible for their behavior and classroom materials
- participate in large and small group activities
- begin to develop relationships with others and be aware of others' feelings and needs
- show an increasing awareness of his/her own physical characteristics, preferences and experiences.
- be able to recognize and take pride in his/her own skills and accomplishments
- build cooperative relationships with adults
- develop the ability to share with others and take turns
- develop a positive self image
- be able to use language to communicate and express his/herself

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will:

- refine the ability to move in a coordinated way (gross motor movements)
- refine the ability to plan and coordinate the use of grasp, release, strength and control of fingers and hands for functional and play activities (fine motor skills)
- show increasing independence in performing personal care routines and self help skills that support healthy growth and prevent the spread of infection



Junior Jaguars Daily Schedule

7:30-8:00	Early Drop Off / Free Choice
8:00-8:15	Regular Drop Off / Free Choice
8:25	Clean Up Time
8:30-8:45	Circle Time
8:45-9:05	Small Group Lessons *
9:05-9:45	Learning Centers **
9:45-10:15	Outdoor Play Time
10:15-10:45	Snack Time
10:45-11:20	Religion / Creative Arts ***
11:20-11:30	Circle Time / Dismissal for 11:30 Students
11:30-12:00	Outdoor Play
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:30	Rest Time
1:30-2:45	Enrichment Activities: Fine Arts, Science, Math Social Studies, Music
2:45-2:55	Circle Time
2:55-3:00	Dismissal for 3:00 students
3:00-3:45	Outside Time
3:45-4:15	Snack Time
4:15-6:00	Free Choice / Arts and Crafts
6:00	Preschool Closes

* The small group lessons will be teacher-directed learning activities. Each child in the class will be assigned to one of four color groups. Each morning, after circle time, they will go to their designated color group with one of the teachers. They will listen to and participate in the lesson of the day. The lessons will vary and rotate through each group during the week. The focus of these lessons will be on building cognitive and/or motor competence.

** The learning centers in the classroom will be the same throughout the year. Each week, based on the theme, specific skill building activities will be available in each area to direct or expand on the discoveries in the classroom. Classroom learning centers include:

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| • Playhouse | • Blocks / Trains |
| • Play Dough | • Easels |
| • Art / Writing | • Cooking |
| • Math / Science / Sensory | • Manipulatives |
| • Quiet Area | Duplos, bristle blocks, unifix cubes, etc. |
- books, puzzles, etc.

*** We use the Our Sunday Visitor "I Am Special" Religious Education Program. In addition to daily religious instruction, the children will have regular exposure to a variety of creative arts activities including art, music, movement and drama.

We use the Houghton Mifflin Pre-K Language Arts and Math curriculum series as well as the Pre-K Handwriting Without Tears program in our classroom.