

PHILOSOPHY

*To provide an environment of Christian love. The needs of the “whole child” will be addressed through hands on activities planned around social/emotional, cognitive and physical development. Our approach is child centered and developmentally appropriate to meet the needs of each individual child. We believe that children learn through **PLAY**.*

SCHOOL HISTORY

Westlake United Methodist Church Preschool has been in operation since January 1980. The Advisory Committee is composed of church members and parents. We were licensed by the State in 1984 and first NAEYC accredited in 1987. The Preschool is currently accredited by Austin Rising Star as a 4 Star Provider.

PURPOSE

To provide hands on developmentally appropriate learning experiences for young children, from infancy to five year olds in a loving and nurturing environment. To support families through communication, involvement and education.

ADMISSION

Westlake United Methodist Preschool is non-discriminatory as to ethnicity, religion, gender, or disability. We welcome all children and plan to meet the needs of each individual child.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To introduce a new and different world into the child's life by:

- Encouraging enjoyment of work and play with others;
- Encouraging the child to see self as an individual in relationship to others;
- Encouraging development of kindness and helpfulness to others;
- Learning to express fears, anxieties and frustrations appropriately.

COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

To recognize a child's curiosity to learn by:

- Exploring new ideas through language and literacy;
- Encouraging independent thinking, questioning and problem solving;
- Encouraging sensory stimuli: vision, hearing, touch, taste and smell; and
- Providing art media, creative expression, music and movement.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

To provide a variety of indoor and outdoor activities for development, such as:

- Playground apparatus for large muscle growth; climbing, sliding, crawling and balancing;
- Natural elements outdoors for exploration and discovery
- Wheel toys, blocks for building and sand and water for imaginative play;
- Painting, clay, scissors, manipulative toys; and
- Musical instruments, musical games and finger plays.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

We believe children learn Christian values by example. Our loving staff help children grow spiritually by:

- Conducting activities in a loving manner
- Attending weekly chapel services
- Celebrating Christian holidays and traditions
- Encouraging tolerance of others

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- Music
- Chapel
- Creative Movement
- Extended Day

