

Blue Horses (three-year old preschool)



The Lead Teacher in this classroom has at minimum an AA or BA in Early Childhood Education. The Classroom Assistant in this classroom has at minimum a CDA or another advanced degree. All staff in the room have at least six to fifteen hours of annual preschool training. This classroom participates in [Head Start Preschool](#) for three-year olds.

As busy three-year olds work and play together, they experience many opportunities to grow and develop socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively. The classroom offers breakfast at 8:30 then after breakfast the children will brush their teeth then join together at the carpet for story, calendar, and music and movement.

This classroom also introduces a preschool curriculum to children which is offered from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. During this time the children will rotate in small groups where they can work on math, writing, language, literacy, and fine motor. The children will begin to write their name and the alphabet through the *Handwriting Without Tears* curriculum. This way they can be taught more easily and efficiently on how to write letters without memorizing them in order but be able to identify the letter itself. The children also get to use their fine motor skills with puzzles, lace cards, as well as getting to use tweezers to pick up small items.

The children will get to take on more responsibilities in the classroom, from group participation/discussion, classroom jobs, and learning to cooperate with their teachers and classmates by using their words.

Creative Curriculum is used to plan lessons, to assess children three times a year, and to create goals which are shared with families at conferences twice a year.

Staff ratio in this classroom is one staff to every eight children with a maximum group size of sixteen children in this classroom. A third staff may be brought in during morning preschool to help with projects and activities.

In accordance with our participation in the *Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)*, meals are served in a combination of pre-plated and family-style so children learn about healthy-eating, and meal-time skills like how to pass, scoop, pour, and wait until everyone is served before eating.

Naps are taken every afternoon varying from 12:30 to 2:30 then followed by snack. Large motor time is scheduled daily outside, if the weather allows, or in our gym in the morning and afternoons. The afternoon schedule includes a mixture of structured and free-play opportunities.

Blue Horses will then transition at the end of the day to the Purple Cats room from 5 to 5:30 for free play, then transfer from 5:30 to 6 in Green Frogs during pick up times.