

Music Education

At St. Francis Preschool, we believe that Music and Movement education are vital to the development of the whole child. On the surface, music education may seem like playtime. But the learning that takes place in a quality music education program lays the foundation for language acquisition, reading, and math. In addition, music provides social and emotional benefits. It can calm us when we're agitated, energize us when we feel down, and be an outlet for us to express a wide variety of other emotions. Music can also connect us to others through its communal nature. Sharing music with others enhances both the musical experience as well as the relationship between people.

Each music class at St. Francis includes an opportunity for creative expression, instrument exploration, movement to music, and, of course, singing. Using folk songs from multiple cultures, we emphasize steady beat, rhythm and tonal training, along with creative expression and exploration using instruments and imagination. There are two performance opportunities during the school year, our Christmas program in December which is put on by our 3 and 4 year old classes; and our Spring Musical in April which includes participation from all the children. Families and friends are invited to both productions.

Movement Education

At St. Francis Preschool, we know how important movement is to a child's physical, neurological, and cognitive development. That's why we emphasize Movement education in our curriculum with all of our students. While the focus of our Movement program is gross motor development, we also teach the students introductory nutrition and health concepts such as healthy food versus unhealthy foods and what certain body parts, such as the heart, are and how we can take care of them.

With the use of specifically selected activities, we hope to enrich your child's physical development as well as their ability to integrate all forms of sensory input they might encounter. Learning to follow the rules of a game and work as a team are goals for our oldest students. However, all students learn greater impulse control and social skills through Movement class. In the end, all of our students learn the most important lesson-God made our amazing bodies and we need to take care of them.