



Lebanon City Schools
Preschool Program

Bowman Primary School

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Preschool Curriculum

Everything we do in preschool is centered on the Ohio Learning and Development Standards. The Early Learning Standards are milestones organized by age for children who are typically developing. Access to the standards can be found here: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Early-Learning-Content-Standards/The-Standards>

Our preschool day is BUSY! We embed learning and skill building throughout the entire day in an active and exciting way...often the children do not realize they are learning! Lesson plans and activities are thoughtfully planned to ensure they are meaningful. Activities are adaptive and modified to meet the needs of all students within the classroom, thus the reason we do a lot of small group learning!

The Creative Curriculum

To assist in creating purposeful lesson, we use a highly regarded, research based curriculum The Creative Curriculum. The philosophy of this curriculum is that children in preschool learn best by doing. There are several themes within the curriculum, each encourage exploration, experimentation, and discussions. There is a lot of room for teachers to add their own creative spin to activities, and make modifications for their students. The creative curriculum emphasizes the physical environment within a classroom and provides great strategies to set up materials in a way where children can construct their own experiences.

Assessments

Students within the classroom are informally assessed every day. We note student's strengths, and we also determine if there are any areas of need. If there are certain areas of weakness, we create activities to practice the particular skills.

Classroom Screener - The preschool intervention specialists utilize a preschool screener that measures students' kindergarten readiness skills(number identification, counting, letter identification, letter sound knowledge, color/shape identification and handwriting). This assessment is given 3x per year to measure progress and determine if there is a need to create extra learning opportunities for specific areas.

Ohio's Early Learning Assessment (ELA) is a tool for teachers of all Ohio preschool age children to learn about the current level of each child's skills, knowledge and behaviors in the areas of Social Foundations, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Well-Being and Motor Development, as well as the Fine Arts. This assessment requires teachers to observe children during the natural course of the child's day. The ELA is a continuous process of knowing about the child's learning as the learning is happening throughout the year. This process allows the teacher to form an understanding of the child's learning and development that will assist them in planning future learning opportunities.

Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) is a developmental screening tool given at the beginning of the school year to measure age appropriate skills in that areas of speech, physical ability, social skills and problem-solving skills. The data for the assessment is based on parent reporting.



Preschool Enrichment Opportunities

One of the benefits of being part of the Lebanon School district is that we have access to a wide variety of school and community resources. Because of this, we have been able to add a number of wonderful and engaging enrichment programs. Below is a description of some of the programs that we have been able to offer students:

- *Romp and Stomp*

This is a monthly gross motor session with one of our school physical therapists. She plans fun age-appropriate activities to encourage your child's gross motor development.
- *Dental Health Program*

A pediatric dentist visits the school annually to teach students about proper dental hygiene practices
- *Lebanon Librarian Visits*

Miss Connie, the Children's Librarian from the public library visits our classrooms monthly to share stories and songs with students
- *Resources from Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, and Physical Therapists*

Therapists collaborate with the preschool teachers on ways to incorporate age-appropriate fine motor, gross motor, and communication development activities
- *Visits from Community Members*

Various community members visit the classroom to discuss topics that align with our units of study. Some previous speakers have been a naturalist, police officers, firefighters, nurses, a zookeeper and animals from the Cincinnati Zoo, Brutus the Therapy Dog and a conservation specialist.
- *School Assemblies and Programs*

When our schedule allows, we participate in school assemblies and programs. These can include vocal performances, mobile science enrichment program, MadCap Puppets



Preparing for Preschool

What can you do to prepare your child for Preschool?

★ *Read, Read, Read!*

- Make reading together a daily habit. Talk about the things they see in the text and help kids make connections to their own world.
- Book ideas to learn more about preschool:
 - *What to Expect at Preschool* by Heidi Murkoff
 - *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn
 - *Preschool Day Hooray* by Linda Leopold Strauss
 - *Llama Llama Time to Share* by Anna Dewdney
- Visit the library
 - The Lebanon City Library has a great story and craft time.
 - Check out their schedule at <https://lebanonlibrary.org/programs/story-time>

★ *Establish routines/responsibilities for your child*

- Put away laundry
- Set the dinner table
- Clean up toys

★ *Interact with same age friends*

★ *Encourage your child to use their words and expand their sentences to communicate their wants and needs*

★ *Color, paint, cut with scissors*

★ *Practice writing their name and learning the letters within their name*

★ *Encourage self-help skills*

- Putting on clothing/coats/shoes
- Handwashing
- Packing up their backpack by zipping and putting/taking items in or out