LAKEVIEW ACADEMY

Preschool

# Curriculum

## PreK 4

In the early learning classroom, students begin their journey into the reading process through exposure to stories, songs, and finger plays. Students are given many rich opportunities to aid in the development of both their receptive and expressive language skills. During this time, letters and initial sounds are introduced. Correct pencil grip is emphasized, as children learn to write letters, especially those appearing in their names.

Mathematical investigations occur through observations, working with manipulatives, and exploration of an object's attributes. In addition to rote counting, children begin to explore one-to-one correspondence, conservation, and spatial and time relationships.

Self-awareness, cooperative play, and pro-social skills are emphasized. Through group activities and unit projects, students will develop self-confidence, self-awareness, and emerging citizenship skills.

### Art

Students experience drawing, painting, printmaking, cutting, folding, clay plaster, and crafts. Through guided lessons, children learn how to use various tools and materials to create works of art, while concurrently developing their visual- and fine-motor skills.

### Library

The mission of the library is to encourage curiosity and to support instruction through collaboration with classroom teachers. Students in PreK 4 attend regular library lessons. Our youngest students enjoy story time while learning how to use a library.

### Music

The PreK 4 music class serves as an introduction to singing, listening, rhythmic, and creative movement activities. Concepts of music that PreK 4 students will be able to identify are rhythm (beat and tempo), tone color, melody, form, dynamics, and style. The class provides a wide range of activities that involve classical works, traditional and folk songs, and music from other cultures. Students will perform in several choral programs throughout the year.

### Physical Education

Children are introduced to activities to build strength, stamina, and awareness of their bodies in space. The focus is on the development of gross motor skills through cooperative games and teamwork. Sharing, taking turns, and exhibiting self-control are taught and practiced within the context of this class.

### Science

Children are naturally inquisitive, and science helps foster this innate curiosity in our young learners. At this age, our students get the opportunity to explore the world around them through regular science centers in their classrooms and periodic trips to our lower school science lab. Observational and inference skills are emphasized in this early phase of scientific learning. In addition to classroom and science lab activities, Smithgall Wood's staff regularly visits throughout the year, providing fantastic presentations and experiences for our students.

### Spanish

Through songs, games, finger plays, and dance, students will develop an appreciation for the Spanish language. They will learn simple words and phrases as they begin to express themselves in Spanish.