**Sharks Curriculum**

Our four-year-old students are developing language, social-emotional, cognitive, literary, and motor skills at a rapid pace. Each student has an individual learning style that we are increasingly aware of and able to teach to. The teacher-to-student ratio is excellent and our classroom space is enriched with an abundance of age-appropriate curriculum resources. It is with great pride that we engage and support our students and their parents in the learning process as we set the foundation for a lifetime of positive learning experiences.

The curriculum at The Little Schoolhouse for the 4-year-old class is play-based and theme oriented. It is a compilation of curriculum that has been developed by the teachers at The Little Schoolhouse.

Every week the focus is on a specific theme, letter, number, shape and value. Math and language activities are planned relating to the theme with a multi-sensory, hands-on approach that encourages the child’s sense of exploration and discovery.

In addition to creative applications of appropriate curriculum we include Handwriting Without Tears. This is a dynamic and interactive handwriting program that starts with small motor skills and facilitates posture, pencil grip and accurate letter formation through a series of multi-sensory skills. This reading and writing readiness program has a fantastic rate of success and achievement.

All activities including Sports, Music, Spanish and Science are developmentally appropriate.

Children are guided to respond positively in social situations by using encouraging words and self-control. We are attentive to children as they gain social confidence by assisting them to use kind words in sharing situations

Various approaches to learning are used to keep the students learning and interested. As an example, for a Space theme, we might make a moonscape using flour and salt dough, and then cut and paste planets on to a construction paper solar system.

At other times we sing songs, read stories, use visual displays and puppets to enhance and facilitate our literacy skills.

Children and teachers alike enjoy learning in the four-year-old Sharks classroom at The Little Schoolhouse. It is a positive and caring environment, an ideal beginning for a lifetime of learning.