

GETTING STARTED at **Stepping Stones** Preschool

a ministry of
Rockwall Free Methodist Church

Most children are happy about starting Preschool. Some, however, do become tearful when the actual time arrives. Here are a few things that parents can do to help the situation:

- 1) Don't be late. Arrive promptly at 9:00 a.m.
- 2) Say a quick good-bye at the classroom door, allowing the teacher to lead your child to an opening activity.
- 3) Our teachers have experience and training in early childhood education. They know, love, and understand children. Place your child in her hands, assure him/her that you will return and leave promptly. (If you need reassurance that your child is doing fine once you leave, please come to the office. We will go check on your child and report back to you. This keeps your child from seeing you and will keep you and your child from going over separation again.)
- 4) Don't be late in picking up your child. The child who has difficulty with separation and is picked up late is often very upset.

NOTE: It is our policy that children not be accepted into the classrooms until 9:00 a.m. If you arrive before 9:00 a.m., please wait with your child in the hallway. Never leave your child unattended in their classroom.

PRE-ENROLLMENT CHECK-LIST

All items listed below must be completed BEFORE the first day of Preschool.

- 1) Two-Sided Enrollment Form including Physician's/Health Personnel signature at: Health Requirements, and Admission Requirements.
- 2) Current Copy of Immunizations. Children require vaccines at age 18 months and age 4 years. Check with your child's physician to ensure that their immunizations are up to date before the first day of Preschool.
- 3) Authorization for Emergency Medical Care.
- 4) Signed Parent Acknowledgment
- 5) Copy of current personal insurance card.

ESSENTIALS

Backpack - Large enough to hold a lunch box, change of clothes, coat, blanket, artwork, etc.

Label ALL items brought to school with your child's name to avoid confusion.

Children entering our three, four, and five year old classes should be **completely potty trained** before preschool begins. Two-year olds are not expected to be potty trained.

FOOD

Send a **nutritious lunch**, include **finger foods**, a **drink box/thermos**, and plastic **spoon** if needed.

Do not send food that has to be **heated or pizza/taco lunchables** or food kits, as they are too hard for the child to prepare without teacher assistance. Please, **limit sweets**, especially candy, including chocolate.

CLOTHING

Children should wear washable play clothes, free from complicated fastenings, and preferably rubber soled shoes.

- 1) **NO SANDALS, CLOGS, or FLIP FLOPS.** Children have a very difficult time playing on the playground and walking up and down stairs with this type of shoe.
- 2) Include in your child's backpack a complete change of clothing in a zip-lock baggie, labeled with child's name.

REST-TIME

Each child should have a mat to rest on. A thin, **vinyl**, tri-fold **mat** is easy to handle and keep clean. (Mats are sold at Wal-Mart in September and year around at Mardel in Mesquite.) Label the mat with your child's name using a permanent marker.

TOYS

No toys should be brought to school as they cause confusion and may be lost. The other children find it too difficult to understand why the child who brought the toy does not have to share his or her toy. We cannot be responsible for personal toys, special blankets, or irreplaceable items.

TUITION

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month by check, made payable to Stepping Stones Preschool. A late fee of \$10.00 will be charged for payments not received by the 10th of the month. Returned check charge is \$20.00