

October 2, 2023



St Patrick's Preschool October News

All About Assessments

Assessments are important tools for educators as they provide a snapshot of where children are in their learning journey. The information collected helps teachers plan appropriate activities to develop both strengths and weaknesses. Keep in mind that assessments are simply tools, not predictors of future academic success, or a reflection of parent involvement. Each child develops at their own pace, and each has individual strengths and interests.

Some children may be more interested in gross motor play, some in creative expression, and others in numbers and mathematical concepts. Exposing young children to a variety of experiences helps to put the necessary framework in place for future reading, writing, and critical thinking. If you notice a child that is reading or recognizing letters before your child do not be concerned, skills in reading and math typically even out by third grade. Below are the areas of development that will be assessed by your child's teacher. These are developing skills for preschoolers and are not expected to be mastered:

Two and Three Year Olds:

The developmental checklist for younger preschool children focuses on teacher observations in three areas of growth:

- **Social and emotional growth**, including how your child plays alone and with friends, separates from parent, expresses feelings verbally, and asks for help when needed.
- **Physical development**, including fine motor skills (squeezing play dough, scribbling, stacking blocks) and gross motor skills (running, climbing and throwing).
- **Intellectual development**, including listening skills, sorting and working simple puzzles, following simple directions, and knowing their name and age.

Four and Five Year Olds:

Older preschool children are assessed on kindergarten readiness skills including knowing names and sounds of letters, recognizing numbers to 10, knowing basic shapes and colors, and starting to write their names and other simple words.

Social growth and language are exploding at this age, and number sense is developing. Children become interested in playing with their peers instead of along side of them, and imaginative play emerges. Fine and gross motor skills continue to develop at each child's individual pace.

Your child's teacher has spent time working thoughtfully through each assessment and will share the results with you at the end of the week. If you have questions and would like to set up a time to chat with your child's teacher you can

*October's Artist is **Piet Mondrian**. Mondrian developed his style at a time when art was changing from painting landscapes and portraits to using more shape and color. He loved the use of bright geometric shapes and intersecting lines.*

*October's Author study is **Anna Dewdney** and her "Llama Llama" series. These books are fun to read and have wonderful illustrations. They also dig deep into all kinds of issues that young children might encounter.*

Upcoming Events:

- October 9th - Teacher Work Day NO SCHOOL
- October 16th - Trip to Patterson Farm (9:00 arrival)
10390 Caldwell Rd. | Mount Ulla, NC 28125
- October 31st - Halloween! Costumes welcome!
- November 1st - Teacher Work Day NO SCHOOL
- November 9th - Diwali Celebration
- November 10th - Veterans Day NO SCHOOL

