



WHAT TO EXPECT

All children work on an age based curriculum to help them prepare for school. Each class focuses on the basics (A, B, C's, 1, 2, 3's, colors, shapes, etc.), a monthly bible verse, daily prayers and classroom etiquette. Please try and have your child arrive on time so that he/she does not miss anything important.

In addition to the age based curriculum:

- Each age group will learn basic musical concepts such as dynamics, rhythm and tempo in age appropriate activities. Creative movement and the use of rhythm instruments are used to expand their understanding of musical and literary concepts.
- Adventurous One's introduces your little one to a preschool setting. They learn how to sit in circle time and at tables for lunch and crafts. They are introduced to prayers, music, and sharing concepts. The Adventurous Ones also enjoy buggy rides, gymnastics, outside time and gym time.
- Toddling Two's, Terrific Three's and Fabulous Four's have added a dedicated time to explore science and math concepts (i.e., S.T.E.M., Five Senses, Weather, Seasons and more). They also explore art appreciation and will learn general art concepts such as primary and secondary colors, texture and pattern.
- Fabulous Four's proudly teaches a Pre-K curriculum from Handwriting Without Tears. They work on letter writing & recognition, pre-reading skills, basic literary skills, math, science and social studies.
- Our Spanish component has been a huge success. We look to continue expanding this learning adventure.

WHAT TO BRING

All children should bring a backpack and their lunch for the day. We ask that you refrain from packing peanut butter or anything nut related do to allergies. We do our best to accommodate all but that is one common allergy that we know can be an issue. Those that are not potty-trained need to bring two labeled diapers each day they attend. Parents are responsible for providing the diapers; please note we do not have extra diapers. Toys from home can be lost or cause friction among children; we ask that you encourage your child to leave all toys and personal items at home. Adventurous One's may bring something for security such as a pacifier or blanket for comfort which the teacher will place in his or her back pack at the first available opportunity.

SUPPLIES

Throughout the school year we use a lot of supplies for communication, crafts, gross motor and daily care. We are asking for your help with some items that you would normally purchase for school. These items will be used throughout the year for your child's classroom.

Please send the following items to preschool with your child at the orientation meeting or on their first day of school.

1 change of clothes labeled in a zip-lock bag	<u>For the 1's</u>
3 containers of baby wipes	1 box of tissues
2 plain white short-sleeve t-shirts	1 bottle of hand SOAP
	2 plastic poly 2-pocket portfolio with fasteners

1 change of clothes labeled in a zip-lock bag	<u>For the 2's</u>
2 containers of baby wipes	1 box of tissues
2 plastic poly 2-pocket portfolio with fasteners	1 bottle of hand SOAP
	2 white short-sleeve t-shirts

1 change of clothes labeled in a zip-lock bag	<u>For the 3's</u>
2 containers of baby wipes	1 box of tissues
1 container of playdoh	2 white short-sleeve t-shirts
	2 plastic poly 2-pocket portfolio with fasteners

1 change of clothes labeled in a zip-lock bag	<u>For the 4's</u>
1 container of baby wipes	1 box of tissues
1 bottle of hand sanitizer	1 bottle of hand SOAP
1 men's white, short sleeved, collared dress shirt	2 white short-sleeve t-shirts
1 (Red) plastic poly 2-pocket portfolio with fasteners (Read Every Day folder)	1 family picture
1 (any color) plastic poly 2-pocket portfolio with fasteners (Daily Work folder)	

Donations are always welcome at our preschool! If you have any gently used toys or books that your children grow out of and would like to donate them to the preschool, please send them to the preschool office.

WHAT TO WEAR

Since we learn through play and discover many new things, stains may occur. We ask that you dress them in clothing that is simple, comfortable, washable, and easy for your child to manage. Rubber soled shoes are a must during running and outdoor activities. If clothing is stained, we will dress your child in their extra set of clothes and the soiled clothing returned to you in their backpack. **Don't forget to send an extra set of clothing back if this happens.**

MESSAGES FROM SCHOOL

Your child will need to bring a backpack to school each day. This backpack is used to transport lunch, his/her folder containing papers, messages, crafts along with any soiled clothes. The folder will contain a class schedule, calendar and student roster. If you need an additional electronic copy of these items, please contact his/her teacher. Calendars will inform you of the activities planned, daily behavior and academic focal points for the month. Please refer to it so that your child can be properly prepared for his or her school day. **"My Week Sheets"** will be emailed home at the end of each week and describe what books were read, songs sang, and teachers notes. **Please check your child's bag after school each day to ensure that you don't miss any important news.**

LABELING

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of labeling ALL your child's personal belongings. Very often if an item is not labeled, teachers are unable to determine its owner. Therefore, if your child brings it to school, make sure that their name is clearly written on it. This means that you label EVERYTHING!

shoes
coats
utensils

socks
umbrellas
lunch boxes

clothes
backpacks
drink cups

diapers
towels
bathing suits

LUNCH

It is the parent's responsibility to pack a nutritious lunch each day for their preschooler. Teachers will monitor the students during lunch each day to insure safety and assist with opening containers. However, they will **NOT** be responsible for the order or amount your child chooses to eat of his or her lunch items nor will lunches be heated. You are encouraged to use insulated containers to keep your child's lunch appropriately hot or cold.

Families also have an option to order lunch through Mama's Pizza Cornelius. If you wish to do so, visit their website at Lakenorman.hotlunch.com and create an account by clicking "New User". This is a third party option and is separate from the Y. If you should have any questions regarding Mama's, please call 704-892-3305 directly.

ALLERGIES

While the YMCA of Greater Charlotte is committed to a peanut allergy friendly facility, we cannot guarantee that peanuts will not find their way into our facility. We ask that you continue to take every precaution to protect yourself and your children from unwanted exposure to peanut allergens. If your child has ANY food allergies, please let us know.

CLASS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

You may celebrate your child's birthday in class by making advance arrangements with his/her teachers. Remember while the YMCA of Greater Charlotte is committed to a peanut allergy friendly facility, we cannot guarantee that peanuts will not find their way into our facility. We ask that you continue to take every precaution to protect yourself and your children from unwanted exposure to peanut allergens. Please check with your child's teachers on any food allergies that a child may have in the classroom and they may be able to make suggestions if needed. We understand that you may not be able to invite the entire class to your child's birthday party. So, to prevent any hurt feelings, we ask that you to send any birthday invitations electronically and **NOT** through the teachers. Also presents should not be exchanged in the classroom.

ILLNESS

The Lake Norman YMCA cannot provide care for sick children. Each day upon arrival, children are observed for symptoms of illness. We will call parents to pick up a child for the following reasons:

- A child shows obvious signs of communicable illness such as red matted eyes, unusual spots and rashes, sore throat, severe coughing, or nausea and vomiting,
- A child has a fever, 100°F or higher,
- lice are discovered, or
- A child has no overt symptoms of illness, but displays significant behavior changes, is clearly uncomfortable, and unable to participate in activities.

If a parent cannot be reached, we will call an emergency contact number listed on the child's personal information form. **Please be considerate of all the students and teachers in the classroom and do not send your sick child to**

school. Children sent home with undiagnosed rashes will require a doctor's note to return to school. If an illness such as lice, Fifth Disease or Chicken Pox is reported to us, the preschool will send an email notice home to students so that all parents in that class can be alert for symptoms.

EMERGENCIES

Our preschool staff will treat routine cuts, scrapes, and bumps. However, we will contact you in the case of any injury to the head, a biting incident, serious illness or a serious accident involving your child. If you cannot be reached, your signed authorization on your child's health form allows us to secure prompt treatment. Please note that in the case of a life-threatening emergency, we will call 911 first.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

As with the school calendar, the Lake Norman YMCA Preschool follows the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School (CMS) system's inclement weather schedule. If CMS is closed, then our preschool is closed, if CMS is on a one-hour delay, the preschool will also open one hour late and close at our regular time. If CMS has a two-hour delay, the preschool will also open two hours late at 10:30am and start rides out at 1:05pm. The Lake Norman YMCA **DOES NOT** make up school days missed due to inclement weather even if CMS has scheduled a make-up day.

FIRE DRILLS

To prepare our students for the possibility of a fire in the Lake Norman YMCA complex we will conduct regular fire drills. Students will be taught how to leave the building quickly and in an orderly fashion. We will congregate either on the upper or lower field, depending on the location of your child's classroom. In the event of an actual fire, we will contact you to pick up your child when the authorities from the Fire Department tell us it is safe.

NUCLEAR EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of a nuclear accident at Catawba Nuclear plant, the Lake Norman YMCA will evacuate. Members will need to provide their own transportation except for children in the Preschool and Afterschool programs. We will transport children by van or private car (if necessary) to the Statesville Branch of the YMCA of Iredell County. If a nuclear accident does occur, please do NOT go to the Lake Norman YMCA to pick up your child. Proceed to the Statesville YMCA, Lake Norman checkout procedures will be in effect and a photo ID is required to pick up any child.

Directions to the Statesville YMCA (704 873-9622) Take I—77 N to Exit 51 (I-40 W). Take I-40 W to exit 150 for Downtown Statesville. Turn left at the end of the ramp onto N. Center St. Turn Left at the first light onto Hartness. Proceed through the caution light. Turn left on Wesley Drive (Wesley Memorial UMC is on the corner). The YMCA is on the right.