

A Day in the life of Marshall Pre-Kindergarten Students

Marshall Pre-Kindergarten students' day begins bright and early at 7:50 a.m. where they wait outside for their teacher to pick them up. When they arrive at their classroom they put their things away in their lockers and put their homework folders in a basket. (Yes, a Pre-K student has homework!).

Attendance is called, 2 students are off to get breakfast as the rest of the class goes a few at a time to the library to check out a book (everyday). When breakfast arrives students eat and quietly socialize with their peers. As they finish their breakfast (which is free for every student) they enjoy books that they have self selected from baskets and take drink/restroom breaks.



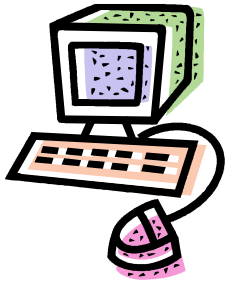
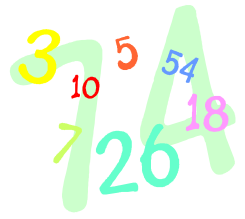
Next is the 2 hour literacy block. During this time students are actively participating in whole group instruction and literacy centers. Whole group instruction can include a fiction read aloud, word wall activities, phonics games, and a non-fiction read aloud. During literacy centers students are listening to stories, researching non-fiction books, manipulating letters, making letter shapes, self select reading and having a skill group with the teacher.

Social studies or science is after the 2 hour reading block. Students learn about their community, weather, how to eat healthy, and many other things related to social studies and science objectives.

Are you hungry yet? We are!!! After a morning filled with instruction and learning it is time for lunch. After a quick restroom break and hand washing it is off to the cafeteria for lunch. Students enjoy eating their lunch with their peers and helping keep it clean when lunch is over. Recess is next!!! We love to be outside. On inside days we can either have little gym time or enjoy inside games in the classroom. When recess is over we have a drink break and then it is back to more learning.



No time to rest for us...that's right: no nap time for our Pre-K friends. It is time for our 1 hour math block. During math block we have calendar time, whole group math instruction and math centers where we sort, make patterns, count and do other fun math related centers.



A number of things can happen after math block. Three days a week we go to the computer lab where we get on starfall.com, rainforestmaths.com or Waterford, a phonics software. Computer time is great! Pre-Kindergarten students learn so much hand-eye coordination and are learning how to become more technology ready for grades to come. On days we don't have computer lab we manipulate puzzles or have journal time.



Of course after all of that work and using our brains we need to feed them...again. We have a quick snack and then have "8 smart" centers. At "8 smart" centers we use our intelligences to learn in a fun way. Examples of "8 smart" centers are: body smart-sand table, blocks, and puzzles; music smart-instruments, headphones with music; self smart-quiet corner; people smart-dramatic play, games; picture smart-art table, play dough; number smart-math games, number books, etc.; nature smart-science materials; word smart-alphabet materials, books, etc.



After "8 smarts" we cleanup and get our back packs. We review what we did that day and go over homework for that night. We go to P.E./Music/Little gym and then it is time to go home.

Yes, in Pre-K we do play (some), but as you can also see we are busy learning all day long in a fun way!