



Welcome to Miss Crystal Molinar's Prekindergarten 2 Class 2022 - 2023 School Year

I am very happy that your family will be a part of this special year that I have planned for us. I would like to start by telling you a little about myself. My name is Crystal Molinar. I have taught for 22 years and I am entering my 18th year at Little School of the West. I have my Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development. I believe that God has called me to this profession and I will do my best to let Him guide me in teaching, caring for, and loving your children. My classroom theme, "sloths", is based on the scripture found in Psalm 37:7 "**Rest** in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him". We will learn how God is always there for us, how we can rest in His promises and how He has made each one of us special in our very own unique way.

Newsletter

Each week there will be a class newsletter that will inform you of what we will learn for the week and if there are any special activities planned. You can access the class newsletter on our website: <http://littleschoolofthewest.com> and it will be posted on the outside classroom window.

Lesson Plan

I welcome any questions you may have and invite you to look at the lesson plan on my desk, if you would like to know more about our activities for the week. I have many activities planned that encourage learning in all areas of development. I try hard to make the lessons exciting, engaging and beneficial for each child.

Unit of Study

Every week we will explore a different subject about the world around us. I try to plan as many activities as possible around the unit to help give the students a full understanding of the subject. For example, the first week of school we learn about the human body, so our art, books, music and science will reflect that unit of study.



Bible Story

We will have a new Bible Story each week. As a school whose foundation is Christian, we believe in the importance of teaching the children about the people and happenings in the Bible and how these lessons can be applied to our lives. We do this through our Bible story books, flannel board figures, dramatic play, music, videos, and art. The children will also learn several Bible verses throughout the year. I will send home a color sheet for each verse, so they can share what they are learning in class with you.

Share Time

Our class will have share time on Thursdays and Fridays. T/Th students may bring 1 item to share on Thursday. M/W/F & 5-day students may bring 1 item to share on Friday. To make this a learning time, as well as a fun time, I have set up some guidelines. Each week I will list in the newsletter what the share items will be for that week. We have a vast variety of Units of Study so your child will have an opportunity during the course of the year to bring that "favorite" toy. To maintain continuity with the lesson, I ask that one item pertaining to the unit of study be brought. This will be an opportunity for your child to work on their communication skills and speaking in front of their peers. Please have your child bring something each week, but do not allow them to bring any toys that promote violence. Please be sure to clearly label your child's share with their name.

S.P.A. (Self-Pronouncing Alphabet) Phonics Program

Each week the students will be introduced to a new letter of the alphabet. The students will learn a jingle to help them remember the sound of the letter. Not only do we teach your child to recognize the letter of the alphabet each week, but we also teach your child the sound or sounds. In the case of multiple sounds for one letter (i.e. "A") we take one full week per sound. By the end of the year your child, hopefully, will have grasped not only the recognition of the letters, but also the letter sounds.



Printing Practice

Parents often ask, "How soon will my child begin writing in class?" We will begin right away with proper pincer grip and proper "printing" techniques, as well as, learn the shape of the letters. This is a skill that will develop all year. We will learn how to properly form the letters, starting at the top of the letter and moving from left to right, while properly holding the pencil to form the letters and have fine motor control. Also, I will teach that when printing, some letters are capitalized, i.e., the first letter in our name, and some are not. To ensure your child develops these skills correctly, it requires me, while they are printing, to walk around adjusting pincer grips and encouraging proper direction of the letters.

Weekly Academics to Practice

Each week, there will be a color, shape, and number to practice recognizing, printing, and/or drawing. We will go over these in class, along with our curriculum. I encourage you to practice these at home with your child.

Health Check

Each day your child attends school we will do a visual health check upon arrival, before you (the parent) leave, to help insure the health and safety of all of our students. This is mandated by the Dept. of Social Service, Community Care Licensing.



Special Happenings

We have many special things happening at school. We will cook special snacks, have fun science experiments, have class parties, and other special days. I will always let you know in our weekly newsletter what is happening so you, too, can be a part of our day. I sometimes need parent participation, so on those occasions, I will put a sign-up sheet on the window of our classroom.

Birthdays

Birthdays are very important to each child. We like to recognize each student on their birthday by giving them a birthday crown. The student may bring a special snack (this is optional). Please let the office know, one month, in advance so we can include this in my lesson plan. Some ideas for this special snack may be: mini muffins, cookies, brownies, or mini cupcakes. Reminder: cakes are not allowed. We celebrate birthdays during morning snack time.

Sticker Cards

To help build your child's self-esteem, I will give each of the students a weekly sticker card. Stickers may be earned in many ways. For example: sitting like a student, being a listener, following the rules, being a helper, knowing the correct answer, etc. The students work hard all week for their stickers and, on Thursday or Friday, I will send the sticker cards home. This positive reinforcement helps your child to gain confidence, learn self-discipline and have fun in the process.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children better this year. Your children are very special to me and I keep them in my prayers. Please let me know if there is anything you need; I am always willing to help.

God Bless You,
Miss Crystal Molinar

