**OBJECTIVES OF PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

At Learning Tree, we use Creative Curriculum® to guide our program. We also use the Michigan Department of Education’s State Standards to ensure our instruction provides the highest quality education. Coupling our knowledge of child development with a warm and loving environment helps your child learn through each part of their school day. When you see *play*, we see a child at **work**. The teachers select materials and provide unique experiences during choice time so that each area engages the child’s curiosity.

To insure the safety and enjoyment of students and staff, we use our “walking feet” and “inside voices” whenever we are inside the preschool.

**Sensory Fun:**

Children learn fine motor skills that help them with writing (though they don’t know it!). They learn about gravity, volume, and spatial relations while interacting with sand, play dough, and more. They also learn about their five senses and how we experience them in their daily lives.

**Art:**

For many children art is often a first line of communication. Children develop the ability to express themselves in safe ways, using of a variety of mediums. They discover the various properties as they interact with glue, recycled materials, hole punches, writing materials, and even staplers and tape! All of these actions strengthen their little hands and prepare them for writing. Art fosters creativity and instills a positive self-image as students gain confidence by controlling what they create.

**Table Activities, Blocks, and Building:**

Shapes, structure, spatial relations, counting, and more is what children use when engaged in these areas. Practice in planning, teamwork, and problem solving, help to encourage creative and cooperative minds.

**Home Center:**

Here the children try on adult roles. They use what they’ve observed at home to explore different behaviors in a space built for them. They learn to interact with their peers and develop relationships while sharing and taking turns. Imaginations get to run wild as the children engage in both fantasy and realistic role-modeling.

**Moving, Grooving, and Outdoor Play:**

Children learn control of their bodies and large muscle groups as they learn body awareness and create a body/brain connection. They learn to control themselves as they take turns during games of tag, use of the parachute, and duck, duck, goose. These activities help children control themselves during other activities as well!