

Half-day Preschool Programs

Preschool Educates All Children
Preschool for All Learning Styles

* PEACH Preschool Program

The PEACH preschool program is intended for children ages 3 to 5 who have a significant delay or handicapping condition in one or more of the following areas: speech and language, motor, cognition, social/emotional, vision, hearing or physical. The half-day program offers its participants a consistent daily routine designed to promote active learning and exploration and to encourage decision making throughout the day. Chil-

dren engage in a variety of readiness, motor, language and social activities, working with adults individually and in groups. A developmental approach enables the educators to identify the child's level of readiness and need in order to create opportunities for him or her to exercise and extend merging abilities and to reinforce existing strengths.

The PEACH staff includes a Special Education teacher, a

speech/language pathologist, and at least one instructional aide. Occupational therapy and physical therapy are provided to children in need of these related services. Speech and language therapy is integrated throughout the day.

The program meets Monday through Thursday at Liberty Corner School from 9:30am to noon for 3 year-olds and from 1:00-3:30pm for 4 year-olds.

* PALS Half-day Preschool Program

Like the PEACH program, the PALS half-day preschool offers morning sessions Monday through Thursday for 3 year-olds and afternoon sessions for 4 and 5 year-olds. A unique component of this program, however, is that it brings together preschool handicapped and non-disabled peers who serve as peer role models.

The PALS program is staffed by a certified teacher and two instructional aides. Speech and language therapy and related services are provided for students who require them.

In the spring of each year, a lottery is held to select nine general education peers. Students who win this lottery are invited to return the following year as 4 year-olds.

The PALS curriculum includes movement, music, arts and crafts, and thematic centers (e.g., sand play, etc.) to enrich the preschool experience.

