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## The Benefits of Play

*Play is one of the central ingredients in our pre-school programs at Happy Face.*

**Research proves** that young children need to develop socially and emotionally in order to attain academic excellence. Through play, children learn to interact with others, develop language skills, recognize and solve problems, and discover their potential.

**Physical development** is fostered through various forms of play. Gross motor skills develop on the playground and with other whole-body activities, such as in sing-along pantomimes and role-playing games. Fine motor skills are sharpened when handling small toys, games, and art materials.

**Mental development** occurs as children use their minds to solve puzzles, create imaginary worlds, figure out ways to build things, make crafts, and handle real-life materials.



*"Play is important for children of all abilities because it lays the foundation for reading, writing, mathematical reasoning, and creativity." — Beth Boosalis Davis, Executive Director, National Lekotek Center*

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## About Our School

*Celebrating Over 30 Years of Happy Faces!*

Happy Face Nursery School has been educating local families since 1973. It is a New Jersey State Certified, non-profit, non-sectarian institution governed by a Board of Trustees.

All of our teachers are college graduates and collectively receive 100 hours of continuing credit in early childhood education every year. The Board is comprised of parents, staff, and community members. We pride ourselves on being a pre-school versus a day care center. Families are important to us, and opportunities are always available to participate with your child in school.

Our curriculum is a developmentally appropriate, literature-based program with an emphasis on learning through hands-on experiences such as art projects, small and large motor play, sing-a-longs, and field trips. Children ages 2 ½ to 6, are encouraged to explore, question, and problem solve through social interaction with peers and teachers.



## Happy Face Nursery School

*Located on the corner of Route 513 and Sliker Road  
in the Lower Valley Presbyterian Church*

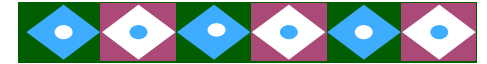
P.O. Box 81

Califon, NJ 07830

Phone: 908-832-7510

Fax: 908-832-7510

[www.happyfacenurseryschool.com](http://www.happyfacenurseryschool.com)



## All About the Fab 5s

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Happy Face Nursery School

Two Program Choices:

**Monday to Friday**

9:00-11:30 AM

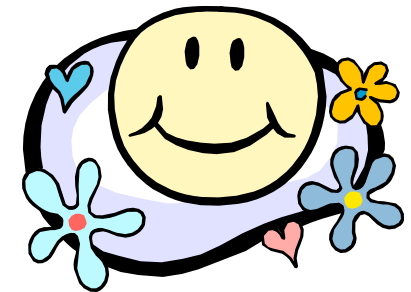
or

**Monday to Thursday**

12:30-3:00 PM

Lunch Bunch available

11:30 AM-12:30 PM



*Children playing and  
learning — one happy  
face at a time*

**Tel: 908-832-7510**



# Why the Fab 5s?

## A Gift of Time to Grow

Give your five-year-old an extra year to grow and mature before entering kindergarten. In the Fab 5s, your child will:

- ✓ further develop academic skills in math and language arts.
- ✓ begin reading through an age-appropriate program.
- ✓ learn science and social studies skills using a discovery approach.
- ✓ grow socially and emotionally in a small group setting.
- ✓ have time to play everyday...it's fun and fundamental to learning.

## An Extended Day of Learning

Give your kindergartener the benefit of an extended day of learning and school-like atmosphere. In the Fab 5s, your child will:

- ✓ arrive or leave by school bus for Valley View School at parent's request.
- ✓ enjoy lunch with friends before or after kindergarten.
- ✓ reinforce number, letter, and sight-word recognition.
- ✓ practice reading with age-appropriate books.
- ✓ enjoy interactive play that develops physical and mental skills.

# Our Fab 5s Program

Our program teaches children skills in four main areas of academics: reading and writing, math, science, and social studies. In each academic area, we focus on the skills shown below.

Reading Skills	Supported by
Letter Recognition	letter of the week, show and tell, projects, and activities
First Letter Sounds	class books, games and activities
Sight Words	poetry, class books, projects
Rhyming	literature, poetry
Writing	writing letters, drawing, art
Beginning Book Reading	left to right/top to bottom, making books, lending library

Math Skills	Supported by
Patterning	calendar activities, connecting cubes, counters
Numeral Recognition	writing number, projects, and activities
Oral Counting	daily calendar activities, small motor manipulative play
One-to-One Correspondence	counting small objects, matching
Recognizing Groups	sorting small objects by sizes, colors, and amounts
Graphing	taking a survey, making picture graphs
Shapes	drawing and identifying shapes, art projects
Positions	left, right, up, down, over, under

Science & Social Studies Skills	Supported by
Problem Solving	observations, projects, play
Community	Making maps, literature, activities, sharing, play

# Kindergarten Readiness

Use the checklist below to assess your child's "readiness" level. Then, schedule an appointment to speak to your teacher or our school director about how your child might benefit from the Fab 5s program at Happy Face

## Readiness means that my child consistently...

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listens to directions and stories without interrupting.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Meets opposition or defeat without crying or sulking                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hears words that rhyme and begin with the same or different sounds.        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thinks about a story, and can identify the main idea and unique details of it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sees differences in pictures, designs, letters, and numbers.               | <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits age-appropriate small and large motor skills.                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adjusts to changes in routine and new situations without becoming fearful. | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaks clearly, stays on topic, and can retell a story in sequence.            |

## Notes & Questions:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_