

Big Fish Academy

3 Year Old Classrooms

Welcome to Big Fish Academy! We are Believers in God, Faithful in Serving Him. Our mission is for all involved to have a safe and fun experience that leads children and families to grow in their faith in God. Our vision is to be Believers in God, Faithful in Serving Him every day to have an impact on all students, employees, church families, and the community. Our prayer is to build a Christ-like atmosphere that will encourage all families through the Big Fish ministry. We are thankful and blessed to have the opportunity to invest back into the lives of you and the students!

We welcome you and your child to the 3 year old classroom. We are so glad you are here at Big Fish Academy. We look forward to getting to know you and your child. Our 3 year old classrooms are fun and interactive spaces that help your 3 year old student learn through play and social interactions with their peers. We will work on milestones such as social/emotional skills, language and communication skills, cognitive learning and problem solving, and movement and physical development.

We welcome you to email us with any questions or concerns.

Dara McCormick, Director, bigfishacademy@campbigfish.org

Ms. Brittany, bj28n@aol.com

Ms. Irene, irenemos78@gmail.com

Ms. Robin, teachersaurusrobin3@gmail.com

Meet Our Teachers

Ms. Brittany was born and raised in Nashville. She graduated from Western Kentucky University with a degree in Family Studies and Theater. Brittany loves to witness kids develop and grow. She enjoys teaching and helping kids process new information. In Brittany's free time, she studies Japanese and spends time with family and friends.

Ms. Irene is a wife and mother of 3. Originally from Costa Rica, she is fluent in English and Spanish and has lived in the United States for 30 years. Ms. Irene received her undergraduate degree in Nutrition and Dietetics from Western Carolina University and worked for the Health Department for almost 10 years as a Nutritionist for the WIC program before pursuing her Master's degree from Tennessee State University. Following her Master's degree, she worked for Sumner County Schools as a preschool speech teacher. After the birth of her first child, she decided to become a stay-at-home mom to raise her girls. Ms. Irene is a member at West Haven Baptist Church and she and her husband are actively involved with the Gideon International. Ms. Irene enjoys working out, traveling and spending time with her family. She is excited to start at BFA this year in the 3's classroom.

Ms. Robin is from Brooklyn, NY. She and her family moved to Mt Juliet when her husband's company transferred him to Nashville. She received her bachelor degree from SUNY Fredonia. While in NYC, she mentored long-distance runners and ran competitively for ten years. Robin was a children's librarian and bookseller spearheading many programs to put literacy into the hands of children. She began her career at Big Fish Academy as a floater, was promoted to a 2 year old teacher, and has now settled in as a 3 year old teacher.

Required Items:

- 2" thick Rest mat
- 1 fitted crib sheet (for rest time)
- 1 small Blanket (for rest time)
- 1 full size backpack (no small preschool backpacks please)
- Extra Clothes: Each child will need a complete change of seasonally appropriate clothing - shirt, shorts/pants, socks and underwear . Please label ALL clothing and place in a gallon size Ziploc bag.
- Lunch Box, labeled with child's name
- Water Bottle, labeled with child's name (no sippy cups please)
- Sunscreen – Please apply sunscreen to your child every morning prior to school. For afternoon extended care enrollees needing reapplication after rest time, send in a SPRAY can of sunscreen with your child's name written on the bottle.

Supply Needs:

- 1 **plastic** two pocket folder with prongs and pockets
- 2 packs Crayola washable markers (Primary Colors please)
- 1 plastic school/pencil box
- 1 pair safety kid scissors
- 4 Elmer's Purple Disappearing glue sticks (girls)
- 1 24 count box of Crayola crayons
- 1 bottle Elmer's liquid glue (boys)
- 1 pack watercolors (16 colors option please)
- 1 pack of number 2 pencils (Ticonderoga brand preferred)
- 1 Non-Returnable Family Photos
- 1 box sandwich bags (girls)
- 1 box gallon bags (boys)
- 1 box facial tissues (girls)
- 1 small pack baby wipes (boys)
- 2 containers playdoh (boys)
- 2 foaming hand soap (girls)
- 1 large package of uncoated paper plates
- 1 oversized tshirt for messy projects
- 1 box of bandaids

*****WHAT TO WEAR** – Dress for Play!!! We are super active in the 3 year old class and enjoy getting a little dirty. Please dress your child in clothing that is comfy and ready for action. Also, **ALL** shoes must be closed toe with back support. Open toe and backless shoes pose a tripping hazard and are unsafe at school. Tennis shoes are the preferred choice for school.

*****TOYS FROM HOME**- With the exception of “Special Days, “please keep all toys at home or in the car. Bringing toys into the classroom, other than days allotted, can bring hurt feelings to others.

*****REST TIME** – Each child will need a 2-inch thick (blue/green) rest mat. They will also need a loose fitted crib sheet and a small blanket. Please **DO NOT** send large blankets, pillows or special fitted nap mat covers. These make it very difficult for storage and mat set-up. Please label **ALL** items with their name on it for rest time.

*****LUNCHES** – Please send a healthy lunch every day for your child. Please send an insulated/non spill sippy cup of milk, 100% juice, boxed milk/juice or bottled water for lunch. We **CAN NOT** heat up food, so a thermos (steel-lined works best at keeping food warm) is a great alternative. If items need to stay cold until our 11:00 lunchtime, please include an ice pack. PLEASE LABEL all lunch boxes, ices packs, thermoses, etc.

TOP 10 CHOKING FOODS FOR CHILDREN

1. HOT DOGS: (Vienna sausages, meat sticks, etc.) cut the meat lengthwise so that it is in thin strips and easier to chew.
2. HARD/ROUND CANDY: a danger anytime – please do not send to school.
3. PEANUTS: difficult to chew, easily inhaled; many children are allergic – not appropriate for school.
4. GRAPES: should be cut lengthwise making the fruit thin.
5. MEAT CHUNKS: cut small enough to chew
6. RAW CARROT SLICES: please cut into long, thin slices.
7. PEANUT BUTTER: should be spread thinly onto bread or crackers.
8. APPLE CHUNKS: should be peeled and cut into thin slices.
9. POPCORN: please do not send to school.
10. RAISINS