

Big Fish Academy

Pre-K 4 Classroom

Welcome to Big Fish Academy! We are Believers in God, Faithful in Serving Him. Our prayer is to build a Christ-like atmosphere that will encourage all families and support your children developmentally and emotionally through positive and loving interactions. We feel honored to be a part of your child's life.

We are excited to have you and your child to the Pre-K classroom and we look forward to getting to know your family. Our Pre-K classroom is a fun and interactive space that helps your child 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 with the encouragement and support of loving teachers and support staff. We can't wait to see your child grow socially, emotionally and developmentally throughout our school year.

Feel free to email us anytime with any questions or concerns.

Mary Cales, Director, knoxacademy@campbigfish.org

Lorrain Caro, Assistant Director, knoxoffice@campbigfish.org

Required Items: (Please LABEL everything)

- 2" thick rest mat (for extended care only)
- 1 fitted crib sheet (for extended care only for rest time)
- 1 small blanket (for extended care only 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.
- Shoes/socks: please wear shoes made for running and active play. socks should be worn at all times.
- 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 two pocket folder
- 2 packs Crayola washable markers
- 1 plastic school/pencil box
- 1 pair safety kid scissors
- 2 bottle Elmer's School Glue
- 4 Elmer's glue sticks
- 1 Crayola watercolor paint
- 1 package of napkins
- 1 refill "soft soap" bottle
- 1 pack white card stock
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 box plastic forks (boys)
- 1 box plastic spoons (girls)
- 1 package paper towels
- 1 pack of stickers
- 1 composition notebook
- 1 pack of expo markers
- 1 watercolor paper pad

Meet the teacher

Welcome to the Big Fish Academy Pre-K class!

My name is Breanna Jeffries, and this is my 5th year teaching Pre-K and my 2nd year at Big Fish Academy. I also have served as a nanny and have been babysitting for years. I love the pre-K classroom as the kiddos continue to prepare for kindergarten and grow socially, emotionally and developmentally. In this classroom, we reinforce kindergarten readiness skills while introducing concepts and skills needed for “big school” in a fun and creative atmosphere. I look forward to watching your child grow and prepare for his/her next chapter.

I have my Associates of Arts and I am currently working on my Interdisciplinary Studies degree at the University of Tennessee. In the future, I plan to become a dental assistant.

*****WHAT TO WEAR** – Dress for Play!!! We are super active in the 4 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.

*****REST TIME** – Each child that is in the extended care program will need a 2-inch thick 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.