



## Preschool Curriculum



**In the name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Beneficent**

Dear Parents,

As'Salaamu `Alaykum and welcome to Al Manara Academy Preschool,

At Al Manara our goal is to establish and maintain a school environment where the social culture and behavioral supports needed to be an effective learning environment are in place for all students.

It is the school's mission to uphold the Islamic concept of ilm that integrates the pursuit of knowledge with Islamic values. Al Manara makes the excellence of learning within the Islamic heritage, the foundation of the rigorous academic program that is intended to serve the needs of the modern world without sacrificing moral and spiritual values. Therefore, we encourage you to work with your child regularly by discussing what happened in school and reviewing the work that your child brings home. We also welcome your calls or visits to the classroom, by making an appointment, to discuss with the teacher any concerns you may have.

All of this fits together like a jig-saw puzzle. The outcome of your child's education is the complete puzzle, the big picture, and the result of the learning. The various puzzle pieces are necessary for the successful completion of the puzzle. Through various lessons in a variety of content areas, teachers assist their students in putting all the pieces of the puzzle in place.

With this in mind, this document is intended to give you some of the common characteristics of Preschool children, as well as the skills used to promote growth and success during the Preschool year. We have also listed specific learning objectives for each subject area in the Preschool curriculum. By working with your child in these areas, you can help increase learning as well as show your interest and involvement in their school experience.

Muslim parents should remember that Allah (SWT) will hold them responsible on the Day of Judgment if they neglect to educate their children about Islam and provide them with the general knowledge that will enable them to make a decent living. Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an *"Oh you who believe! Save yourselves and your families from the fire of Hell."*

The success of your child during this school year is our primary goal and we need your help, your donations, your understanding, and your prayers.



## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

At Al Manara continued progress and growth of the individual is the aim of education, this includes deen and the academic education. This education should be intellectual in its direction, individualized in its approach, demanding in its efforts, character building in its nature, humane in its treatment, and scientific in its method.

The staff at Al Manara understands full well the responsibility entrusted to us by our complex society, are dedicated to these goals.

1. To develop in each of our pupils the recognition of the personal dignity of man.
2. To cultivate intellectual curiosity in each pupil.
3. To equip each pupil to live a responsible and profitable life as a citizen of the community, nation, and world.
4. To aid each pupil in acquiring and developing desirable traits of character and a wholesome, well-integrated personality.
5. To help each pupil realize his own potentials and help him adjust to everyday problems both intellectual and social.
6. To teach the fundamental skills, and develop effective study and work habits.

To fulfill these goals, the staff at Al Manara must:

- Recognize the individuality of each student and develop this through guidance and encouragement.
- Organize and operate the program of education to develop the total individual.
- Instill in each student an appreciation for and a loyalty to his country.
- Offer a complete, continuous program of education.

At Al Manara the teaching philosophy is very child-centric. This principle of education should direct our efforts toward a practical as well as theoretical philosophy. Acceptance of this philosophy is the first step. Implementation must follow as well as constant evaluation and revision. Cooperation of parents, teachers, and administrators is essential in establishing and maintaining high educational standards for our school.



## ***STUDENT SUCCESS***

In accordance with the philosophy, principles, goals, and objectives of the school, a successful student as one who:

### **Academically,**

- is developing the fundamental skills, knowledge, and
- dispositions outlined in the curriculum
- is acquiring effective study and work habits
- is responding to an academic environment that fosters intellectual curiosity, individual responsibility, and mutual respect

### **Socially,**

- is exercising the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and family living
- is exhibiting physical and emotional well-being and a sense of personal growth
- is demonstrating respect for humanity and the dignity of others

### **Personally,**

- is attending classes, participating in class activities and doing the required work
- is displaying acceptable standards of behavior
- is exerting desirable effort to learn

## **DEVELOPMENT OF A PRESCHOOL CHILD**

It is important to remember that each child is unique and that a wide range of individual differences will be apparent with any group of children. Although there is diversity, there is also consistency. A child's development is organized and directed. Each child needs to go through certain patterns on his way to adulthood. Age characteristics are rough guidelines to help us know what may be expected from the Preschool children and what behaviors are typical for their age.

### **Characteristics of 3-year-old Pre-schoolers. . .**

- ✓ Says name
- ✓ Repeats sounds or words
- ✓ Recites 3 - 5 Surah's from the Holy Quran
- ✓ Initiation and usual completion of potty training
- ✓ Follows 2-step command
- ✓ Difficulty makes choices and sticking to them
- ✓ Likes being read to
- ✓ Volatile emotions
- ✓ Frustrated by restrictions
- ✓ Playing includes hitting and pushing
- ✓ Has at least a 50-word vocabulary
- ✓ Able to take things apart
- ✓ Lots of interaction with other children
- ✓ Fingers are so soft to handle the pencil properly
- ✓ Tiptoes
- ✓ Can throw and kick a ball
- ✓ Needs help to understand and resolve problems
- ✓ Imitates
- ✓ 2 minutes attention span
- ✓ Starts using "toilet words"
- ✓ Demanding
- ✓ Shares with supervision



## **Characteristics of 4-year-old Pre-schoolers:**

- ✓ Delightful
- ✓ Energetic
- ✓ Has a concept of self and gender
- ✓ Likes to please
- ✓ Says 3 to 4 word sentences
- ✓ Recites 5 to 8 short Surah's from the Holy Qur'aan
- ✓ Follows a 3-step command
- ✓ Begins to ask and answer questions
- ✓ Sometimes acts silly
- ✓ Nap may become optional
- ✓ Becomes interested in rules
- ✓ Capacity to build trust in adults
- ✓ Creative play
- ✓ Imaginary playmates
- ✓ Control of emotions beginning
- ✓ Accepts things easier
- ✓ Tests authority to check limits
- ✓ With guidance, can focus on shapes, color, and size
- ✓ Increasing attention span
- ✓ Begins to pretend
- ✓ Repeats initial sounds
- ✓ Cooperative when plays



## **SUBJECTS TAUGHT BY HOMEOM TEACHERS**

### **MATH**

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- Count, read, and write numerals from 0-12
- Understand the concepts of size and the relationship between sets and numbers
- Recognize linear pattern

### **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

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- Learn letter names and sounds
- Associate sounds with pictures, objects, and words.
- Print name legibly (4 yrs only)
- See similarities and differences

### **SCIENCE**

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- Birds
- Dinosaurs
- Insects
- Pets
- Mammals
- Five senses
- Sea Life
- Rocks and minerals
- Farms
- Environment
- Seasons
- Nutrition
- Medical Helpers



## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

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- Urban life
- Understanding individual differences
- Jobs in our Community
- Holidays
- Understanding cultural diversity
- Continents

## **ART**

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- Recognize and successfully apply different kinds of colors
- Understand the proper techniques of coloring
- Discuss works of art, and use appropriate art vocabulary to evaluate
- Express ideas in arts
- Mix basic colors and form secondary colors

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

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- Use and control large muscles by: hopping, running, skipping, bouncing, and catching
- Use and control small muscles by: using scissors, using pencils, using crayons, paint, knobbed puzzles, and cloth pegs

## **DEEN (Islamic Studies)**

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- Concept of Allah
- Know the Shahada (Declaration of Faith)
- How to be a good Muslim in everyday life
- Life of the Last Prophet (saw)
- Memorize 3 to 8 short Surah's from the Holy Quran
- Color pictures of Mosques





- Learn du'aas for eating & after eating
- Teach short Islamic stories
- Respect the Mosque