

Experiential Learning Goes B I G and B O L D

at God's Window

“Experiential learning embraces the idea that hands-on, self-initiated experiential learning fosters meaningful, long-term learning better than rote memory does.” (1.) This is the theory behind our teaching methods here at God’s Window. Children learn by doing, by touching, by tasting, by smelling and hearing and moving and lifting and running and jumping and playing and manipulating materials. All of these active behaviors foster better learning especially in these very early years of development and education. “Experiential learning is learning by doing, because it involves absorbing knowledge by conducting an activity rather than by reading about or memorizing the concept.”(2.) This is why, in our classes, we encourage “hand-on” learning. We embrace this concept with our **Experiential Learning Programs (ELP)**! Our children will experience **Gymnastics**, where we will focus on balance, coordination, strength, flexibility, spatial awareness, self control and gross motor development. Our children will also take part in **Music Discovery** with The Conservatory in Doylestown. We will have learning experience with music professionals who will introduce us to different instruments as well as many different styles, genre and cultural music from around the world and across the years. This will enrich our leaning and our minds. “Research has found that learning music facilitates learning other subjects and enhances skills that children inevitably use in other areas.”(3.) Music also benefits the development of language. “Recent studies have clearly indicated that musical training physically develops the part of the left side of the brain known to be involved with processing language, and can actually wire the brain’s circuits in specific ways. Linking familiar songs to new information can also help imprint information on young minds.(3.) Research has also found a causal link between music and spatial intelligence, which means that understanding music can help children visualize various elements that should go together, like they would do when solving a math problem.”(3.) Additionally we will also have **Hands On Science** lessons with Miss Mary Crum. We all know the importance of science, experimentation and critical thinking and its value in education and life. To expand our focus on Science we will also have a visit from the **Franklin Institute’s Traveling Preschool Science Program** (4.) Our Pre-K classes are also going to enjoy **CATCH Nutrition Program** with St. Mary Medical Center. We will have nutrition lessons and prepare a healthy snack. (The funding for this program limits it to Pre-k children only.) So please take a moment to explore the websites listed below and learn more about the importance of experiential learning and the value of our Experiential Learning Program (ELP) in the education of your child!

The ELP fee will cover the full year cost of this Program for each child enrolled in our morning classes. **The ELP fee will also cover the cost of the Farm Fieldtrip** for each enrolled child and the **Pool Party** in June. **The Experiential Learning (ELP) Programs Fee is \$54 per child and \$88 per child with Pizza added.** By popular request pizza will be scheduled 2 times per month with the exception of December and June. KE kids get Pizza for \$34 per child. This one time fee, per child, is due by August 12th with your first tuition installment. If you have any questions or would like further information please contact Monica.

Learn more about Experiential Learning by exploring these websites:

1. www.ehow.com/info_12019995_forms-experiential-learning.html
2. www.ehow.com/info_12117917_experiential-learning-activities.html
3. www.pbs.org/parents/education/music-arts/the-benefits-of-music-education
4. www.fi.edu for the Franklin Institute Preschool Science Build It Up program information.