

# **Big Fish Academy**

## **4 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 4 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 4 year old classrooms are fun and interactive spaces that help your 4 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](mailto:bigfishacademy@campbigfish.org)

Ms. Gina, [noahsark76@yahoo.com](mailto:noahsark76@yahoo.com)

Ms. Nichole, [nichole.milliron@icloud.com](mailto:nichole.milliron@icloud.com)

Ms. Rebecca, [marshall.rebecca1@live.com](mailto:marshall.rebecca1@live.com)

## Meet Our Teachers

Ms. Rebecca has been married to Chris for over 25 years and they have 2 children, Ryan our oldest and Matthew our youngest, who goes to Green Hill High School. Rebecca has been in the childcare field for over 30 years and has a bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education. Mrs. Rebecca is also an active member of First Baptist Mt. Juliet. She loves working with children while getting them ready to start kindergarten.

Ms. Gina was born and raised in Myrtle Beach, SC. She spent her summers working at her aunt's daycare from age 13-21. This is where her love of children began! Gina went on a trip to CA at age 21 and decided she wanted to stay. Gina lived in CA for 25 years and worked as a live-in nanny. Last year, Gina decided to move to TN to be closer to her family. Her love of country music and a huge leap of faith landed her in the Nashville area. Gina attends Rolling Hills Community Church in Franklin and enjoys going to concerts, weekend trips, exploring Nashville, puzzles, and babysitting. Gina is excited to start at BFA this school year in the 4 year old classroom.

Nichole is grateful to be a part of the Big Fish community. Here she enjoys helping children grow in their faith and kindness for all. She marvels at the eagerness her students bring to each new day. She holds a bachelor's degree in Child Development and masters in the Arts of Teaching, both from the University of Pittsburgh. She has spent the past fifteen years teaching young learners, be it in the classroom or on the home front!

## 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
- 3 packs Crayola washable markers (primary colors please)
- 1 plastic school/pencil box
- 1 pair safety kid scissors
- 1 bottle Elmer's School Glue
- 1 2 pack of glue sticks
- 1 Crayola watercolor paint
- 2 24 count of Crayola crayons (primary colors please)
- 3 containers playdoh (boys)
- 3 foaming hand soap (girls)
- 1 Box facial Tissues (boys)
- 1 container Lysol Wipes (girls)
- 2 large packages of uncoated paper plates
- 1 box plastic forks (boys)
- 1 box plastic spoons (girls)
- 1 box quart size baggies (girls)
- 1 box gallon size baggies (boys)
- 1 box of bandaids

\*\*\***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 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.
10. RAISINS