

Academic Planner

Nursery 2025-26

The **Academic Planner for Nursery** is a carefully structured guide designed to outline the activities and routines for the first week of school. It serves as a roadmap for both teachers and students, providing a balanced mix of settling-in activities, creative play, social-emotional development, and physical engagement. The planner is crafted to ensure that children feel comfortable and excited about their new school environment, helping them gradually adapt to the classroom while fostering a sense of security and belonging. By following this planner, teachers can effectively manage the day-to-day activities, ensuring that each child has the opportunity to grow emotionally, socially, and physically in a structured yet flexible manner. The planner also serves as a useful tool for parents and educators to align expectations and provide a smooth transition for young children as they start their learning journey.

The academic planner for the first week in Nursery class is thoughtfully designed to ease children into their new school environment. The activities have been carefully selected to ensure that children feel comfortable, safe, and excited about coming to school for the first time. Here are some key points on the importance of the planned activities:

1. Settling in the New Classroom

- The initial focus on settling activities, such as "Circle Time: Settling in the New Classroom" and "Circle Time: Introduce Yourself to the Class," helps children feel familiar with their surroundings and routines. These activities foster a sense of security and help children build confidence by learning about their classmates and teachers in a relaxed setting.

2. Emotional and Social Development

- Activities such as "Circle Time: My favourite toy" and "Circle Time: My favourite food" encourage children to open up and express themselves. By sharing their favorite things, children start forming connections with their peers, which is essential for emotional and social development. These activities also help them learn to listen, respect others' feelings, and communicate their own.

3. Importance of Free Play

- **Free Play:** The schedule includes dedicated periods for free play on both Tuesday and Friday. Free play is incredibly important for young children as it allows them to engage in creative, self-directed activities. Through free play, children develop:
 - **Social skills:** As they interact with their peers, children learn sharing, taking turns, negotiating, and resolving conflicts.
 - **Emotional development:** Free play gives children an opportunity to express themselves freely, helping them process emotions and practice empathy.
 - **Physical development:** It also helps in enhancing motor skills, such as fine motor development through activities like building with blocks or molding with clay, and gross motor skills through activities like dancing or moving like animals.
- These opportunities for unstructured play are essential for fostering independence, creativity, and problem-solving skills in a natural, fun environment.

4. Engagement in Physical Activities

- Movement activities like dance, yoga, and animal movement games contribute to children's physical development. Simple yoga poses, for example, not only help children improve their balance and coordination but also introduce them to mindful movement, which is valuable for emotional regulation.
- Activities like "Hop like a bunny" and "Flap your arms like a bird" help develop motor skills and also keep children physically active, which is vital for overall health and energy levels.

5. Learning through Creativity

- Art and craft activities like Free Scribble with crayons and Hand print fun with paint provide children with creative outlets, allowing them to express their emotions and ideas. These activities support cognitive development by helping children understand shapes, colors, and textures, as well as the concept of cause and effect (e.g., how paint

spreads on paper).

6. Building Classroom Community

- The focus on "Meet your teachers and friends" and "Knowing your classroom" allows children to build familiarity and trust with their environment and the people around them. These activities are essential in helping them feel secure in their new space and establish positive relationships with their peers and teachers.

This thoughtfully curated plan ensures that the first week provides a smooth transition into the school environment, emphasizing emotional comfort, socialization, and physical activity, while gradually introducing more structured learning as the children settle in.