

Anderson Park's Fun Club prepares kids for school

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(Photo: Sheila Vilvens/The Community Press)

They might be young, but they know the routine when they arrive at the Anderson Township Park District's Friday Fun Club.

The children quickly get to the first task of the day – playtime. From week-to-week the activities vary. The main goal is for the children to experience playtime with other children. Instructor Carla Stigall dedicates the first 45 minutes of class to the free play. From there the children make their way to the gym for more active fun.

The children enjoy playing with balls or other activities in the gym, Stigall said. One favorite game they almost always play is duck-duck-goose. Next on the schedule is snack time then an art activity. Somewhere in the short but busy day, she said she fits in a story.

This is the typical day for the Friday Fun Club which is a drop-off program designed for children ages 3 ½ to 5. In this setting the children are introduced to a classroom atmosphere that encourages social skills and development.

“It helps them to get ready for school. They get to experience playing with other children,” recreation supervisor Monica Friedl said. “They get to experience all of those things that they do in kindergarten.”

Registration for the program is required. Cost is \$55 for Anderson Township residents and \$65 for non-residents. For information, contact the Beech Acres Park RecPlex, 513-388-4515.

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