



KARATE FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS, AGES 3, 4 & 5!

Listening...

Paying Attention...

Following Directions...

Doing My Very Best...

WHY KARATE FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS? It is rare to find a traditional martial arts school that teaches three-year-olds. When you find an instructor who teaches young children well, you know that instructor has patience, which will carry over into their other programs. Kirk Gauger Shihan and Jenifer Tull-Gauger Shihan have been teaching karate to this age group for over ten years. They continue to make this program available because of the improvements they have seen in Little Dragons students in listening skills, self-confidence, respect and social skills.

WHAT DO YOU TEACH? With the youngest students we work on learning skills in class, we help them to focus, follow directions and treat others with respect. The activities in class also improve coordination, life protection and physical skills.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS READY? If your child is at least three years old, potty trained, and able to communicate with an instructor, we recommend giving it a try! Some pre-school aged kids may act shy or be very hesitant to join their first class. If this is the case with your child, we recommend that you bring them by just to meet us and to watch Little Dragons classes until your child feels more comfortable with the instructors, other kids, and dojo surroundings.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD MY CHILD ATTEND? We recommend attending two Little Dragons classes per week consistently to keep your child moving forward and for retention of the material.

HOW DO YOU KEEP THEM MOTIVATED? We give plenty of positive encouragement for their effort, plus tickets for a great job in class (they get a prize for bringing back 10 tickets.) They earn stripes on their belt every few classes as they progress, and stickers for special encouragement.

HOW CAN I HELP AT HOME? Young children do best when parents watch class regularly, reinforce the values taught, encourage children to do their best and practice at home, and help them get ready and get to class on time.

WHAT IS MY INVESTMENT? The Introductory Program is \$30 for the first week and includes a free uniform. After that there is a \$50 registration fee due with the first month and it's only \$75 per month thereafter for the Little Dragons Program.

HOW DO LITTLE DRAGONS ADVANCE? The Little Dragons curriculum is based on the requirements for older children, but we take it slow and steady, while working on the needs of the younger child. With regular attendance, a Little Dragons student should test for a new belt approximately every two months. The belt system includes tri-step belts, based on the traditional belts with two additional belts between each kyu rank. This will allow the Little Dragons to see and feel their advancement as well as smoothly transition to the Kids Program when old enough. The test fee is \$20 for each test taken while in the Little Dragons program.

CAN MY CHILD GO TO CLASS WITH THE OLDER KIDS? Not while in the Little Dragons Program. Occasionally we will approve a five-year-old for the Kids Program, which is more intensive, geared to older children, and has higher dues. Around the time your child starts Kindergarten and/or turns six years old, we will start considering your child for the Kids Program. Once that transition is made, we will make an adjustment in dues and open the Kids Program class schedule to your child.