

Welcome to the Toddler Room!



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Who are the Toddlers?

Toddlers are totally lovable and engaging, curious and “into everything,” egocentric, demanding, extreme in moods, and high in energy. They are between 15 and 24 months. This age is such a fascinating age! So much progress is made in such a short time.

Toddlers try to be more independent. They are learning daily routines and doing things in the same order everyday.

Curriculum:

The toddler curriculum has three vital components that are used throughout the day. The three areas are learning through play, thematic units, and a formal curriculum called *High Reach Learning*. Toddlers also enjoy a great deal of time working on gross motor skills outdoors.

Learning Through Play:

Children in the toddler room are still engaging in independent play and are just beginning to realize that their peers are available to interact with. Much of the time in the toddler room is spent learning appropriate social interactions, how to be a good friend, and the art of sharing. Also during play times the children are working on developing fine motor skills necessary for later writing skills. Though imaginative play has not begun to develop in children this young, they enjoy exploring and becoming familiar with their environment. Learning through play is a vital part of a toddlers day.

Thematic Units:

Thematic units at the toddler age primarily focus on care of self, manners, basic academic foundation, seasons, and upcoming holidays. Examples of thematic units at this age include proper hand washing technique, brushing teeth, body parts, colors, and polite words to use such as “please” and “thank you.” The themes are seen within the morning circle time, classroom craft projects, and the books presented to the children on a daily basis.

High Reach Learning:

There are many aspects of the High Reach Learning Curriculum at this age that are seen through the learning through play and thematic units. However, the benchmarks set forth for the toddler curriculum are specific and readying your toddler for their transition to the two year old room.

The first main focus of the curriculum is to establish background knowledge. By providing children with new and familiar experiences, they build self confidence and feel comfortable in their environment. This leads to greater success in learning.

The second focus is self-regulation and social interaction. At the toddler age the main focus of self-regulation is using simple words to express their feelings and noticing the different emotions of the other children in the classroom. Social interaction focuses on allowing the children a couple of moments to self solve any conflict that they may be having with another child. Also, another aspect of this curricular area is allowing the child to begin how to figure out tasks on their own. Giving a toddler time to try something on their own promotes success in the future.

The third and fourth curricular areas focus on getting your toddler used to being asked questions and ultimately getting a short response and using all different forms of communication within the classroom. Children at this age are adding words to their vocabulary on a daily basis. By showing the children different ways of communicating such as words, symbols, or physical actions, creates expert talkers and thinkers in the future!

What's the Schedule for the Toddlers?

- 7:00-8:30 - Arrival time and free play
- 9:00-10:00 - Clean up, diaper changing, and circle time
- 10:00-10:30 - Story time, creative activities, and centers
- 10:30-11:30 - Outdoor play
- 11:30-12:00 - Lunch time
- 12:15-12:30 - Diaper changing
- 12:30-3:00 - Nap time
- 3:00-3:30 - Snack time, diaper changing
- 3:30-4:00 - Story, songs, creative activities, and centers
- 4:00-4:30 - Free play/outdoor play
- 4:45-5:00 - Snack time
- 5:00-6:00 - Departure/outdoor play

In our toddler room, we work hard to follow a routine every day. We focus on learning body parts, colors, letters, number, even table manners, brushing teeth, washing hands, and learning new words. We also teach them not to whine for things that they want but to use words. We don't allow pacifiers and bottles. We encourage you to continue these methods at home.

How our Parents can help us...

1. Please write your child's name on his/her belongings such as: cup, food containers, blankets, sheets and shoes.
2. Please provide us with a detailed note of any food allergies that your child has.
3. Always fill out the medication form if your child needs to have his/her medication at school (because we are unable to give them medication without written permission.) If your child's given medicine is at home, warn us about the reaction.
4. Please check to make sure that there are extra clothes in your child's cubby.
5. Please let us know if your child needs to go home early for some reason such as a doctor's appointment.
6. Please let us know any other information you think will help to make your child happier.

If you have any questions, concerns, or issues about the classroom, please feel free to talk to any of us.

Supplies you will need...

For the Classroom:
Diapers
Diaper cream
Baby wipes
Disposable bibs
Blankets and sheets
Toothpaste and toothbrush
Extra clothes
Water shoes or sandals (summer time)
Hat
Swimming diapers
Bathing suit
Towel
Sunscreen lotion
Insect repellent

Dear Parents.

Thank you very much for bringing your child to us. We love them, care for them, and we do our best to create a good day for our toddlers everyday. We want them to grow and be happy.

If your child is having specific difficulties, please feel free to let us know so that we can work with each child to take care of their need. We look forward to working with you and your toddler.

We focus our curriculum to what's making our children feel happy and secure.

We welcome you once again!

Sincerely,

Your Toddler Teachers