

Potty Training

An exciting occurrence in the two year old classroom is when one of the children shows signs of being ready to use the potty! This interest is approached with love, patience, and understanding. When your child reaches this point, we ask that you help the teachers by putting underwear on over your child's diaper.

We go about potty training in three stages:

Stage 1: Your child will wear underwear in the morning for a couple of hours and the will be placed in a diaper before lunch time.

Stage 2: Once your child has mastered the mornings, he or she will move into napping without a diaper.

Stage 3: The final stage means that your child will be in underwear the whole day. No matter how many accidents your child may have, we still put underwear back on them.

When potty training we take the children to the potty about every 10 to 15 minutes. Please remember that every child is different. While some children get the hang of using the potty right away, others may take a while. We do ask that parents follow the same steps that we are taking at school in potty training your little one. Whether you are at home or out running errands, let your child be in underwear. Practice makes perfect!

Things you will need on the first day in the Two Year Old Classroom:

For the classroom:

- 1- Wipes
- 2- Diapers
- 3- Diaper Cream (Destin or the like)
- 4- Backpack with extra clothes: shirt, pants, socks, and shoes
- 5- Disposable bibs
- 6- Flat twin sheet and a blanket or two blankets
- 7- Toothpaste
- 8- Summer: swimsuit, swim diapers, water shoes, & towel.

For the Office:

- 1- Doctor's Health Inventory Form
- 2- Immunization Records
- 3- Emergency Contact Card
- 4- All About Me Form

Dear Parents,

We would like to officially welcome you to the two year old Classroom! Whether your child has moved from the Toddlers or is new to the center we are thrilled to have you. It will be so exciting to watch your child grow and develop as they become more and more independent.

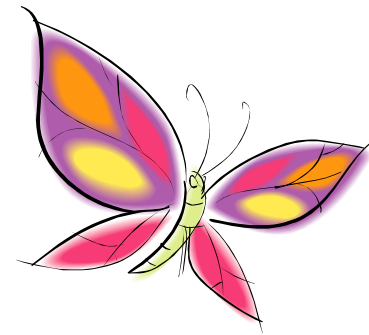
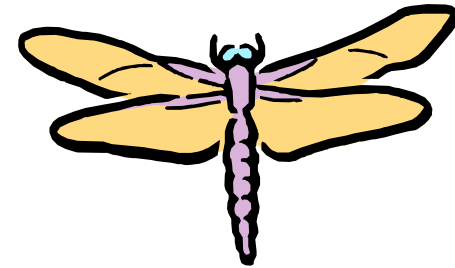
If you have ANY questions or comments, please feel free to speak to any of the 2 year old teachers. We hope that you and your child enjoy your time in the two year old classroom!

Sincerely,

The Two Year Old Teachers

The Dragonfly and Butterfly Classrooms

Curriculum and Welcome



Rock Spring Children's Center

10401 Fernwood Road, Suite 150

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301)530-4536

www.RockSpringChildrensCenter.com

Welcome to our room!

Your child is in for an enormous amount of fun as he or she takes the next step in his or her developmental years. First and foremost, we are happy that you and you're child are joining the two year olds! Secondly, we HIGHLY encourage you to speak to any of your teachers directly if you have any questions or concerns about the two year old classroom or your child.

Curriculum

There are three component to your child's daily program. Those three areas are immersion into thematic units, learning through play, and a formal curriculum called *High Reach Learning*. At the young age of two, the primary focus is on thematic units and learning through play with the formal curriculum introduced daily for short periods of time.

Learning Through Play:

A huge part of your child's day will be learning through play both inside the classroom and during playtime outside. They will be playing with age appropriate toys that are created to enhance their development. At the age of two, children are beginning to discover that there are peers around them. By preparing the room to be conducive for useful play, children

are encouraged to begin interacting with peers and setting the foundation for healthy peer relations. The concepts of sharing, cooperating with others, and imaginative play begin to emerge at this age.

Thematic Units:

Every morning your child will participate in a teacher directed circle time where he or she will learn about a particular thematic unit. We also do projects and crafts that directly relate to the information discussed in circle time that morning. Thematic units are chosen based on the season, an upcoming holiday, or what the children are showing interest in at any particular time. Some examples of thematic unit that are done in the two year old class include the body, transportation, seasons, community helpers, colors, shapes, and healthy food. Upcoming thematic units are discussed in each monthly newsletter.

High Reach Curriculum:

The High Reach Curriculum focuses on building experiences for two year olds so that they may become familiar with their environment and start to make logical connections about the world around them. This process is called building "Background Knowledge."

The next component of the curriculum is "Social Interaction and Self-Regulation." Skills built in this area are recognizing others feelings as well as their own through internal contemplation. A verbal component comes in when the children are encouraged to use simple words to express their feelings. Finally, with the help of a teacher, the children are

encouraged to begin early conflict resolution.

"Powerful Thinking" encourages, through math, science, and technology, connection building through curiosity, exploration, and observations. Children are asked questions such as, "Did you see what happened?" or "What do you think will happen if..." Building strong connections using the child's natural sense of curiosity fosters a lifelong love for learning!

The concept of writing and formal expression come into the curriculum under the "Using Words and Symbols" heading. Simply put, this means that through actions, words, and print your child is learning different ways to express his or her self. Acting out a favorite animal, using words to tell a favorite color, our drawing to portrait a story, are all forms of expression that you child will use on a daily basis.

The final piece to the *High Reach Learning* is "Using the Body." Every one who has ever encountered a two year old knows that movement is vital. By coupling movement with academic lessons, the mind and body make a stronger connection and therefore the child has a deeper sense of the concept.

