

## *The Geese and Duck Daily Schedule*

7:00-8:00: Arrival

8:00-9:00: Outside Play

9:00-9:15: Job chart and hand washing

9:15-9:45: Breakfast

9:45-10:45: Morning circle & High Reach Curriculum activities (review homework, show & share, story time, songs, centers, and Crafts)

10:45-11:00: Bathroom and Clean-up

11:00-11:50: Outside Play

11:50-12:00: Wash hands

12:00-12:40: Lunch

12:40-1:00: Bathroom and story time

1:00-3:00: Nap

3:00-3:30: Wash hands and snack

3:30-4:00: High Reach Curriculum review & number / letter exploration

4:00-4:15: Clean-up

4:15-5:40: Outside Play

5:40-6:00: Reading, puzzles, and departure

Dear Parents,

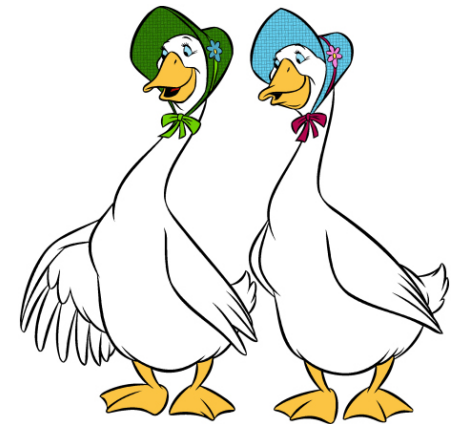
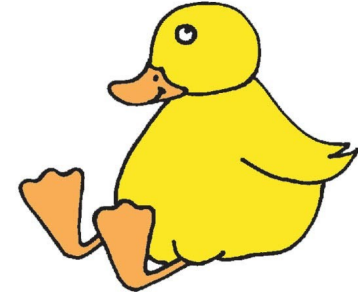
The age of the children in the Ducks and Geese classrooms range from almost 4 to 5 years old. As they approach kindergarten, these children are becoming more independent and are capable of taking on more responsibilities. While all of the classrooms at RSCC are structured to encourage learning and development at every level, the Ducks and Geese classrooms are preschool classrooms designed to prepare our children for kindergarten. Play based learning continues to be a crucial part of their learning process, but the children in these classrooms also spend more time exposed to structured learning.

If you have any questions about what we are doing in the classrooms or about your child's development, please feel free to arrange a meeting with your child's teaching team. We will also schedule parent-teacher conferences twice a year. Naptime (1pm to 3pm) is a wonderful time to call the classrooms as well.

Welcome!



## The Ducks & Geese Classrooms Curriculum & Welcome



*Rock Spring Children's Center*

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## *The Three Components of the RSCC Preschool Program*

Four and five year olds are naturally curious beings. Therefore, they tend to make learning and enjoying the daily activities very easy! There are three different components to your child's day. They are a formal curriculum called *High Reach Learning*, thematic units, and learning through play. Along with the in-class curriculum, four and five year olds are taken on educational field trips, participate in school assemblies, and enjoy countless hours outdoors. Your child will never be bored!

You may find at this level that your child becomes more expressive and shares many of the things that they are learning at school. We hope that this brief overview of the curriculum will help you understand more about your child's day and activities.

### *High Reach Learning*

## The High Reach Curriculum: Four Areas of Focus

### Language:

1. Expand on the child's vocabulary.
2. Identify letters and begin to associate them with the correct phonetic sound.
3. Develop a love and respect for books.
4. Ability to share stories or recap events.
5. Become familiar with different writing implements and begin forming letters.

### Math:

1. Recognize numbers 1 through 30.
2. Counting objects sequentially using one-to-one correspondence.
3. Finding similarities and differences in many different sets of objects.
4. Recognizing a pattern and being able to reproduce it.

### Science and Social Studies:

1. Understanding the 5 senses.
2. Actively participate in science experiments and chart results.
3. Knowledge of body parts and a respect for the environment.
4. Ability to identify weather conditions.
5. Acceptance of various cultures, nationalities, and traditions.

### Social and Emotional Development

1. Using words in difficult situations.
2. Knowing when a conflict cannot be solved without the aid of a teacher.
3. Knowing consequences to all actions.
4. Developing interactions with peers including playing nicely, sharing, and listening to each other.
5. Helping friends in need.

## *Thematic Units*

We generally teach by choosing fun and interesting themes, often taking cues from what the children show interest in. For example, we might do a unit on dinosaurs or outer space. We try to plan fun activities, projects, songs, etc. that center around the themes. To stimulate cognitive development, we read many books and ask thought-provoking questions. The children are always encouraged to bring in their own books from home. Language development is encouraged through many discussions of our themes and remembering what we have learned on previous days.

## *Learning Through Play*

Let's not forget that this is still a preschool and that a great deal of your child's learning comes through play. For example, playing with manipulative toys helps build fine motor skills. Block building and puzzles help develop problem solving skills. The dramatic play center fosters role playing and social development. The science materials encourage exploration and discovery. The math shelf encourages counting skills. The writing center helps build fine motor skills as well as letter recognition. The children become confident climbers, bike riders, ballplayers, etc. Free play gives the children the opportunity and experiences to build social-emotional development and gives their teachers time to observe and help adjust behaviors if needed. The learning through play time also gives rise to many "teachable moments" when children's interests are triggered and they are open to learning new things.