

## *The Otter and Turtle Daily Schedule*

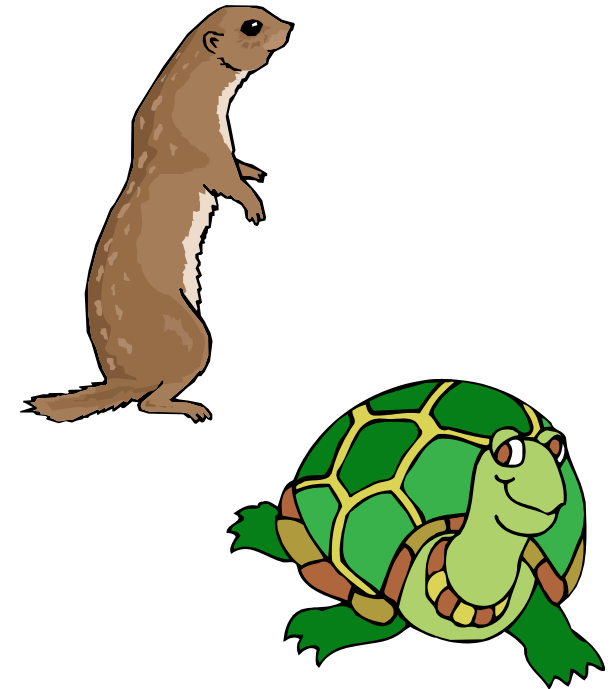
- 7:00-8:00: Arrival  
8:00-9:00: Outside Play  
9:00-9:15: Job chart and hand wash  
9:15-9:45: Breakfast  
9:45-10:00: Morning circle: story time, songs  
10:00-10:45: Centers, crafts, High Reach Curriculum activities and projects  
10:45-11:00: Bathroom and clean-up  
11:00-11:50: Outside Play  
11:50-12:00: 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: Centers, High Reach Curriculum projects & activities  
4:00-4:15: Clean-up  
4:15-5:40: Outside Play  
5:40-6:00: Reading, puzzles, and departure

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to have you and your child join our Classrooms! At this level, in addition to learning through play and the engaging seasonal and fun themes we discuss in class, structured learning becomes an important part of your child's experience. Our days are filled with fun and exciting activities that we are sure your children will share with you at the end of each day. (We also have a daily blog to promote a home/school connection!) However, if you have any questions about what we are doing in the classroom or anything else, please feel free to arrange a time for us to meet as a team. Naptime (1pm to 3pm) is a wonderful time to call the classroom with any questions as well. We look forward to helping your children develop and grow under our careful guidance.



## The Otter and Turtle Classrooms Curriculum & Welcome



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## *The Three Components of the RSCC Program*

Two and three year olds are just discovering their independence but still rely on adults for help with many basic needs.

Therefore, the physical and psychological development of these children is considered throughout the learning environment and across the curriculum. We provide many opportunities for them to develop their motor skills, competence, self confidence, and positive feelings towards learning. We accomplish this by blending three different curricular components. They are a formal curriculum called *High Reach Learning*, thematic units, and learning through play. In addition, the children are also involved in educational field trips, school assemblies, and a lot of time playing and discovering the outdoors.

### *High Reach Learning*

### The High Reach Curriculum: Four Areas of Focus

#### **Language:**

1. Enriching your child's vocabulary.
2. Identifying letters and recognizing them in printed material.
3. Develop a love for and proper handling of books.
4. Understand the act of telling a story or recapping an event.
5. Know that writing is a form of communication.

#### **Math:**

1. Recognize numbers 1 through 10.
2. Ability to count large objects sequentially.
3. The concept of "more and less."
4. Discuss similarities and differences.
5. Replication on patterns.

#### **Science and Social Studies:**

1. Explore the five senses.
2. Observe science experiments and discuss outcomes.
3. Naming of body parts.
4. Respect for the environment and each other.
5. Acceptance of various cultures, nationalities, and traditions.

#### **Social and Emotional Development:**

1. Using words rather than physical actions.
2. Understanding consequences to actions.
3. Begin interactions and imaginative play with peers.
4. Care of their environment.

## *Thematic Units*

Another aspect of the curriculum is immersion into thematic units. While often times the themes are dictated by the season or an approaching holiday, the interests of the children also considered when choosing a theme. Themes are discussed during circle time in the morning and projects are done throughout the day to reinforce the chosen theme.

Sample themes include community helpers, animal life cycles, transportation, body awareness, and seasons. Stories read to the children, cooking projects, and materials throughout the classroom, reflect the theme being discussed. All themes are incorporated into all of the curricular areas of the classroom.

## *Learning Through Play*

While introduction to structured learning is important at this age, learning through play is the primary component of their day. When interacting with peers, a child is encouraged to make decisions, use their imagination, and develop conflict resolution skills. Time spent playing with such manipulatives as legos and play dough is not only fun for the children, but also strengthens important muscles for fine and gross motor skills.

Most importantly, we want your child to love coming to school. With a delicate balance of structured learning and useful play, your child will be ready for the next academic phase of their life while having developed a love for the learning environment!