

## **Toddlers Curriculum**

### Language Development

Language is starting to blossom as toddlers expand their vocabulary from single into multiple-word phrases. Our teachers continually model language and engage toddlers in rich conversations. By providing a language-rich environment that encourages your child's progress towards achievement of two-way communication, your toddler will have the opportunity to:

Participate in conversations with teachers and peers

Follow one-step directions

Develop an appreciation of books through stories and read alouds

Increase short-term memory and recall

Use writing tools and make purposeful marks such as scribbles on paper

Beginning intro into letters of the alphabet

### Math Counts

A toddler classroom is full of math activities from figures for sorting, to shape boxes for matching, to cups to stack by size, to learning comparison of quantity and volume. With our toddler curriculum, teachers help our Toddlers take their first steps towards understanding math by:

Using "number talk" such as more/less, under / over, inside / outside, full / empty

Counting to two or three during activities such as snack time

Talking about time in daily conversations ("Now...then...last")

Playing sorting and matching games

Counting objects and associated numeral

## Science

Toddlers have a strong sense of curiosity about how things work and an innate desire to make sense of the world. From stomping in puddles to investigating a sandbox, our curriculum nurtures and builds on these natural instincts, offering toddlers meaningful learning experiences that continually foster and develop their scientific thinking and skills. Our teachers weave scientific learning into all aspects of a toddler's day by offering opportunities to:

- Explore multiple solutions during story times

- Play with puzzles and busy boxes

- Manipulate playdough with tools such as cookie cutters and rolling pins

- Experiment with volume through sand, water play

- Formulate "why, what, how?" questions in daily interactions

## Nature Walks

## Art

Meaningful engagement in the arts allows toddlers to think flexibly, generate creative solutions, and enhances development in other areas including literacy, math, and science. Our teachers encourage creativity and innovation by engaging children in artistic experiences that allow them to explore art with all their senses. Your toddler will have the opportunity to:

- Explore sensory materials - squishy clay, paint, playdough, shaving cream

- Experiment with and explore colors

- Play, shake, and strum instruments from rain sticks to xylophones

- Dance with scarves to varied types of music

- Participate in pretend play

- Play with puppets

## Colors

## Our Community

Daily activities such as viewing diverse family photos, and playing with others help toddlers begin to step outside their own boundaries and to embrace concepts such as acceptance, diversity, and personal responsibility. Toddler teachers encourage children to reflect on themselves, their peers, and the world they live in by:

- Talking about feelings

- Encouraging play between peers

- Expressing compassion and empathy in books and daily interactions

- Connecting actions (i.e., taking a friend's toy) to an effect (crying from the friend)

- Learning manners (i.e. saying please and thank you, table manners)

## Nutrition

The relationship between a child's physical health and his social, emotional, and cognitive achievements makes it crucial to ensure he feels strong, healthy, and well-nourished every day. *Nutrition awareness* focuses on child nutrition, safety, and wellness, and lays the groundwork for a lifetime of healthy habits. Our toddler teachers enable children to understand how their bodies work, what they need, and how to protect them by helping children:

- Practice small muscle skills like drawing, writing, cutting

- Spend time in the natural world

- Identify healthy foods and growing vegetables from seed

- Practice proper hygiene

- Follow simple safety rules