

Preschool Program Curriculum

Our Curriculum: *The Creative Curriculum*

A curriculum is like a roadmap; it helps you get where you want to go. A comprehensive, developmentally appropriate curriculum, like "The Creative Curriculum for Preschool", includes goals and objectives for children's learning in all areas of development: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. Just as a roadmap gives you choices about what routes to take, "The Creative Curriculum" offers choices and encourages flexibility. It helps us to have flexibility to respond to the changing interests and abilities of children.

Our Assessment Practices: *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool Developmental Continuum*

is a powerful tool for observing children, documenting their growth skills, and individualizing our approach. Using ongoing assessment to decide how to respond to each child and to plan appropriate experiences enables us to care for and teach children well.

The Creative Curriculum Goals and Objectives for Preschoolers::

- **To Learn About Self and Others:**

Through this goal, caregivers work to help each child develop their sense of self. As they grow, teachers help each preschooler begin to demonstrate responsibility for themselves and their role in the classroom community. Preschoolers also begin to understand prosocial behavior, such as recognizing the feelings of others, using conflict resolution, and sharing.

- **To Learn About Moving:**

Through this goal, caregivers work with preschoolers to develop large motor skills such as balancing, hopping, galloping, steering a wheeled vehicle, throwing, and kicking. Preschoolers will also develop more control of the small muscles in their hands to be able to better coordinate eye-hand movement and operate writing utensils.

- **To Learn About the World:**

Through this goal, caregivers work with preschoolers to build problem solving skills through persistence, observation, and application of knowledge. They will begin to develop logical thinking skills by classifying and comparing, arranging, patterning, counting, and sequencing. They will begin to engage in extended amounts of representational play ("being a waitress" at the classroom restaurant, creating a "train" out of building blocks).

- **To Learn About Communicating:**

Through this goal, preschoolers will enhance their listening and speaking skills, beginning to hear the sounds in our language, following directions, and asking and answering questions. As they develop, preschoolers will begin to make meaning from print, write letters and words, understand the purpose of writing, and enjoy and value the concept of reading.