

The Childswork Learning Center Kindergarten Program

Curriculum Goals: Our Guide to Teaching and Learning

“Our role is to welcome children, with their many unique gifts and needs, and provide them a strong, developmentally appropriate kindergarten experience that will not only help them reach standards, but provide them with experiences that will ignite a love of learning that can last a lifetime.” - Gera Jacobs & Kathy Crowley

Literacy and Language Arts

Kindergarten includes a large range of readers, from emergent to fluent. We look forward to creating a goal with you and your child that will meet their developmental abilities in reading and get them ready to enter into a 1st grade classroom by the end of the year. Through our Story Workshop curriculum, your child will access many different elements of writing.

- Understand that letters are symbols for sounds, and hear/differentiate that sounds make up words.
- Know how to form upper and lower case letters.
- Have vocabulary to confidently express one’s own thinking, ideas, and feelings verbally.
- Foster a love of stories: by listening to and through telling, writing and reading.
- Build a repertoire of sight words to use in their writing.
- Understand how to express ideas in writing for an authentic purpose.
- Use a variety of materials to help engage in the writing process.

Mathematical thinking

In Kindergarten, students will use mathematical thinking throughout the day in a variety of ways. We use aspects of the Bridges curriculum as well as materials from the First Steps curriculum based on the sequential phases of cognitive brain development and mathematical principles.

- Ability to engage in mathematical conversations with peers.
- Understand that numerals represent quantities.
- Ability to write numerals 0-9.
- Recognize and read numerals to 100.
- Recognize patterns within numerals 0-100.
- Have strategies for counting large numbers.
- Estimate quantities to 30.
- Read and represent mathematical information in simple graphs.

Relational learning: Learn how to learn with others

We promote an environment where your child will develop the capacity to understand

oneself and cultivate an understanding of others' intentions, feelings, and ideas. We create these opportunities for social learning by constructing a curriculum that involves cooperative learning opportunities and exploration. Our work holds true to emotional competencies outlined by the research of psychologist, Daniel Goleman.

- Self and other awareness: understanding and identifying feelings; knowing when one's feelings shift; understanding the difference between thinking, feeling and acting; and understanding that one's actions have consequences in terms of others' feelings.
- Mood management: handling and managing difficult feelings; controlling impulses; and handling anger constructively
- Self-motivation: being able to set goals and persevere towards them with optimism and hope, even in the face of setbacks
- Empathy: being able to put yourself "in someone else's shoes" both cognitively and affectively; being able to take someone's perspective; being able to show that you care
- Management of relationships: making friends, handling friendships; resolving conflicts; cooperating; collaborative learning and other social skills

Enrichment

Our Kindergarten Enrichment program is a multifaceted and fluid aspect of our daily curriculum. Enrichment activities provide opportunities for children to engage in emergent, hands on, inquiry-based learning. Our weekly schedule may include:

- Library Visits
- Project-based Field Trips
- Nature Walks
- Cooking Projects
- Physical & Health Education
- Music and All School Sing-a-longs
- Art
- Science Labs
- Community Studies
- Drama