

A Walk Through Our Classrooms



Our classroom has been equipped with a variety of hands-on learning materials with each day planned to include cognitive, language, social, physical, musical, and creative activities.

Every piece of equipment, every manipulative, every game, etc... is selected to challenge your child cognitively, provide enjoyment, create confidence, and assist in his/her overall development.



Our block area is equipped with both wooden and paper blocks, small and large vehicles, and other building materials such as Legos. Our plastic animals and people are housed in this area to add another dimension of building. Tools and a tool bench add to the building and construction effect. The block area provides for gross and fine motor development, social interaction, creativity, spatial awareness, and the mathematical concepts of balance, shapes, measurement, and size.

The housekeeping area is equipped with kitchen appliances, plastic food and dishes, career hats and clothing, dolls and stuffed animals, dress up clothes, shopping cart, cash registers, and telephones. In this area is designed to promote social interaction, fantasy play, role playing, and cooperation. This area inspires a wealth of vocabulary and language. The children are also highly involved in the mathematical concepts of sorting and grouping foods and other items and one-to-one correspondence. Children learn to experiment with a variety of roles and to take turns being a leader.



The game and manipulative area is stocked with puzzles, pattern blocks, unifix cubes, building materials, beads, pegs, counters, geoboards, and so on. Our manipulative area provides children with wonderful fine motor and visual spatial skill practice. It inspires creativity and experimentation, and the concepts of counting, sorting, balance, patterning, color and shape recognition, vocabulary, and comparison.

In the art and writing area you will see a variety of art mediums and writing materials.

The shelves are fully stocked with paper, writing utensils (markers, crayons, pencils), scissors, glue, paints, rubber stamps, playdough, stencils, dot and watercolor paints, envelopes, and paper punches. A painting easel that also serves as a chalk or dry erase board is part of this area. The children are encouraged to "create" their own masterpieces and to "write" letters and stories. This area stimulates creativity, pride, and confidence while addressing their fine and visual motor skills as well as pre-reading and writing readiness. Early exposures and exploration to these types of materials reading readiness skills.



The sensory tables are filled with a variety of materials throughout the year such as water, bubbles, sand, rice, snow, beans, pasta, "goop", mud, flour and any number of other things. This area promotes sensory and tactile experiences as well as social interaction, sharing, measuring, pouring, experimentation with masses (solids and liquids), sinking and floating, viscosity, language and vocabulary, creativity and just plain "ooey-goopy" fun!



Our science area is filled with tornado tubes, wave bottles, balances and scales, magnets, color mixing manipulatives, tactile and sensory games, mirrors, magnifying glasses, and of course creatures and plants. This area encourages hands-on exploration and experimentation of natural phenomenon and physics as well as observation of plant and animal life cycles and learning about their care and well-being.



We have several areas that promote **gross motor and physical development**. Our fenced in playground houses a variety of climbers, swings, and other playground equipment/supplies such as balls, hula hoops, paddles, bats, frisbees, and bubbles. Our black top area and walkways provide the perfect space for riding bikes, pulling wagons, and chalk drawing. The gym is a great place to play on inclement weather days as well as to participate in organized group games.



The computer station under adult supervision is available most days. The games and activities played on the computer promote math and reading readiness skill development but also provide practice with mouse manipulation, basic keyboarding, and turn taking.

The puppets and puppet theater give children opportunities to be creative and develop fantasy play. Social interaction and turn taking are also key components to this fun area.



Our book and listening center is filled with children's literature and books with tapes to go along with our current thematic unit. This is a cozy area that has pillows, beanbags, and blankets to make it inviting and warm. It is a nice area to get away, take a rest, and explore the wonderful world of literature while promoting reading readiness and a love of books.

