



Program Philosophy

Quality opportunities for early childhood education are essential components of a good education system. Early experiences in an environment that is rich in hands-on materials and learning activities provide children varied opportunities to grow emotionally, physically, socially, and intellectually. Increasingly, research shows that quality preschool programs reduce the need for remedial classes in subsequent grade levels.

See data results at: <http://www.strategiesforchildren.org/>

The most important and beneficial learning time for a child is from birth to 5 years old. During the preschool years, children develop characteristics which will affect their lifelong love of learning. Additionally, early intervention provides basic foundations for a child's educational life experiences. Our purpose is to promote a safe, nurturing, nonrestrictive educational environment while working collaboratively with staff, family and community. We believe that parents/guardians are an essential component in their child's development and our partners in a successful educational experience. Our program is designed to provide a positive experience to all children and their families, where their economic, cultural, and educational diversity is valued.

GOALS OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

- To identify and support the optimal development of each child.
- To increase the parents' understanding and knowledge of child growth and development.
- To increase the participation and involvement of the parents and the community.
- To provide a wide range of developmentally appropriate experiences.
- To build healthy and positive self-concepts.
- To provide daily opportunities for development of good health.
- To develop creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.
- To develop motor skills
- To develop language skills (listening and speaking)
- To help children learn how to handle their own emotions and consider the feelings of others.
- To concentrate our efforts and resources toward student readiness and school success.

Logistics:

- Would service children ages 3 up to kindergarten age (5)- 15-18 children
- One full-time dually certified SE, early childhood teacher, one paraprofessional
- Monday-Friday program; full day (9:00-3:30) and possibly part-time options (three or four full days)
- Tuition contract for one year
- SE services provided for Pelham students in-house
- Designated number of sliding scale slots (2-3)

Curriculum

Activities and curriculum are developed based on children's interest and guided by the Department of Early Education Early Childhood Program Standards.

Possible Daily Schedule

8:00 Free choice/constructive play, dramatic play, blocks, painting, media table, puzzles, manipulatives, collage making, reading, small group project work, cooperative clean up

10:00 Snack

10:15 Independent Book Reading Time

10:30 Circle/Meeting Time
Songs, movement, yoga, discussions, storytelling

11:00 Outside Time
Swings, sandbox, water play, bikes, chase games, chalk, balls, walks to fields

12:15 Lunch

12:45 Storytime, finger plays and songs

1:15 Rest time for all

2:00 Quiet play and /or outside time
Puzzles, literacy activities, drawing, self-serve art, journals

2:30 dismissal

Opportunities for PE, art, music, and technology to be determined.