

## Curriculum:

### Infants (6wks-12months)

Your child will be given activities that assist in the physical and cognitive development, as well as self-help and communication skills.

SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES ARE ACTIVITIES THAT A BABY CAN DO BY HIM/HERSELF

Infants should be given time to play outside of their cribs. Even very young or small infants need to be placed outside of their cribs to play.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITIES ARE THOSE WHICH REQUIRE ASSISTANCE EVEN AFTER YOU GET THE INFANT STARTED

These types are planned activities.

### Toddlers/Preschoolers(1yr thru pre-k)

Your child will be offered a variety of activities through the use of a program we use by funShine Express. This program is developmentally appropriate, which means the activities are based on age level, adaptable to the child's individual abilities, are meaningful to their interests, and offer hands-on experiences and real objects to manipulate.

At the start of each new kit (quarterly or monthly) you will receive a copy of a Parent Newsletter, which will include the themes and concepts being introduced, songs, rhymes or finger plays, and a book list. The parents of a 2 year old or preschool age child will also receive weekly family notes, which will describe each theme more in detail to keep you up-to-date. The program goals are posted in each room for you to glance at as you drop off your child

## FunShine Express program goals

### 1 year olds-Buttercups(quarterly kits)

Each kit is centered around three themes with each one covering a four week period. Weekly the program will offer activities and materials to promote and enhance physical, mental, and social growth in four areas: language development, physical development, creative exploration, and cognitive development. As well as:

- \* To enhance the child's awareness of self
- \* To provide opportunities for exploration and discovery
- \* To offer play-based developmental activities

### 2 year olds/preschoolers/pre-k(monthly kits)

Each kit has integrated activities related to three educational themes. Your child will also be introduced to three alphabet letters, one color, two or three numbers, and one shape. Each kit includes creative art materials, alphabet and language activities, music and movement, hands-on math and science, social activities and games. As well as:

- \* Research based educational theories of early childhood learning and development
- \* Allowing children to experiment and explore their surroundings

- \* Stimulate creativity and build a positive self-image
- \* Encourage involvement of family members

## Classroom Environment

Each class has a daily schedule consisting of morning and afternoon activities. Children are encouraged to explore interests interacting with materials, adults and each other. In the summer months the daily schedule may be altered to allow for field trips or for programs to be brought in to the center for a day of fun and exploration.

### Infants

We have two rooms available. One is arranged for our non-crawlers and the other one is for our 'shakers and movers'. The non-crawling rooms have cribs while the other room uses mats for rest periods. This is intended to help them in preparing for their move over to the one year old room once walking and turns one. The 'shakers and movers' room also has high chairs for feeding versus lap feedings. Each room will provide you with a daily report that informs you of your child's feedings, diaper changes, moods, developments, and any supplies your child may need to have restocked.

In each room, feedings, diaper changing, naps, dressing and learning activities are provided on an individual basis. We provide activities that promote the physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional development. Such activities include working with them to roll over, sit up, head control, grasping, and more. We encourage parents' suggestions. Together, we can achieve the goal you want for your child.

### Toddlers

We have three rooms available which is based on age and development. We have a 12-18 month, 18-24 month, and a 24-36 month room. The 12-18 month room is for our beginning walkers and tables for eating is introduced. The 18-24 month room is for the advanced walkers, more structure is given, and your child's progress will be sent home with you twice a year. The 24-36 month room is designed to prepare them for pre-school, potty training is introduced and encouraged, and two formal assessments will be given throughout the year documenting your child's progress and explained at a parent conference. Each room will provide you with a daily report that informs you of your child's feedings, diaper changes or potty times, moods, developments, and any supplies your child may need to have restocked.

The rooms provide for a gradual readiness to new concepts while also meeting the safety needs of the children. All the basic needs are met on an individual basis, as well as planned diaper changing, feedings, and activities. The environment allows for exploration through which they can construct and express their imagination and knowledge. A variety of materials are provided to help foster language development, gross motor skills, listening skills, and the social/emotional development.

### Preschoolers/pre-k

We have two rooms available which are based on age and development. We have the 3 year old room and the 4-5 year old room. We understand that a child develops at different rates depending on their individual abilities. If a child is accelerating at a faster rate they can be placed in the older preschool room or be given challenging tasks. Two formal assessments will be given throughout the year documenting your child's progress and explained at a parent conference. Each room will provide you with a weekly report that informs you of how your child interacted and performed with the new concepts introduced that week.

The 3 year old room is structured so that a child can learn through play. We provide a range of materials for them to pretend play, as well as learning tools to help foster their math, science, and literacy skills. They are encouraged to participate in the music and movement program to develop their gross motor skills and listening skills, improve coordination of rhythm and provide for self-expression. They will also begin to recognize and trace the letters associated with their name. Over time your child will be able to write his/her name.

The 4-5 year old room is arranged the same as the 3 year old room but also prepares the children for kindergarten. They will be introduced to sight words, basic math skills, write name on own, .....to name a few. Some of the children in this room attend only half a day since they are attending preschool or kindergarten. We have arranged the daily schedule so that the children learn our new concepts and skills that day as well as have play time.

### School-age

During the school year we offer before or after school care. The children report to the older preschool room where they can have time to work on homework and play. However, when school is not in session they will have an area to themselves to review grade appropriate materials and activities. They will also be given a weekly report to take home.