

The Applebee Preschool

Guided Play Curriculum



Guided Play Curriculum Concepts:

We will use these concepts as a catalyst for learning. We believe that topics emerge from conversations and interests of young children during play. Once topics of interest are identified, our teachers act as co-collaborators, helping the children make decisions about the direction of inquiry and launch into in-depth studies of the concepts, ideas and interests that arise. These investigations have no time limit and can overlap throughout the year. Our environment serves as the third teacher. As teachers we invite interaction and design our activities according to the children's interests. We can have multiple themes working together on any given day. We are keen observers and scaffold curriculum around the children's needs and interests. It's a fun process to watch the children engage in. We will provide parents with a "Peek @ The Week" at the end of each week. We will post pictures and annotate the process the children worked through as they played together. We want you to know what your child is learning and how!

Some concepts that often emerge while children play:

- All About Me/Friendships/Families/Community
- Food & Nutrition
- Autumn/Apples/Pumpkins/Harvest
- Animals: Farm/Arctic/Large Cats/Pets/Pond Life/Forest
- Bugs/Butterflies/Insects
- Artists & Authors
- Season/Earth Day
- Holidays Around the World
- Construction/Wheels/Bridges & Architecture
- Dinosaurs & Geology
- Rivers/Lakes & Oceans

Letter Recognition:

We will explore the letters thru play in this order:

1. S, A, T, I, P, N
2. C, K, E, H, R
3. M, D, G, O
4. L, F, B, Q, U
5. J, Z, W
6. V, Y, X

This pattern allows children to begin learning letter families. They can easily begin creating words such as “at”, “an”, “it”, and “in.” We will talk about the sounds the letters make, the shapes they create, their names all while building and growing our vocabulary.

Number Recognition:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

We will discover numbers thru play daily thru fun games and activities as we explore our environment together.

Science:

A preschool classroom and its outdoor space are full of science experiences. We will discover our world together with hands on experimentation, observation including trial and error.