



Bright SPARKS Creative Enrichment: What are the SPARKS?

Each SPARK helps kids prepare for a more structured learning environment and allows each child to shine their brightest!

✨ **Storytelling:** children learn so much through stories - from myths and legends, the hero's journey and "social stories" to historic events, and people, places and things. Not only is storytelling and reading aloud an excellent way to teach children about life, and build early language skills, but also strengthen self-concept and social skills.

✨ **Pretend Play:** children ages 3 - 5 have rich imaginations and pretend play with friends helps them build confidence and self-reliance, problem solving, self-concept, and learn more about the world around them.

✨ **Art:** the benefits of both structured and process-based art for preschoolers is well documented! In addition to building new neuro- connections, refining fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, pre-writing skills, and learning colors and shapes, children develop creative thinking, and a visual method of expression and communication.

✨ **Reading/Reflection:** reading aloud, phonemic awareness and simple hands-on activities help beginning readers. When children are asked gentle questions about a story, it encourages thinking and reflection, and supports language and literacy, cooperation, self-regulation, empathy, and emotional intelligence.

✨ **Kinesthetic Learning:** in the form of movement games, Tai Chi, Body Drumming, Brain Gym, Brain Balance, dancing, obstacle courses and more, help strengthen the brain-body connection and right/left brain integration, build gross motor skills, increased focus and alertness, hand-eye coordination, and improve cognitive function, memory, language, emotional regulation and decision making.

✨ **Social Skills (Self-Concept):** Success for 3 - 5-year-olds starts with social skills: cooperation, sharing, kindness, self-concept, self-efficacy & self-confidence, which develop from doing and caring for themselves and others to the degree they are able. Life skills like putting on shoes, caring for plants & pets, folding laundry, getting their own snack or art supplies, washing dishes, and playing games with classmates, impart a sense of autonomy and success that builds confident, resilient kids.

These foundational SPARKS support exploration and enhance learning as children grow into a more structured learning environment (such as homeschool program, full-time preschool or kindergarten). Our goal is to help each child shine their brightest!

To learn more contact Barbara or Lauren at: create@thearttoasis.net

Or Visit: www.thearttoasis.net/bright-sparks