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## Welcome to the Hunny Bear Room

## A Little about Our Room

The Hunny Bear Room has children ranging in age from 2.5 to 5 years. The staffing is a mix of Early Childhood Educators and Early Childhood Assistants.

**A Typical Day in the Hunny Bear Room**

Staff provide a variety of stimulating and creative activities within the daily routines. We provide a loving and nurturing environment that allows each child to feel secure in a group setting. Here is a brief outline of the day.

**Hunny Bear Daily Schedule:**

7:30 – 8:15

8:15 – 10:00 Quiet activities, snack, washroom, creative indoor activities

10:00 – 11:00 Outdoor play

11:00 – 11:15 Transitioning inside

11:15 – 11:30 Quiet reading, washroom

11:30 – 12:00 Lunch

12:00 – 12:15 Washroom routine

12:15 – 2:00 Nap time

2:00 – 2:15 Washroom routine

2:15 – 3:30 Outdoor play

3:30 – 4:15 Snack, washroom routine

4:15 – 5:50 Quiet activities, stories, creative activities

5:50 – 6:00

6:00 Centre closed

**Emergent Curriculum**

Educators understand individual differences and arrange the room so that children can explore and learn at their own pace. We base our program on Emergent Curriculum planning models using the children’s interests and needs as the main resource. The goal of our planning program is to respond to every child’s interests. Its practice is open-ended and self-directed. Family members can find a copy of the governing document ELECT outside of the room.

Some main skills emerging to extend, explain and explore in the Hunny Bear Room are:

Representation, Enjoying literacy, Self-regulation, Making friends, Identify formation, Autonomy, Problem-solving, Using descriptive language, Conflict resolution

##  **Learning Circle: What Is It?**A learning circle can take pace inside or outside at any time. It’s a time when children come together as a group to meet and greet each other as well as learn songs, share stories or engage in short activities.

## **Becoming a Hunny Bear**

Children visit the Hunny Bear Room the day before their official moving up date. If a child needs to move up more gradually, they are able to go back and visit their old Toddler friends. For continuity, the Toddlers and Hunny Bears are able to play together outside. Often, more than one Toddler moves up at a time, making the transition easier on the Toddlers.

The Toddler staff speak to your child about moving up to the Hunny Bear Room, reassuring your child that they will be welcomed and comforted by their new educators when they enter their new room.

## **Typical Hunny Bears**

Hunny Bears can be very shy to very sociable and out-going. The children work on developing new skills while in the Hunny Bear Room. Inside the Hunny Bear Room, we mostly work on social skills, language, self-regulation and problem-solving. Although there may be a few setbacks or obstacles when it comes to working on and gaining these new skills, the educators in the room help the children to reach their full potential because every child is capable, competent and curious.

We support each child with self-regulation in times of frustration by redirecting them to new activities or by giving them the skills they need to problem-solve.

**Toilet Training**

Many Hunny Bears are in the process of toilet training. Here are some tips:

* Talk to your child about being trained and wearing underpants/underwear instead of diapers
* Once started, keep your child in underpants because switching back and forth is confusing for the child and can set them back
* Talk to the teachers about the toileting routine at daycare and make a plan together specifically for your child
* Keep your child company while on the potty, reading books and singing songs
* Give your child praise and rewards to help keep your child motivated. Accidents are part of the process and so just continue to encourage your child (and yourself)
* Offering more fluids to your child can help your child respond to the more frequent body signals
* Make sure you have plenty of clothes at the daycare

**Many Hunny Bears Are...**

Toilet trained

Learning how to share

Starting to problem-solve

Learning to choose activities

This is the room where children begin to form friendships.

**What to Bring: Please Label Everything**

This room requires more extra clothes on hand than any other room…toilet training!
Pack extra underpants, pants, shirts, socks and even shoes every day. **Please label everything.**

We encourage Hunny Bear children to leave their toys at home.

**Have a Concern?**
We are always willing to discuss any concerns that you may have. We take our role in providing care for your child very seriously and value open communication.

Please speak to us when you have a concern. Remember that drop offs and pick-ups are usually quite busy, and staff may not have the chance to ‘get into a discussion’ with you at these times. If a longer discussion is necessary, arrange to speak at a mutually convenient time. It is always important to keep in touch with the staff. Please inform your child’s teachers of your child’s current issues.