



PITC & TEACHING PYRAMID TODDLER PROGRAM

TODDLERS AND TWOS

Older Toddlers (Twenty-four to Thirty-six Months)

Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write, and count. It is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace that is right for each individual child. Earlier is not better.
—Magda Gerber

The toddlers are in a mixed-age primary care group within our preschool room.

MIXED-AGE LEARNING

Our toddler program is within our mixed-age preschool while we work on licensing a separate toddler classroom.

The school serves children two through five years, up to 30 children a day. Our teachers provide responsive caregiving, maintaining an adult-to-child ratio for toddlers of 1:6 and preschoolers of 1:8.

When we set up our learning environment, we consider the children's ages of our mixed age group and the needs of the specific age groups. We intentionally design our spaces while thinking about how we can support the optimal development of each child in our group. Our flexible learning environment can be altered as the children grow older or when we welcome younger children.

Storybook's Mixed-Age Group for Toddlers

- The environment is flexible to accommodate toddlers and preschoolers at one time.
- Our teachers who work within our mixed-age group are PITC and Teaching Pyramid trained and knowledgeable about the different stages of development.
- Children in the classroom are divided into close-age primary care groups.
- The environment will provide challenges but not overwhelm children.
- The environment is modified to adapt to the developmental changes of the children.
- Low sinks and toilets are in the classroom for toilet learning.
- The toddlers have direct access to the outdoors. The toddlers have a separate outdoor environment from the preschoolers, which can be used all day long.
- The children and teachers can spend many hours of the day outdoors, as the space is designed as an outdoor classroom, overlooking the creek and under big trees. Mother Nature is our co-teacher, an old and wise teacher. Everyone learns from nature.
- The toddler and preschool yards can access the flower garden, including the sensory garden, where the children will help grow and care for the garden.



TODDLERS AND TWOS DAILY SCHEDULE

This is a pleasant, informal time of the day where toddlers are dropped off by 9:15 am to support the morning rituals and routines.

"PREDICTABILITY BRINGS ABOUT SECURITY."

- MAGDA GERBER

8:30 am - 10:00 am Arrival and Play

10:00 am - 10:30 am Caregiving Routines and Snack

10:30 am - 12:00 am Outdoor Play

12:00 pm Caregiving Routines and Lunch

12:20 am - 12:30 pm Storytime

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm Nap time and Caregiving Routines

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Snack, Outdoor Play, and Goodbyes

Respectful Diapering and potty training are ongoing with the children as needed throughout the day. It is important to keep in mind that learning happens in every part of the day.

Amazing explorations and discoveries often happen spontaneously and unexpectedly.

Staying alert, curious, observant, and responsive allows care teachers to use their own and the children's initiative and interests to co-create curriculum. (2nd.; Gonzalez-Mena, 2002)

Special Notes

Our classroom schedule is fluid and elastic. Our values are embedded in relation to time; projects, and conversations are permitted to unfold in their own time. We give our young children ample time and space to make connections on their own. Our toddlers do things each day they can anticipate, such as morning snack, play, lunch, rest, snack, and pick up. Please remember that families are welcome to visit the program at any time! If your child will be absent or later than 9:15 am, please call the school or send a message in the school app. Thank you for being partners in care!