

An overview of what you can expect from our 18 month- 2years old program

- Your child will begin their day with a warm welcome from staff and friends and free play which will guide their independence and encourage socialization.
- Every morning a routine circle time is done with the group. Circle time includes a calendar, the weather, welcome songs, educational learning songs, story books, puppet animations, conversations.
- Center play is valued at this age level and will be done daily as it encourages children to use their imaginations. Children can roam from being the top chef in the kitchen area to being a princess/prince in an enchanted castle in the dress up center. Other centers include: Trucks and cars; reading and quiet play center; blocks and construction; etc.
- We will offer them a chance to get messy in our messy art areas. This area includes a paint easel, sand and water tables. This type of sensory play encourages them to become familiar with the different senses: Sight, smell, taste, touch and sound.
- An 18 month old class can be very busy at times which is why we value our quiet book corner. This corner will allow for children to calm down and to become familiar with books. We believe that promoting literacy from a young age is crucial to their development as they begin to understand the concept of a book and what it entails.
- We promote and encourage physical activity at our facility and have resources that help us satisfy the activeness of your child. Your child will have the opportunity to participate in some running activities in our big gym, ball pit play and tube climbing in our mini gym and the fresh air of our outdoor play yard and giant sandbox.
- As we consider the ongoing “work through play”, we will seek to take advantage of the changing seasons and theme based activities. We facilitate this through a variety of art experiences, finger plays, creative movement, musical instruments and storytelling.
- Positive Guidance in the Early Years sets a foundation for strong social and emotional skills. We look forward to helping children with choices and guiding them through many “teachable moments”. We arouse their empathy, meaning we show a child how their behavior has an impact on the world around them. This is a powerful life skill tool. Empathy simply means amplifying that person’s feelings whether positive or negative. Even as young as 18 months old children can realize the important place they have within their daycare family.
- Clean up and self-care are a priority at our CPE. Your child will learn to take responsibility for their mess and be encouraged/taught how to clean up their toys. Self-care is extremely important as we start to mold and guide our little ones into becoming independent and understanding the value of keeping their bodies clean. In doing this, we will help them make sense of the excitement and fun we get from

being messy through play but when that play is done must clean ourselves properly. A key element and so appropriate is that through self- help skills, your child gains power and authority over their own body. What a great opportunity to enhance self-esteem.

- Your child will be given two structured snacks and a catered lunch. However, if we see that they are hungry and that this is disrupting their enjoyment of their day, extra snacks are always present. We recognize the individual needs of each child and the mood of the group as well.
- Every child in the CPE will have an early afternoon rest period. We will teach them that their bodies need rest time in order to grow, learn and play. We give children the “gift” of a good nap, the power of rest.
- Some of our best programming comes from the children themselves. Educators will always consider the needs of the emotional, social, physical and cognitive well- being of each child. Thoughtful planning considers the class as a whole and celebrates each individual. We look forward to sharing all elements of the program and the growth and joy your children will be experiencing.

By Alysia Scerri & Sharyn Timerman

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