

Learning Objectives

Children will practice skills and develop knowledge at their own pace.

Social-Emotional:

- build relationships with others, show and understand empathy
- practice self-awareness, adaptability, and resilience
- practice non-violent conflict resolution, advocacy, and collaboration
- develop self-regulation, perseverance, and flexibility
- listen to others and express feelings safely and productively, especially when dealing with disappointment

For example, daily group Reflection meetings offer children time to share their thoughts and feelings with others while also listening to and respecting others' ideas and thoughts.

Environmental Science:

- observe and engage with plants, animals and fungi
- practice scientific inquiry
- recognize weather patterns, states of matter, cause and effect
- practice stewardship of the physical environment

For example, morning Circle encourages children to make weather observations and check that they have appropriate clothing.

Physical:

- practice risk assessment and risk management
- develop sensory integration and physical coordination
- build gross motor (body awareness, flexibility)
- develop fine motor (grip, hand dominance, object manipulation)

For example, the outdoor play environment engages various senses and improves physical coordination by providing dynamic and diverse textures and surfaces to explore.

Language and Communication:

- practice verbal and nonverbal expression
- practice listening and following directions
- develop receptive and expressive language
- reason and respectfully articulate feelings and plans with others

For example, educators facilitate fingerplays and songs with children in English and Spanish.

Literacy:

- develop print awareness and letter recognition
- practice identifying and producing letter sounds
- practice rhyming
- develop mark-making (writing and drawing)
- understand, relate to, and communicate oral and written stories

For example, the Children's Sign-in sheet enables children to explore mark-making and the meaning of print in their everyday routine.

Mathematics:

- develop shape and color identification
- practice sorting, sequencing, classifying, and counting
- develop number recognition, patterning, quantifying and comparison
- practice one-to-one correspondence

For example, children practice sorting and counting when they collect acorns and leaves for pretend food during imaginative outdoor play.

Social Studies:

- develop knowledge of self, family, classmates and local community
- develop confidence, positive self-identity and family pride
- express comfort and joy, and use accurate language for human diversity
- recognize unfairness, use language to describe it and understand that it hurts

For example, Sharing Circles provide opportunities for children to share information about their families by bringing in a photo(s) and talking about who is in their family.

Creative Arts:

- explore and represent ideas with a variety of visual and performing art
- develop sensory integration
- practice public speaking

For example, educators provide water and paint brushes for children to use and explore however they choose; whether it's to make a picture for a family member or to paint a tree.

Cognition:

- develop executive functions (i.e. problem-solving, planning and execution)
- practice self-regulation
- develop higher-order thinking

For example, in the afternoons children practice stretching and yoga while being encouraged to think about body and breath awareness.