



EVERGREEN DAY SCHOOL *YELLOW ROOM CURRICULUM*

Daily Schedule:

8:30 AM	Arrival and Free Play
9:30 AM	Clean-up, Bathroom, Group Snack
10:15 – 11:00 AM	Outside to Playground
11:15 AM	Bathroom, Free play in classroom, motor room or library
11:45 AM	Circle Time (songs, finger plays, story)
12:00 NOON	Lunch
12:30 PM	Dismissal or Extended Day

The first priority in the Yellow Room is to create an environment that feels nurturing and safe. We adhere to our daily routine to provide predictability to a child's day. Familiar materials such as crayons, markers, paints, and play dough are available daily. Our touch table will also contain something familiar and soothing, such as water or sand, at the beginning of the school year.

Once children are comfortable, we will branch out to explore a theme they can relate to. Ideas for themes often emerge from the interests of the children. Some popular themes have been the seasons, trains or transportation, ocean/beach, and the alphabet. We keep the emphasis on process instead of product and strive for open-ended activities within the theme. At this age, squeezing glue puddles onto a piece of paper becomes a valuable experience and we try to give each child freedom to experiment in a way that is meaningful to him/her.

During free play, all areas of the classroom will be open for exploration. In a typical morning, your child may fill buckets of sand at the touch table, move to the easel to paint a picture, listen to a story in the book corner, and make a pretend birthday cake at the play dough table. It is not unusual, however, for a child to spend the entire morning in the block area engaging in imaginative play. Although we encourage children to experience diverse activities, we respect their desire to make those choices.

Our curriculum is designed to enhance the physical, cognitive, emotional and social development of each child. Self help skills such as getting dressed for outside, washing hands for snack and lunch, and putting toys away at clean-up give children independence and confidence in their physical abilities. Reading throughout the day and simple conversation develop language and understanding. Labeling feelings for children and giving them the vocabulary to express themselves teaches them to communicate and understand their emotions. Parallel play predominates at the beginning of the year. When children show signs of readiness, they are encouraged to interact with a friend. Play spaces for 2 to 4 children are created to allow opportunities for social development.

All of these aspects of learning as well as countless others are viewed as an ongoing process that continues throughout the learning life of every child. In the Yellow Room, we strive to provide the foundation for these important skills amidst a fun and interesting atmosphere.