



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT CP KIDS PRESCHOOL

Parents Often Wonder...

How is CP Kids Preschool different from day care?

Increased structure is one of the major differences between our day care and preschool programs. We capitalize on the maturing mind of the preschooler. Three to five-year-olds have increasingly greater levels of concentration, interest levels in special projects, and verbal skills for social interaction. Our developmentally appropriate environment builds upon the learning that takes place in the toddler/2s years, and fosters the independence, critical thinking, and creativity of the three to five year old child. Intellectual growth is fostered through stimulating individual and group activities, opportunities for choice, age-appropriate materials and activities which help to develop oral language.

What kind of parent contact can I expect?

Our family-focused environment allows us to know each child and his or her family very well, and also allows us time during each day for informal chats. Through these daily chats, a great deal of information is shared between teacher and parent, a very helpful benefit to children. In addition, we use written communication and newsletters to communicate day to day happenings, curriculum information, and special events both for our class and the center. Formal parent-teacher conferences are held twice a year. These conferences are opportunities to discuss children in depth, focus on growth and learning, and set goals for the future. Parents may also request a parent conference at any time to discuss a specific issue that requires more time and attention than a short chat will allow.

In this multiage classroom, will it be difficult for my three-year-old to be one of the youngest? What about my five year old, who will be the oldest?

We believe that multiage learning environments in the early years are beneficial to children. With good teachers to guide them, older children learn compassion and caring for their younger friends. Younger children find, in their older friends, models who help them reach up and out to more advanced skills. Also, all children get the chance to be the youngest, and as they grow up in the program, to also be the oldest someday. Finally, we strive to keep a balance so children have same-aged peers with whom to develop friendships that provide challenge and companionship.

Will my child be prepared for kindergarten by the end of his CP Kids Preschool experience?

We believe so. However, for us, preparation is more than knowledge of alphabet and numbers, which will certainly be a part of our curriculum. We also prepare children for school by helping them become lifelong learners, to be a friend and a community member, to be curious, ask questions and investigate answers, to be active and explore how their bodies move, and to be independent and self-motivated. These are the kinds of skills that help children fare well in school, and are thus the focus of our program.