

Toddler hood is a very special age! Our little ones are gaining an awareness of themselves and how they fit into a big, big world. They are developing in language by leaps and bounds every day! Children learn language through the enriching hands on experiences they are exposed to in the classroom and their outdoor environment. Sensory activities promote the use of all five senses to help make connections in their brains and set the stage for the science and math skills they will use more as they grow.

Our toddlers love the outdoors and have many opportunities to play and learn outside. Playground time is provided twice daily. Outside time is essential to the children's physical development. Their little bodies are growing and developing every day as they climb, crawl, run, jump and balance. In addition to outside play, the children will have many opportunities for outdoor learning. The children love to experience the garden by observing every different part of each plant. Lots of language is introduced as they explore everything from plants, insects, Earth materials and much more. They dig in the soil and learn so much about the natural world through this fun and engaging hands on experience.

Toddlers are by nature very busy. Our days include lots of self directed as well as teacher guided play. Our classrooms are always full of a variety of different activities selected with their developmental skills in mind. Our little ones will be exposed to play activities that will develop everything from gross motor, fine motor, memory, problem solving and cognition, as well as early math and literacy concepts.

Toddlers respond very positively to music and research shows it helps establish connections in the brain, for this reason music and movement is a big part of our toddlers day.

We are singing and dancing, marching and moving to the beat! We play instruments and wave scarves, blow bubbles and just act silly, all to the sound of our favorite songs!

Sign language is incorporated frequently through the day. Oral language is a developmental skill. Children are able to understand and communicate language through sign, much sooner than they can verbalize their thoughts and needs. Sign language helps the child alleviate their frustrations by giving them a means to communicate. This in turns helps create a happier environment and deeper bond between the children and their teachers. Sign language not only gives the child another method of communication, but promotes brain development as well!

The toddlers are slowly beginning to learn how to engage with others at this time in life. Social skills are a big focus at this age. Children learn how to play with each other, take turns and work together as a member of a group. Our job as teachers is to reinforce positive interactions between each other through modeling of appropriate behaviors and reinforcement of appropriate behaviors with positive praise and affirmations. We show lots of affection so the children can learn how to positively interact with each other.