

WELCOME TO THE BIGS ROOM

Hello, and welcome to the "Big Kids" Room!

Our goal is to prepare children for formal learning by offering a variety of hands-on activities that foster essential skills for future academic success. The environment blends free-choice activities with teacher-guided lessons, including outdoor play, art, science, music, and dramatic play.

The "Big Kids" room, is a program designed for 3- and young 4-year-olds, affectionately named by the children. In small groups, teachers will focus on promoting cognitive and language development through literature, drawing, and speaking in front of others. We will incorporate diverse materials, such as books, tapes, magazines, newspapers, and songs, to enhance learning. Weekly art themes will introduce pre-academic concepts (shapes, colors, numbers, and letters), while learning centers offer children the freedom to explore their individual interests.

Cultural awareness and appreciation for diversity will be integrated through books, music, food, and exposure to different customs, holidays, and basic sign language. **A monthly calendar will be sent home with details of weekly themes and activities.**

Large group time will include active indoor and outdoor play, as well as dramatic play to support the development of motor skills and coordination. Teachers will emphasize safety and model appropriate behaviors during play.

Snack is provided by the center twice a day (AM/PM). Children bring their own lunches, which should be stored in a **labeled** lunch box with ice packs. The center provides 1% milk. Teachers will model good table manners and assist children in making healthy choices.

Special lunches are offered on Mondays for \$4 and a menu will be provided. You may either pick all month or choose individually. A special lunch menu will be given out every 2 months and will be posted on the center's website. Your child does not have to participate in special lunch if they do not want to. In that case, please make sure they bring a lunch on Mondays.

During nap time, most children will rest on provided cots with a crib sheet, blanket, or Tot Cot mat. Children who do not nap can engage in quiet activities after about 30 minutes. Please provide a large crib sheet and blanket or a Tot Cot sleep mat **labeled** with your child's name. A labeled water bottle is recommended for outdoor use.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to talk with us. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your child over the next year.

