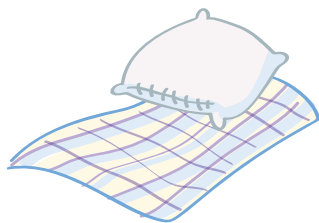


Toddlers & Twos



Maximizing Prime Times

During Prime Times — moments of one-to-one responsive, thoughtful interaction between an adult and a child — teachers address the child's basic human needs of nurturing care, food, rest, and connecting with others. These interactions are at the core of all we do.



Fostering Language Development

The toddler years are bursting with language development. Children learn best when language-rich experiences are naturally integrated into the classroom routines and learning environment.



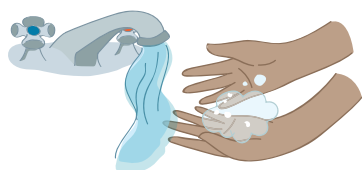
Daily Sensory Experiences

Toddlers' brains crave hands-on sensory experiences. Playful experimentation with loose, wet, and moldable materials — sand, water, paint, and playdough — teach children about the properties of matter. Sensory play calms children and is beneficial for emotional health.



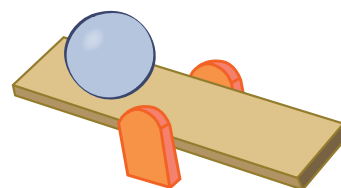
Small Group Approach

Keeping toddlers in large groups limits Prime Times and increases time spent waiting, which can lead to frustration. When groups are small, toddlers have increased opportunities for language development and positive social interactions.



Building Self-Help Skills

Helping children learn to do things and care for themselves is a vital developmental accomplishment. It is important to let children take an active role in hand washing, using the toilet, eating, dressing, and undressing as their abilities and interests indicate, rather than doing these things for them.



Exploring Cause & Effect

Toddlers need daily opportunities to follow their curiosity, experiment with materials, find answers to questions, and test results. Cause-and-effect experiences boost scientific thinking, as well as problem-solving and creativity.



Daily Outdoor Experiences

The natural world is full of beautiful objects to look at, wonderful sounds and smells, and interesting textures to explore. It also gives newly mobile toddlers opportunities to learn new ways to maneuver and move their bodies.