

The Duck & Geese Daily Schedule

7:00-8:00: Arrival

8:00-9:00: Outside Play

9:00-9:15: Job chart and hand washing

9:15-9:45: Breakfast

9:45-10:45: Morning circle &
HighReach Curriculum activities
(review homework, show & share, story
time, songs, centers, and crafts)

10:45-11:00: Bathroom and clean-up

11:00-11:50: Outside Play

11:50-12:00: Wash hands

12:00-12:40: Lunch

12:40-1:00: Bathroom and story time

1:00-3:00: Nap

3:00-3:30: Wash hands and snack

3:30-4:00: HighReach Curriculum re-
view & number / letter exploration

4:00-4:15: Clean-up

4:15-5:40: Outside Play

5:40-6:00: Reading, puzzles, and depar-
ture

Dear Parents,

The age of the children in the Ducks and Geese classrooms range from almost 4 to 5 years old. As they approach kindergarten, these children are becoming more independent and are capable of taking on more responsibilities. While all of the classrooms at RSCC are structured to encourage learning and development at every level, the Ducks and Geese classrooms are preschool classrooms designed to prepare our children for kindergarten. Play based learning continues to be a crucial part of their learning process, but the children in these classrooms also spend more time exposed to structured learning.

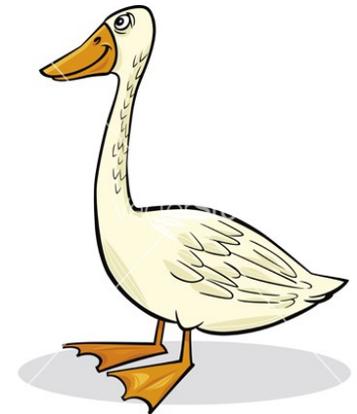
If you have any questions about what we are doing in the classrooms or about your child's development, please feel free to arrange a meeting with your child's teaching team. We will also schedule parent-teacher conferences twice a year. Naptime (1pm to 3pm) is a wonderful time to call the classrooms as well.

Thank you!

The Geese & Duck Teachers



Welcome to the Fours! (Ducks & Geese)



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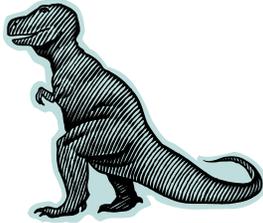
Who Are the Fours?

Four year olds are incredibly fascinating age to be around. Now that they have mastered walking and running, their movements include more large muscle coordination, which in turn, lead to more refined and controlled small motor skills. Progress in cognitive development has sharpened perceptions and albeit few, their years of living have given them experiences upon which they have built observations and viewpoints. Although four year olds still rely on parents for security and comfort, the child's social circle is expanding rapidly, and interactions with others are actively sought. In short, four year olds are transitioning from baby and toddler-like characteristics into tiny individuals...it is an exciting time!

Curriculum

The Three Components...

1. Thematic Units

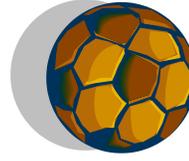


We generally teach by choosing fun and interesting themes, often taking cues from what the children show interest in. For example, we might do a unit on dinosaurs or outer space. We try to plan fun activities, projects, songs, etc. that center around the themes. To stimulate cognitive development, we read many books and ask thought-provoking questions. The children are always encouraged to bring in their own books from home. Language development is encouraged through many discussions of our themes and remembering what we have learned on previous days.

2. Learning Through Play

A great deal of your child's learning come through play. For example, playing with manipulative toys helps build fine motor skills. Block building and puzzles help develop problem solving skills. The

dramatic play center fosters role playing and social development. The science materials encourage exploration and discovery. The math shelf encourages counting skills. The writing center helps build fine motor skills as well as letter recognition. The children become confident climbers, bike riders, ballplayers, etc. Free play gives the children the opportunity and experiences to build social-emotional development and gives their teachers time to observe and help adjust behaviors if needed. The learning through play time also gives rise to many "teachable moments" when children's interests are triggered and they are open to learning new things.



3. HighReach Curriculum

The HRL curriculum focuses around the belief that children learn best when actively engaged with the people and environment around them. Through hands on experiments and activities, the four year old curriculum aims to promote development in areas of language, math, science, social & emotional development, physical health and encourage an overall positive attitude toward knowledge and learning.

As a result of our three curricular components blended into the four year old class, some of the things you might find your child able to do include:

- Exhibit self-help skills in dressing
- Works a puzzle of several pieces
- Exhibits right-or-left-handedness
- Emerging self-concept based on the child's perceptions of his/her physical attributes and expressed through statements like; "I am bigger" or "watch me skip".
- Exhibit greater desire to interact with playmates and participate in collaborative play activities
- Recognizes and names most letters



Extracurricular Options...

• Soccer

Two soccer sessions are offered during the year. The Turtles & Otters typically have class on Monday mornings for 30 minutes for those children who are signed up. Registration forms can be retrieved from the office.

• Ballet

In addition to a "music and movement" class that all of the children participate in, there are two ballet sessions offered during the year. Registration forms are available in the office.

• JumpBunch

Owned and operated by a former RSCC parent, JumpBunch is a 30 minute physical movement class that encourages kids to enjoy physical activity, feel confident about their abilities and instill them with a love for being active and healthy. The classes meet every Friday and cost \$42/month. Registration forms are available in the office.

"Only where children gather is there any real chance of fun."

-Mignon McLaughlin