

The Otter and Turtle Daily Schedule

7:00-8:00: Arrival

8:00-9:00: Outside Play

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

9:15-9:45: Breakfast

9:45-10:00: Morning circle: story time, songs

10:00-10:45: Centers, crafts, HighReach Curriculum activities and projects

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: Centers, HighReach Curriculum projects & activities

4:00-4:15: Clean-up

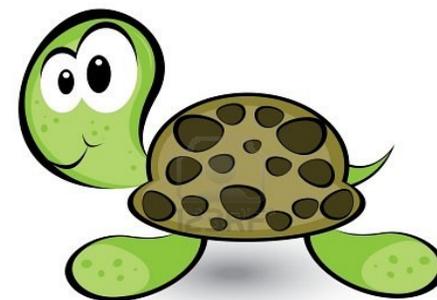
Dear Parents,

We are so excited to have you and your child join our Classrooms! At this level, in addition to learning through play and the engaging seasonal and fun themes we discuss in class, structured learning becomes an important part of your child's experience. Our days are filled with fun and exciting activities that we are sure your children will share with you at the end of each day. (We also have a daily blog to promote a home/school connection!) However, if you have any questions about what we are doing in the classroom or anything else, please feel free to arrange a time for us to meet as a team. Naptime (1pm to 3pm) is a wonderful time to call the classroom with any questions as well. We look forward to helping your children develop and grow under our careful guidance.

The Otter & Turtle Teachers



Welcome to the Threes! (Otters & Turtles)



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Curriculum

Three year olds are just discovering their independence but still rely on adults for help with many basic needs. Therefore, the physical and psychological development of these children is considered throughout the learning environment and across the curriculum. We provide many opportunities for them to develop their motor skills, self confidence, and positive feelings towards learning. We accomplish this by blending three different curricular components — thematic units, learning through play, and a formal curriculum called HighReach Learning. In addition, the children are also involved in educational field trips, school assemblies, and a lot of time playing and discovering the outdoors.

The Three Components...

1. Thematic Units

One aspect of the curriculum is immersion into thematic units. While often times the themes are dictated by the season or an approaching holiday, the interests of the children also considered when choosing a theme. Themes are discussed during circle time in the morning and projects are done throughout the day to reinforce the chosen theme.

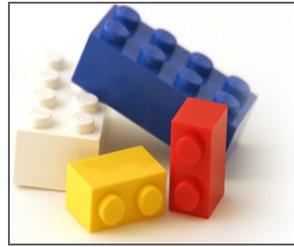
Sample themes include community helpers, animal life cycles, transportation, body awareness, and seasons. Stories read to the children, cooking projects, and materials throughout the classroom, reflect the theme being discussed. All themes are incorporated into all of the curricular areas of the classroom



2. Learning Through Play

While structured learning is important at this age, learning through play is also an important component of their day. When interacting with peers, a child is encouraged to make decisions, use their imagination, and develop conflict resolution skills. Time spent playing with such manipulatives as legos

and play dough, is not only fun for the children, but also strengthens important muscles for fine and gross motor skills.



Most importantly, we want your child to love coming to school. With a delicate balance of structured learning and useful play, your child will be ready for the next academic phase of their life while having developed a love for the learning environment!

3. HighReach Learning

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 three 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 3 year old class, some of the things you might find your child able to do include:

- Ability to express feelings more freely, showing independence & competence.
- Show increased self-regulation
- Share feelings through talking & pretend play
- Expand vocabulary with more connecting and describing words
- Use writing tools for scribbles & drawings
- Participate, with help, in the group life of the class
- Use smaller manipulatives to develop small muscle strength & coordination
- Be more confident, self directed & purposeful in their play

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.

“Our words should be like a magic canvas upon which a child cannot help but paint a positive picture of themselves.”

-Haim G. Ginott