

WELCOME TO KIDS' WORK CHICAGO RIVERVIEW



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WWW.KIDSWORKCHICAGO.COM

• Where your family joins ours. •

At Kids' Work, we are devoted to creating a nurturing, stimulating and accepting learning environment that provides children with the tools they need for future happiness and success. Our research based program incorporates a variety of educational theories while embracing the whole child and allowing for hands-on experiential learning.

Founded in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Kids' Work has been providing the highest quality child care available since 1978. We are a family owned operation that thrives under the direct supervision of a dedicated mother daughter team.

We believe that children flourish when provided the opportunity to explore, interact, question and create within a rich learning environment designed to meet the individual needs of each child.



OUR CORE VALUES ENSURE THE HIGHEST QUALITY CARE FOR YOUR FAMILY

RESPECT

Thoughtful & considerate

BALANCE

Healthy, comfortable focus

INTEGRITY

Devotion to what is right

POSITIVITY

Constructive & optimistic

SUPPORT

Assistance & caring

DISTINCTION

Set apart from others in
excellence

ENLIGHTENMENT

Greater knowledge or understanding

OUR FACILITY



Our newly renovated center is located on the beautiful Chicago River in the North Center neighborhood. We are safe and secure, featuring monitored and recorded security cameras. All exterior doors are locked for added safety, and use of Kisi Keyless Entry System allows only for the entry of families and authorized staff members. Inside, you'll find welcoming hallways, and bright, airy, updated classrooms

for every age group! We offer care Monday- Friday from 7:30am- 6:30pm and you are welcome to drop off and pick up within that time frame. Our enrollment options range between full time (Monday-Friday) and part time (4, 3, or 2 days each week) options.

Our center is unique in that it boasts two indoor gross motor areas, and each classroom has time in the morning and afternoon for large muscle play. We also have a private and secure outdoor playground area, which offers a beautiful, dynamic play space! There is a large covered area so children can play outside rain or shine, and separate spaces for our younger and older students.



OUR PROGRAMS

• INFANT •

Our infant classrooms provide an intimate home-like environment with smaller than typical class sizes. On top of the required 1:4 teacher to student ratios, we believe in maintaining additional staff members in the building at all times, which allows for increased one-on-one interaction and personalized care. Our classrooms are incredibly clean, well maintained, and safe spaces for your baby. Teachers strive to maintain a soothing environment that recognizes each baby's natural feeding, sleeping, and play rhythms. Teachers create a weekly curriculum that outlines learning activities in cognition, language, social emotional, and fine/gross motor domains. An infant's day consists of cuddling, rocking, circle time, finger plays, reading books, exploring developmentally appropriate toys, singing songs, creating art projects, sensory experiences, stroller walks and much more!



• TODDLER •

Typically at/or around 15 months, little ones are transitioned into our toddler program. The required teacher to student ratio for this group is 1:5, and we have additional support staff ready and available to help when needed. As children move into our toddler program, their day takes on a more uniform schedule. Feeding and napping take place at the same time for all of the children. Teachers model effective communication, sharing, and encourage independence. The curriculum grows to include targeted learning in math/science, fine and gross motor, and art and sensory domains. A toddler's day consists of self-selected play, circle time, singing songs, finger plays, reading books, focused learning activities, art projects, sensory experiences, stroller walks, indoor gross motor play time and outdoor playground play time.



PRESCHOOL

Our preschool program welcomes students between 24–48 months old. The required teacher to student ratio is 1:8 for two year olds and 1:10 for threes and up, and we maintain additional staff to provide added care and support when necessary.

Preschoolers are increasingly independent and are encouraged to express themselves artistically, explore academic areas of interest and further develop their social relationships. Our preschool classrooms are rich in print and our teachers provide engaging, open-ended theme-based learning focused on the interests of the children. We believe strongly in the power of building a lifetime love for learning, through activities that meet learning goals in an explorative, play based manner. We work to scaffold learning to meet each child's unique developmental goals as they grow across the preschool classrooms. A preschooler's day consists of self-selected play, circle time, singing songs, reading books, creating art, focused math, science and literacy activities, outdoor play, dramatic and block play opportunities, and more!



JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN / KINDERGARTEN

While similar in style and routine to our preschool program, the focus of our junior kindergarten is elementary preparedness. While maintaining teacher to student ratios of 1:10 along with those additional support staff, we foster the children's growing sense of independence and scaffold their learning.

Along with a strong foundation in the Creative Curriculum, our comprehensive program is supplemented by on a daily basis using Learning Without Tears. This reading, writing, and math readiness program is engaging, straightforward, and hands on in addition to being child friendly and extremely effective. Our junior kindergarten program expands to provide an age appropriate technology component, encouraging children to navigate the computer and learn the beginning skills of computer use while providing exposure to relevant academic software programs. A junior kindergartener's day consists of self-selected play, circle time, literacy and writing activities, journaling, handwriting, creating art, group activities, focused math and science activities, computer time, outdoor play, and more!



CURRICULUM & ENRICHMENT

Our center utilizes The Experience Early Learning Curriculum. It is a hands-on, play-based approach to early learning, designed to nurture children's natural curiosity and creativity. It's a comprehensive, research-based program that integrates learning across various domains like social-emotional development, physical skills, language and literacy, math, science, social studies, and creative arts. The curriculum aims to foster a love of learning, build essential skills, and prepare children for future academic success while providing for authentic assessment opportunities that naturally guide ongoing instruction.

Included in tuition are on-site weekly enrichment classes:

Infant and Toddlers (6 week-24 months of age):

Wee Groove Music Class and Spanish with Ms. Yesenia

Two Year Olds:

Spanish with Ms. Yesenia and Lil' Sparks Soccer

Three Years Olds and up:

Spanish with Ms. Yesenia and Kidokinetics Class



FAMILY CONNECTION

It is incredibly important to us that families feel connected and supported, which is why we have an open door policy. You are encouraged to call and email as needed to touch base throughout the day.

We chart all aspects of each child's day, including feedings, naps, diaper changes, and report it to parents online via the BrightWheel App. Teachers also send a few pictures of your child with descriptions so you can see how their day is going and how much fun they're having in their classroom!

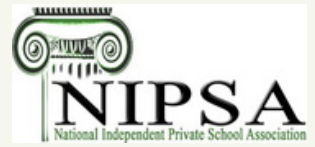


Administrators send out curriculum and menus via email, and classroom news and photos will be posted daily on password protected Brightwheel websites for each class!

We encourage family participation in curriculum whenever possible and host multiple family events throughout the year. We strive to promote a positive community of families and staff by providing a babysitting directory and ample opportunities for families to connect through events or social media.

NIPSA ACCREDITATION

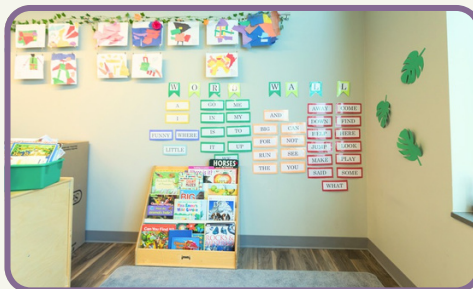
We are very proud to share that we are one of few schools in the state of Illinois to be NIPSA (National Independent Private Schools Association) accredited. The organization surveyed our school in 16 different areas, from philosophy, curriculum, organization, safety, and staff to student services, parent community, our building, finances, and more. We are so proud to hold this mark of distinction!



HEALTH & SAFETY OVERVIEW

We have always prided ourselves in the cleanliness and organization of Kids' Work, we work hard to take extra measures to keep our young students safe and healthy.

- If your child has a fever of 100.4 or higher, vomiting, diarrhea, and or a cough they may return to group care once they are fever and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.
- We have adjusted indoor and outdoor spaces to accommodate for cleaning
- Toy bins are rotated to monitor what toys have been touched/cleaned
- Crib and cot sheets are washed on a rotating schedule and as needed
- Parents drop off at the door of the classroom
- Sanitizer stations have been set up throughout the building with for ease and convenience
- Daily cleaning is performed during working hours, and we have an additional night crew for an extra layer of safety
- Teachers, Administration, and Therapists are required to provide proof of Flu vaccination, along with the required State vaccinations
- Since we are private center and serve a high risk population of infants and children who are not of the age to vaccinate against many communicable diseases, we strictly follow the DCFS requirements for the DHS Health form to indicate that all students and staff have received the immunizations required by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Therefore we are not able to make an exemption on vaccine requirements for our students. [Please click here to review all required vaccinations.](#)
- All international students are required to be seen by a doctor in the state of Illinois and have the DHS Health Form be completed by a doctor licensed in the state of Illinois



PARENT TESTIMONIALS

My daughter has been attending Kids' Work Chicago for over a year now and my husband and I couldn't be happier. It is such a nice feeling to drop your child off and not have a worry in the world b/c you know your child is in excellent hands. I dread the day we move to the suburbs (hopefully not for a while) and have to find another daycare. Kids' Work has set a very high standard of quality that I fear I will not find elsewhere.

– Andrea R.



Kids' Work has been so great for us! All the staff is incredibly friendly and welcoming (the directors Lindsey and Michele know everyone's name!). The center is so clean and they have parents take off their shoes when they enter (kids and staff have indoor shoes). I know my son is well cared for there and he's learning a lot. We drive out of our way to go here because we love it so much! A few other things I like about Kids' Work is they have a playground at the center, have separate rooms for each class, wash the children's hands often, have a big open play area, don't use a lot of apparatus when your baby is an infant, have windows in all rooms, really I could go on and on. If you are needing a daycare, check out Kids' Work!

–Lauren T.

Look no further. Kids' Work Chicago is as good as it gets. Our family recently moved out of state and one of the things we miss most is KWC. My son attended for two years, beginning when he was nearly two. Other reviewers have commented on the safe and loving environment, the creative, fun, but challenging curriculum, and the cleanliness, all of which I echo. What they haven't mentioned is the strong sense of community among the parents and children--some of our best friends are families and teachers we met through KWC. My son is now in the "premiere" preschool in our new location and it cannot hold a candle to KWC. As a just-turned-four-year-old in pre-kindergarten, he is bored to tears by the curriculum in his new school because KWC is so advanced (KWC preschoolers are doing the work kindergarteners elsewhere do). He also misses KWC's delicious, healthy organic meals and snacks--where other schools serve processed hamburgers, french fries and canned fruit, KWC serves grass-fed beef sliders with fingerling potatoes and fresh fruit. Another reviewer mentioned that KWC has "extra" teachers in the room. I didn't appreciate how meaningful this was, especially for kids who don't nap, until our son began attending a school where this isn't the case; now he has to spend two hours on his cot each day while the teachers take lunch so the room isn't out of ratio. Finally, I always knew what my son would be learning at KWC, because the detailed curriculum was published to a parent website each week (along with photos from the preceding week and the monthly menu). At his new school I have to really work to find out what my son will be learning. Am I paying much less for childcare now that we've moved away? Yes. Would I pay any amount to have a school here just like KWC? A thousand times yes.

– Melissa B.

2025-2026 DAYS OF CLOSURE/ EARLY OUTS

September 1st Labor Day

October 13th Indigenous People's Day - TEACHER IN-SERVICE DAY

November 11th Culture Building Early Out / 4:00 CLOSING

November 27th & 28th Thanksgiving Break

December 24th- January 1st Winter Break

January 19th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 16th President's Day- TEACHER IN-SERVICE DAY

April 3rd & 6th Spring Break

April 21st Culture Building Early Out/ 4:00 CLOSING

May 25th Memorial Day

June 19th Juneteenth

June 29th through July 3rd Summer Break

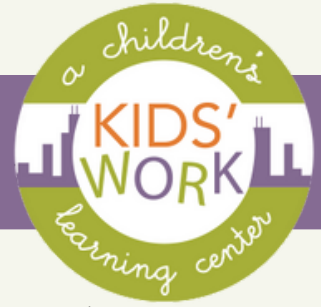
August 11th Culture Building Early Out/ 4:00 CLOSING

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* As employees and contract partners are paid, and business, building, and program expenses remain fixed during this time, regular monthly payments will be drafted for these days even though the center will be closed.



KWCR ENROLLMENT PROCESS



1. After your tour, complete the pre-enrollment form and pay a \$50.00 (cash or check, credit cards not accepted at this time) application fee to enroll or add your child to our waitlist. Please note that spots are offered as they become available and there is no guarantee for care.
2. We will contact you via email (be sure to check your spam for filtered emails) when a spot becomes available that fits your requests and our availability. We ask that you accept or decline the spot within 24 hours. If you choose to accept the spot, we will require a security deposit equal to one month of tuition to secure the spot. This deposit is returned to your family upon the disenrollment of the child or children, if proper notice is given.
3. The administration will schedule a time with your family to pick up an enrollment packet, drop off your security deposit, administrative fees, and schedule your Zoom orientation. The orientation will walk through the enrollment packet along with covering Kids' Work Chicago Riverview's policies and procedures.
4. Prior to your start date a Meet & Greet will be scheduled with your classroom teacher so that you have time to connect, ask questions and prepare for your first day!

Thank you so much for your interest in Kids' Work! If you have any more questions, please feel free to email our Program Support Coordinator at: lindsey@kidsworkchicago.com



SAMPLE MENUS

• (Meals provided for students 15 months and up) •

FARM to TABLE CATERING
Healthy Organic Kids



KWCR March Snack Menu



Monday, February 28, 2022	Tuesday, March 1, 2022	Wednesday, March 2, 2022	Thursday, March 3, 2022	Friday, March 4, 2022
HOK WG Banana Bread and Market Fruit V	HOK WG Granola Cereal and HOK Yogurt V, EF, GF	HOK WG Oatmeal and Market Fruit V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF	HOK Biscuits and Gravy EF	HOK WG Apple Bar and Market Fruit V, EF
HOK Applesauce and Graham Crackers V, DF, EF	Cheese Cubes and Tomato Wedges V, EF, GF	Turkey Tortilla Roll Up EF, DF	Cucumbers and HOK Dilly Cheese V, EF, GF	Chips and HOK Salsa V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF
Monday, March 7, 2022	Tuesday, March 8, 2022	Wednesday, March 9, 2022	Thursday, March 10, 2022	Friday, March 11, 2022
HOK WG Cinnamon Bread and Market Fruit V	Bagels and Cream Cheese V, EF	HOK WG Pancakes and HOK Compote V	HOK Cheddar Biscuit and Market Fruit V, EF	HOK Yogurt and Market Fruit V, EF, GF
HOK Hummus and Pita V, Vegan, EF, DF	Turkey Cubes and HOK Applesauce DF, EF	HOK Ranch, Cucumbers, and Flatbread V	Pretzels and HOK Sunbutter V, Vegan, DF, EF	Chips and HOK Spinach Dip V
Monday, March 14, 2022	Tuesday, March 15, 2022	Wednesday, March 16, 2022	Thursday, March 17, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022
HOK WG Blueberry Bread and Market Fruit V	HOK WG Granola Cereal and HOK Yogurt V, EF, GF	HOK WG Oatmeal and Market Fruit V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF	Turkey Ham and Cheese Biscuits EF	HOK WG Banana Bar and Market Fruit V, EF
HOK Applesauce and Graham Crackers V, DF, EF	Cheese Cubes and Tomato Wedges V, EF, GF	Turkey Tortilla Roll Up EF, DF	Cucumbers and HOK Dilly Cheese V, EF, GF	Chips and HOK Salsa V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF
Monday, March 21, 2022	Tuesday, March 22, 2022	Wednesday, March 23, 2022	Thursday, March 24, 2022	Friday, March 25, 2022
HOK WG Cinnamon Bread and Market Fruit V	Bagels and Cream Cheese V, EF	HOK WG French Toast and HOK Compote V	HOK Cheddar Biscuit and Market Fruit V, EF	HOK Yogurt and Market Fruit V, EF, GF
HOK Hummus and Pita V, Vegan, EF, DF	Turkey Cubes and HOK Applesauce DF, EF	HOK Ranch, Cucumbers, and Flatbread V	Pretzels and HOK Sunbutter V, Vegan, DF, EF	Chips and HOK Spinach Dip V
Monday, March 28, 2022	Tuesday, March 29, 2022	Wednesday, March 30, 2022	Thursday, March 31, 2022	Friday, April 1, 2022
HOK WG Banana Bread and Market Fruit V	HOK WG Granola Cereal and HOK Yogurt V, EF, GF	HOK WG Oatmeal and Market Fruit V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF	HOK Biscuits and Gravy EF	HOK WG Apple Bar and Market Fruit V, EF
HOK Applesauce and Graham Crackers V, DF, EF	Cheese Cubes and Tomato Wedges V, EF, GF	Turkey Tortilla Roll Up EF, DF	Cucumbers and HOK Dilly Cheese V, EF, GF	Chips and HOK Salsa V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF

FARM to TABLE CATERING
Healthy Organic Kids

KWCR March Lunch Menu



Monday, February 28, 2022	Tuesday, March 1, 2022	Wednesday, March 2, 2022	Thursday, March 3, 2022	Friday, March 4, 2022
Cheesy Italian Pasta V, EF Green Beans Cantaloupe Vegan, DF: Pasta Marinara & Vegan Cheese GF: Entrée w/ GF Pasta	Red Pepper Turkey - EF, GF Whole Grain Brown Rice Sliced Carrots Bananas V, Vegan: Tofu w/ DF Sauce DF: Turkey w/ DF Sauce	Turkey Sloppy Joes - DF, EF Dinner Roll Broccoli Honey Dew V, Vegan: Lentil & Bean Sloppy Joe GF: GF Bread	Chicken Pot Pie - EF Wheat Bread Peas and Carrots Watermelon V, Vegan: Tofu Veggie Bowl DF, GF: Chicken Veggie Bowl	Pizza Day - V, EF Flour Pizza Crust Cucumbers Fruit Salad DF: Pizza w/Turkey Pepperoni GF: Gluten Free Pizza w/ Cheese Vegan: Pizza w/ Vegan Cheese
Monday, March 7, 2022	Tuesday, March 8, 2022	Wednesday, March 9, 2022	Thursday, March 10, 2022	Friday, March 11, 2022
Swedish Meatballs Wheat Bread Peas and Carrots Honey Dew V, Vegan, DF, EF, GF: Veggie Meatballs GF: GF Bread	Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce - DF, EF Green Beans Cantaloupe V: Cheesy Italian Pasta Vegan: Pasta Marinara & Vegan Cheese GF: Entrée w/ GF Pasta	Turkey Gyros - DF, EF Pita Bread (Tzatziki on the side) Cauliflower Bananas V, Vegan: Chickpea and Veggie Gyros GF: Entrée w/ Corn Tortilla	Pasta Alfredo - V, EF Sliced Carrots Pineapple DF, Vegan: Pasta Marinara w/ Vegan Cheese GF: GF Pasta Alfredo	Pizza Day - V, EF Flour Pizza Crust Cucumbers Fruit Salad DF: Pizza w/Turkey Pepperoni GF: Gluten Free Pizza w/ Cheese Vegan: Pizza w/ Vegan Cheese
Monday, March 14, 2022	Tuesday, February 15, 2022	Wednesday, February 16, 2022	Thursday, February 17, 2022	Friday, February 18, 2022
Pasta Fagioli - V, Vegan, DF, EF (Cheese on the Side) Green Beans Cantaloupe GF: Entrée w/ GF Pasta	Taco Tuesday! Flour Tortillas Lettuce, Salsa Bananas V, Vegan: Veggie & Bean Taco GF: Entrée with Corn Tortilla	Mega Mac & Cheese V, EF Broccoli Watermelon GF: GF Pasta w/ GF Sauce Vegan, DF: Cheesy Vegan Pasta	Sheppard's Pie - EF Wheat Bread Mashed Potatoes Honeydew V, Vegan, GF: Vegan Sheppard's Pie Vegan, DF: Roasted Potatoes	Pizza Day - V, EF Flour Pizza Crust Cucumbers Fruit Salad DF: Pizza w/Turkey Pepperoni GF: Gluten Free Pizza w/ Cheese Vegan: Pizza w/ Vegan Cheese
Monday, March 21, 2022	Tuesday, March 22, 2022	Wednesday, March 23, 2022	Thursday, March 24, 2022	Friday, March 25, 2022
Meatball Slider Dinner Roll Sliced Carrots Honey Dew V, Vegan, DF, EF: Tofu Slider GF: Tofu Slider w/ GF Bread	Nut Free Pesto Chicken - EF Pasta Peas and Carrots Cantaloupe V, Vegan: DF Pesto Tofu DF: DF Pesto Chicken GF: Entrée w/ GF Pasta	Three Bean Chili Buttered Pasta Pineapple Vegan, DF: Plain Pasta GF: GF Pasta	Chicken Jambalaya - DF, EF, GF Whole Grain Brown Rice Cauliflower Bananas V, Vegan: Tofu Jambalaya	Pizza Day - V, EF Flour Pizza Crust Cucumbers Fruit Salad DF: Pizza w/Turkey Pepperoni GF: Gluten Free Pizza w/ Cheese Vegan: Pizza w/ Vegan Cheese
Monday, March 28, 2022	Tuesday, March 29, 2022	Wednesday, March 30, 2022	Thursday, March 31, 2022	Friday, April 1, 2022
Spaghetti and Meatballs Green Beans Cantaloupe V, Vegan, DF, EF: Spaghetti w/ Tofu, Marinara GF: GF Pasta w/ Tofu Marinara	Chicken Paella - DF, EF, GF Whole Grain Turmeric Rice Broccoli Bananas V, Vegan: Tofu Paella	Turkey Meatloaf - EF, GF Wheat Bread Sliced Carrots Watermelon V, Vegan, DF - Veggie Patty GF: Gluten Free Bread	Mama's Bolognese DF, EF Peas and Carrots Honeydew V, Vegan: Pasta w/ Vegetable Ragu GF: Entrée w/ GF Pasta	Pizza Day - V, EF Flour Pizza Crust Cucumbers Fruit Salad DF: Pizza w/Turkey Pepperoni GF: Gluten Free Pizza w/ Cheese Vegan: Pizza w/ Vegan Cheese

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

All classrooms utilize The Experience Curriculums, which seamlessly integrates with the Brightwheel app that we use to track your child's activity and send pictures/videos highlighting moments from your child's day. Activities are carefully crafted to meet students' developmental needs in all domains, and teachers document various activities to provide an ongoing assessment of your child's growth. This enables teachers to truly understand your child's unique learning path and scaffold activities to meet their individual needs. The curriculum meets all state early learning standards and is research and is evidence based, providing interactive, hands on, and meaningful experiences. We love how comprehensive it is, and that it guides skill progression in a clear way, and allows parents to connect home and school.



Your child will participate in a nationally recognized education program that is designed uniquely for infants from birth to 18 months. Experience Baby Curriculum is an infant curriculum that supports relationship-based play and discovery. As your child participates in this program, they will:

- Build emotional connections that are key for developmental growth.
- Have access to specialized sensory tools and toys that invite them to explore and make sense of their environment.
- Engage in playful activities that stimulate their brain and support their development of 23 foundational skills.



Individualized Play and Learning for Continued Growth



Your child's teacher will use books, puppets, music and toys to help your child develop the 23 foundational skills connected to emotional, language, physical and cognitive development. As your child grows, the Experience Baby Curriculum helps the teacher individualize the experience and increase the challenge so that your child is constantly learning at their unique pace.

www.experiencecurriculum.com



Beyond Bottles and Diapers: A Full Infant Education Program

Beyond the typical bottle and diaper tracking, you will receive a daily journal where you will see which activities your child engaged with and learn about the skills they gained throughout the day from the purposeful play.

Your child's brain doubles in size during their first year and is at 90% of its adult size by age 5. Research has shown that the quality of a child's experiences in the first few years significantly shapes how their brains develop into adulthood.

It is the goal of Experience Baby Curriculum to build meaningful shared experiences between infants and nurturing adults. To ensure that your child benefits from the latest teaching methods and the highest quality tools for hands-on learning, your child's teacher receives a new Experience Baby Teaching Kit every month. Each month features a new theme and 36 play-based activities to explore with your child.



With Experience Baby Curriculum, your child will be busy learning from birth through 18 months!



www.experiencecurriculum.com



CURRICULUM INFORMATION

experience toddler CURRICULUM



Your child will participate in a nationally recognized educational program that is designed uniquely for toddlers. Experience Toddler is a research-based curriculum that supports your child's rapidly growing curiosity. As your child participates in this program, they will:

- Build relationship skills and learn to express their feelings.
- Have access to specialized books, tools, art materials and toys that invite them to investigate new concepts and build vocabulary.
- Engage in playful activities that stimulate their brain and support their development of 35 foundational skills.

NEW THEMES EVERY MONTH!

Every month, your child will explore a new and exciting theme. Each week begins with a new storybook. Your child will build strong literacy skills as well as listening comprehension, book handling and communication skills. Each story will be expanded into math games, music activities and art projects.



Hands-on Learning through Play

Your child's teacher will use books, puppets, music, blocks, puzzles and manipulatives to inspire a love of learning. While your child plays, they will naturally build foundational skills. These skills are interwoven within 7 developmental domains:

- social-emotional
- physical and motor
- language and literacy
- math and reasoning
- science
- social studies
- creative arts



Stay Connected Each Step of the Way

The family newsletters help you stay connected to your child's learning each week. These newsletters explain all the daily activities your child engaged with throughout the week and explain the skills they gained. The newsletter also includes a fun activity suggestion that you can try at home to continue the learning.

At the core of all learning is a trusting and loving relationship. Experience Toddler Curriculum is designed to help you and the teacher embrace your child's unique potential and connect with their expanding curiosity about our diverse and beautiful world.

Individualized Play and Learning for Continued Growth

As your child grows, the Experience Toddler Curriculum helps the teacher individualize the experiences and increase the challenges so that your child is constantly learning at their unique pace. Your child's progress is tracked with their individualized assessment form and personalized portfolio.

Your child's teacher participates in monthly professional development and receives a new Experience Toddler teaching kit each month to ensure that your child benefits from the latest teaching methods and the highest quality tools for hands-on learning.

Your child's brain doubles in size during their first year and is at 90% of its adult size by age 5. Research has shown that the quality of a child's experiences in the first few years significantly shapes how their brains develop into adulthood.



www.experiencecurriculum.com

Get ready for a year of growth!



experience preschool CURRICULUM



Experience Preschool is a research-based curriculum that supports your child's rapidly growing curiosity. As your child participates in this nationally recognized program, they will:

- Build friendship skills and learn to express their feelings.
- Have access to specialized books, science tools, art materials, games and math manipulatives to encourage problem-solving and creative thinking.
- Engage in daily routines and activities that support brain development while also building the self-regulation and attention span needed for long-term school success.



HANDS-ON LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Your child's teacher will use books, puppets, music, blocks, puzzles and manipulatives to inspire a love of learning. While your child plays, they will naturally build 35 foundational skills. These skills are interwoven within 7 developmental domains:

- social-emotional
- physical
- language and literacy
- math
- science
- social studies
- creative development

New Themes Every Month!

Every morning at Circle Time, your child's teacher will reveal the topic of the day. There are 20 topics related to the new thematic study every month. Throughout the day, they will investigate these topics through hands-on projects, art and music. We believe every child is an artist, engineer and tinkering genius. Get ready to see a lot of your child's hard work coming home and displayed on the walls in your school. We are excited to get to know your child's unique brilliance as we learn together, hand in hand.



Get ready for a year filled with curiosity and growth!

Individualized Play and Learning for Continued Growth

As your child develops, the Experience Preschool Curriculum helps the teacher individualize the experiences and increase the challenges so that your child is constantly learning at their unique pace. Your teacher will follow your child's progress with an embedded assessment tool.

Your child's teacher participates in monthly professional development and receives a new Experience Preschool teaching kit each month to ensure that your child benefits from the latest teaching methods and the highest quality tools for hands-on learning.

Your child's brain doubles in size during their first year of life and is at 90% of its adult size by age 5. Research has shown that the quality of a child's experiences in the first few years significantly shapes how their brains develop into adulthood.

Experience Preschool Curriculum is designed to support you and the teacher to embrace your child's natural sense of wonder and help them reach their unique potential as they discovers our diverse and beautiful world.



www.experiencecurriculum.com



Jr. K CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Our Jr. Kindergarten Classroom (4–6 year old students) utilizes both The Experience Curriculum, as well as supplemental activities provided by our amazing Type 04 certified lead teacher. Additional curriculum programs such as Learning Without Tears, Heggerty Assessment, and UFLI Assessments are employed as students grow to ensure strong Kindergarten Readiness. Below is a sample of the weekly curriculum employed in our Roscoe Jr. Kindergarten Classroom, and the following is a letter from the teacher!

ROSCOE CLASSROOM LESSON PLAN				
THEME: LIGHT AND SHADOW/ LETTER L / NUMBER 23			DATE: MARCH 18TH, 2024	
MORNING CIRCLE TIMES				
MONDAY We will do our daily calendar and weather activities. We will review our heart words. We will create our circle chart for our letter of the week, L. We will discuss what shadows are and how they are made. Our teacher will use a flashlight to demonstrate how objects make shadows. We will learn the Heart word: "o"	TUESDAY We will do our daily calendar and weather activities. We will create a circle chart for our letter of the week, 23. We will talk about light. Why is it important? We will list sources of light we encounter each day! We will create a 1-chart featuring natural light sources and artificial light sources.	WEDNESDAY We will do our daily calendar and weather activities. We will review our heart words. We will examine the shadows of different classroom items using a flashlight and our eyes. Which objects have bigger or smaller shadows? Can we change the size of the shadows?	THURSDAY We will do our daily calendar and weather activities. We will review our heart words. We will introduce and discuss prisms, and how they work to break up light. Have we seen anything outside that may act like a prism?	FRIDAY We will do our daily calendar and weather activities. We will review our heart words. We will use our bodies to create shadows. We will measure each one with a tape measure and graph our results!
WEEKLY ENRICHMENTS: TUESDAY: Music with WeeGroove WEDNESDAY: Spanish with Ms. Yesterla THURSDAY: Yoga with Buddha Bells				
PHYSICAL GROWTH IN THE MOTOR ROOM				
Teen Number Squares Our teacher will tape out several boxes on the floor of the big room. Each box will be labeled with a teen number (13-19). Our teacher will call out a number, and we will race with our friends to run into the appropriate box! Our teacher will then begin to present the numbers using ten frames and other arrays! This movement activity engages our cardio-vascular system while encouraging large muscle regulation as we run and then abruptly stop in our number boxes! It also supports the growth of our number recognition skills.				
Guiding Shadows We will break into pairs and take turns being the "shadow" and the "guide." "Shadows" will wear a blindfold and be guided around and across a series of mats on the floor. This will help us develop patience and communication skills and encourage our vestibular development!				
Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cone We will play this game with a partner. We will stand across from them, and our teacher will place a cone between us. Our teacher will then call out a command! For "head, shoulders, and knees" we will touch the corresponding body part ourselves. When our teacher calls out, "cone," we will race our partner to grab the cone in the middle! Whoever grabs it first will win a point! We will continue until one friend reaches five points. This activity requires us to use our developing listening and focus skills while strengthening our coordination and proprioception!				
Letters, Sounds, and Communication Skills				
Weekly Task: Alphabet Book We will use our strips of paper to make the letter "L". We will draw a picture of something that starts with "L". Extension: We will write a lowercase "l" on our own. We will also write words that start with the letter "L".				
Weekly Task: Letter Practice We will practice writing on uppercase "L" on our own. Extension: We will practice writing lowercase "l" on our own. We will also practice writing our number of the week, 23.				
Heart-Word Light Table Match Our heart words, written on transparent plastic, will be taped to our school light table. Our teacher will then pass flashcards, with our heart words written on them, to each friend in our center group. We will place our flashcards to cover the matching word on our light table! Extension: We will identify the words verbally. We will then write a sentence including the word (along with punctuation) on an accompanying record sheet. This center activity continues to familiarize us with important high frequency words. It also strengthens executive functioning as we complete the steps of our task with unique sensory input (light table!).				
Flashlight Letter Hunt Our teacher will place a series of letters (upper and lower case) around the classroom. Using our flashlights, we will hunt to find each hidden letter! For each letter discovered, we will verbalize the sound and identify the name of the grapheme. Extension: We will keep track of the letters we find by crossing them out on an accompanying list of the alphabet. Can we identify a word that uses the letter sound in a medial or final position? Can we create consonant blends with the letters we find? This activity encourages letter identification and letter-sound connection. It builds our focus and cognition as we work to stay on task while hunting around the room!				
ART/SENSORY PROJECTS				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will create our own shadow puppets using various art materials. We will place objects from our room on construction paper and paint around them, creating silhouettes. We will paint and draw with our classroom lights off and create unique masterpieces! We will submerge plastic gold coins in water to explore reflections and refractions. We will use various art materials to create rainbow mosaics. 				
Songs/Fingerplays				
<p>"See My Shadow" (Sung to the tune of "Frère Jacques")</p> <p>See my shadow, See my shadow, Move this way, Move that way, See it do what I do, See it do what I do, It follows me! It follows me!</p>				

(3ab, 7ab, 8ab, 9abc, 14a, 15abc, 16ab, 17ab, 19ab)		SOCIAL EMOTIONAL FOCUS		
LITERACY		We will continue to build skills in working collaboratively with our peers towards a common goal. We will practice using words to communicate our wants, needs, and ideas in group situations and activities and will work on finding compromises and solutions to problems or disagreements that arise in play. We will continue discussing the importance and value of respecting the rules and ideas we develop and agree upon as a community! (2abc, 3ab)		
Shadow Show and Tell Our teacher will hang a sheet at the front of our classroom and illuminate it from behind with flashlights and LED lights. We will then take turns coming to the front of the room to step behind the sheet and present a silhouette of a special object we'd like to share with our peers! Our classmates will then guess what the object could be before we reveal it! Extension: We will record the name of each object on a clipboard. We will practice raising our hands and using our "wondering words" to ask our classmates questions about their treasure! This activity encourages cognitive processes as we work to guess what our friends are sharing based on silhouette! It encourages us to use verbage and communication skills, while we explore the ways that light and shadow interact with different materials and objects. Prompt: Me and My Shadow... We will describe and illustrate an activity that we would enjoy doing with our shadow. We will work to explain why we chose this activity. Extension: We will write our dictation on our own. This prompt encourages us to make real-life connections as we apply our weekly theme to our own preferences and experiences. It encourages us to think creatively and imaginatively as we imagine an interaction with our own shadow!				
Creative Expression: Story Silhouettes Our teacher will have examples of different silhouettes of our table. We will then work with black paper to cut out silhouettes of whatever we like based on how we are feeling. We will glue our creations onto white paper. Extension: We will work to use our cutouts to tell a personal story on our paper. This activity will develop our fine motor skills and help us explore the ways that our emotions can change how we view and use simple things (our silhouettes!) to express ourselves.				
(3ab, 7ab, 8ab, 9abc, 10ab, 11abcde, 12ab, 14a, 17ab, 18a, 19a, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31, 33)				
MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, PROBLEM SOLVING		CLASSROOM UPDATES		
Shadow or No Shadow? We will cut out a series of images. We will look at the object depicted and decide if we think it would cast a shadow or not. We will place the images into the corresponding column on a 1-chart. Extension: Within our small center groups, we will explain our reasoning for deciding where to place our pictures. This activity strengthens our fine motor skills through cutting and gluing. It encourages us to practice categorization skills and identify the physical properties of different objects. This builds our understanding of how these characteristics can impact how items interact with environments. Prompt: Sunlight versus Moonlight As a large group, we will look back to what we learned during space week to think about differences between sunlight and moonlight! Then, in our center groups, we will respond to a prompt: "What can we do in the sunlight? What can we do in the moonlight?" We will use various art materials to create an illustration that supports our dictation. Extension: We will write our dictations on our own. We will also use creative and more abstract vocabulary to answer the question: "What does sunlight/moonlight look like?" This activity encourages us to think critically about our personal connections to different forms of light and shadow. It strengthens fine motor skills as we work to create a supportive illustration!		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will use wooden blocks and Lego to build structures we think would cast unique shadows. We will then test them out with a flashlight! We will use light tables and transparent shapes during center play to encourage exploration of how light changes the way we interact with what's around us! We will use paper, projector, and classroom objects to tell stories in a shadow puppet theatre. 		
Shape Silhouettes Using different objects from our classroom, we will work in small groups to replicate different shapes in silhouette by creating shadows of our objects with flashlights. (ex: we will create a "circle" silhouette by creating a shadow of our classroom globe). Extension: We will trace each shadow onto a piece of paper and color in our silhouette. We will label each shape with its name (ie: triangle, rectangle, circle). This activity will refresh and review our beginning concepts of geometry while encouraging us to problem-solve as we discover that the shadow created by an object may be different from the shape of the object itself! It also encourages us to work cooperatively with others as we create as many shapes as possible in our team. Investigations: Prisms and Reflections In our small center groups, we will use flashlights and LEDs to explore various materials and objects we have discussed throughout the week (disco balls, bowls of water, prisms, CDs, etc.). We will verbalize what we notice about the light as it interacts with each object. Extension: We will record what we notice on a sheet of paper. We will also explore finding ways to block our light sources from the object, and discuss what happens then! We will also consider whether our object reflects light, or lets it pass through! This investigation encourages curiosity around the phenomenon of light! It strengthens observational skill and use of scientific inquiry, and while also building our fine motor strength as we manipulate multiple objects of varying weight and textures.				
(3ab, 7ab, 8b, 9a, 10ab, 11abcde, 12ab, 13, 19a, 20ab, 21ab, 22a, 23)				
AFTERNOON CIRCLE TIMES				
We will read: "Flashlight" By: Liz Boyd	We will read: "Hello Lighthouse" By: Sophie Blackall	We will read: "George and His Shadow" By: Davide Cali	We will read: "The Black Rabbit" By: Philippa Leathers	We will read: "Yes! Turn Out the Light" By: Karma Wilson



Jr. Kindergarten: Roscoe Classroom

Welcome to the Roscoe Jr. Kindergarten Classroom!

Our classroom is thoughtfully designed to support the needs of children ages 4-6 years old. While a variety of ages are hosted, we integrate and scaffold for kindergarten learning throughout all activities and lessons.

While we hold important large group lessons daily, the majority of our time involves small group work. Groups of 3-5 students rotate through teacher-guided mini-lessons and activities, as well as curated play centers designed to inspire creativity. This small group philosophy allows the teacher to adapt every lesson to meet the specific learning targets of each student.

We provide daily pullouts and 1:1 lessons exclusively for our Jr. Kindergarteners! Each afternoon older students work directly with the teacher, who additionally provides them with supplementary work to build important skills.

We rely primarily upon the Creative Curriculum and State Standards to guide our teaching. This allows for a focus on child-led learning while ensuring that students leave our classroom equipped with everything they need to excel in their next academic environment.

Our learning domains are also designed to incorporate multiple curricula, allowing students to investigate, explore, and build confidence on an individualized educational adventure! Please see below for some examples:

- **Phonics and Literacy:** While our Preschool classrooms incorporates daily literacy lessons, we take this to the next level with our Jr. Kindergarteners. We employ the UFLI curriculum, a method aligned with the Science of Reading. We supplement this with concepts from Learning Without Tears.
- **Mathematics, Science and Problem-Solving:** We utilize hands-on activities aligned with students' individual interests to make math and science exciting and accessible! We explore simple equations, learn to tell time, perform experiments and much more, all through the lens of children's real-world interests and curiosities.
- **Social Studies:** We work hard in the Roscoe classroom to develop understanding and respect for our school and greater community. Through projects and investigation-based learning, we explore the needs of others, learn about world cultures, and delve into history.
- **Digital Literacy:** Investigative learning is a strong focus in Roscoe. Under supervision, our older students begin exploring and utilizing appropriate digital resources to research topics of interest and to practice important skills.

Our school days also include focus on Arts Education, Physical Exercise and Social-Emotional Learning. We believe that all children deserve to leave our Jr. Kindergarten program well-rounded, prepared, and excited for the future!"

I look forward to supporting your child in their growth here at Kids' Work Chicago Riverview!

Sincerely,