



Why Enroll Your Two-Year Old in Preschool?

Important reasons a two-year-old should attend preschool:

- 1) **Confidence!** Preschoolers develop confidence as they interact with classmates and teachers in school. Teachers nurture self-confidence by coaching children to explore and express their own ideas. Arts time, role-playing, outdoor play and sharing during circle time provide unique opportunities for developing confidence. Children also gain confidence as they master learning concepts in academic areas and self-help skills such as putting on outerwear, using the restroom, riding a bike and caring for classroom materials.
- 2) **Independence!** A big part of building self-confidence for a toddler is successfully learning to independently care for oneself outside of the home. In a preschool setting, children have lots of opportunities to learn how to get dressed to go outside and for role-playing in dramatic play. They also learn to independently unpack and eat lunch with friends, clean up after themselves, use the bathroom and manage their own emotions in a group setting. A lot of learning in a preschool setting simply comes from children watching other children navigate similar tasks.
- 3) **Love of learning!** Experienced teachers supported by the framework of a play-based curriculum have a unique way in a classroom setting for sparking the love of learning we hope every child can find. Shared memories learning about the surrounding world with other children offer a toddler a whole new level of experiences. Preschool children not only learn from their teachers but have valuable opportunities to learn from each other.
- 4) **Self-Expression! ... Appropriate self-expression!** Preschool offers so many opportunities for rich language development. Teachers guide children as they learn to express their thoughts in a group setting and model appropriate behavior and responses. Sharing toys in the construction area, role playing during imaginary play, circle time, and lunch all provide amazing opportunities for children to develop tools for self-expression, conflict resolution and vocabulary development.
- 5) **Tolerance and flexibility!** Children in preschool learn a lot about similarities and differences between themselves and peers. When being part of the close knit community of a preschool class, children can learn how to be tolerant of different ways of doing something, ideas, behavior, opinions and mannerisms. Good teachers help children tolerate differences during play and, guide and model peaceful resolution to conflicts when they do occur.
- 6) **Follow Instructions!** Following instructions is an integral part of a preschool day. Teachers take care to give instructions that are age appropriate and timely. Teachers also help children learn to follow instructions in a group setting and navigate transitions in the daily schedule. Some children might find they need extra support transitioning from one engaging activity to a new one.
- 7) **Take Turns!** Preschool provides excellent learning opportunities for taking turns. Whether it's waiting for turn to play with goopy slim in the sensory table or wash your hands, teachers help children learn to be patient and interact appropriately with others while they wait.