## **Two Year Old Program**



## **Program Features**

Our morning preschool program is based on developmentally appropriate experiences, a classroom that is filled with engaging spaces, and a teacher that that is responsive to each child's natural curiosity. We use the <u>ABEKA</u> curriculum to introduce phonics, numbers, and shapes and supplement the curriculum with theme based-learning to provide a comprehensive learning program for your child. Through classroom experiences your child will learn about circus life, animals in the wild, children and countries around the world, and much more.

Children at this stage start to develop friendships and gain confidence as they use their words and thoughts to interact with others. We have created a stimulating and fun learning environment so that your toddler is involved in hands-on experiences, real-life adventures, and assisted discovery as your child explores concepts through play. The classroom is set up to allow movement by crawling, jumping, and dancing — or to explore their environment through their senses and engage in pretend play. When the children feel overwhelmed or just need time to be alone, there is a quiet, cozy place where they can read a book or relax on a pillow.

Our experienced, nurturing teachers allow children to grow at their own pace by helping children develop language skills which enhance their ability to express themselves and communicate their needs. It is important for children to express themselves creatively. Included in your toddler's day are opportunities for creative expression through a variety of art, music, and cognitive experiences. Small and large motor coordination activities are provided both indoors and outdoors and are an integral part of your child's day. A variety of toys and materials are available at the child's level giving each child the freedom and opportunity to make choices.

# The Mustard Seed's toddler-specific curriculum provides a rich classroom environment where your child is encouraged to explore and challenged to learn.

#### Healthy Minds' and Bodies

A well-rounded curriculum focuses comprehensively on all aspects of development, including healthy growth, physical development, movement, and well-being. The more children can make their minds and bodies work together, the stronger the learning -- and their bodies will be healthier, too. Toddlers are naturally curious and want to explore the world around them. We have designed our classrooms and equipment to support safe exploration so your child has room to discover, build motor skills, and improve coordination. Activities focus on experimenting with space to develop balance, hand/eye coordination, participation in creative movements to music, and more.

#### **Brain Games**

When provided with meaningful topics in a setting where there is a focus on making connections and solving

problems, children become amazingly deep and powerful thinkers! The Mustard Seed staff nurtures and encourages children's natural enthusiasm for learning. With topics that children can easily understand and apply to their environment, we lead children to make cognitive connections solving social, language, math, and science problems. Many "I wonder..." opportunities are provided throughout each day, allowing children to practice the art of inquiry.

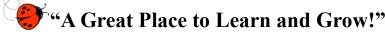
#### **Creative Arts**

Exploring art materials and experiencing music, dance, and drama enrich the classroom. Our experienced teachers reinforce important developmental objectives through these creative, fun experiences. Creative arts activities are designed to introduce toddlers to cause and effect, self-expression through art and music, and taking on pretend roles.



#### Language and Literacy

A foundation for reading begins as early as the first few months of life. Our curriculum is designed to challenge children to use symbolic thinking as they explore materials and participate with their peers. Introducing toddlers to books and language nourishes early literacy development. Toddlers focus on first words and phrases, vocabulary development, following simple directions, and identifying and naming familiar items.



### Sustaining Curious Learners!

Two year olds are terrific! They are ready to be independent and take in all that their world has to offer. To sum it up they are active!

Toddlers learn through sensory experiences that enhance their cognitive, language, motor, and social skills. They turn ideas into words and phrases to better express themselves, and practice the value of sharing

and cooperating through group play. We strive to create an environment that they can take advan-

tage of all the experiences they can see and touch. Our program is designed to provide lots of guidance for the independence this age

group needs.

