



SENSORY DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT

(Please Keep for Your Records)

At the Early Learning Center we strive to create a fun and exciting learning environment for all children. It is our belief that children learn by experimenting and manipulating their environment. Therefore, sensory play is a very important part of our curriculum. Some sensory activities include: water play, play dough, chalk, goop, and sand play.

Sensory play promotes and supports many of our program goals such as developing a positive self-image, competency, problem solving, critical thinking, plus promoting social situations between children and adults.

In order for learning to take place, children must be able to manipulate and create with sensory materials which often mean spreading materials on their bodies, in their hair, on the floor, and on other children and adults. Children also learn about new media by tasting and smelling it. All of our materials are safe for consumption by children; therefore we encourage this type of learning.

Due to the types of materials we use, **CHILDREN MUST BE SENT TO SCHOOL IN PLAY CLOTHES ONLY!!!** Clothes worn to school will be sent home dirty and possibly stained. We will not change children out of “nice” clothes and into play clothes before we do messy activities. All children will have access to messy activities and will be encouraged to take part in sensory play.

We do water play year round. On warm days we do water play outdoors including the use of hoses, sprinklers, sensory water tables, etc. On cooler days we will keep our room warm and do water play indoors. **IF YOU FEEL THAT YOUR CHILD IS TOO SICK TO DO WATER PLAY, THEN YOUR CHILD IS TOO SICK TO BE AT THE CENTER AND SHOULD BE KEPT AT HOME.**

Please check your child’s cubby daily and remove wet or soiled clothing. Please be sure to bring more replacement clothing as required. All articles of clothing should be marked with your child’s name (permanent markers are available in the classrooms).

I have read the Early Learning Center statement on sensory development and I understand that my child will get messy and wet and that the clothes my child wears to school may get stained. If I have any questions or concerns about this policy, I will speak with the Center Director.