

Organization of the Day

Infant Wing

The children in the Infant Wing begin the program year with their own unique "organizations of the day". As the children develop and our year together progresses, their routines will become more aligned and the classroom will take on a more uniform organization. The children constantly invite us to re-evaluate classroom routines through their experimentation with the environment and its materials, as well as their ever-changing interests and development.

Greeting Time

Arrival time is very different for each family as they become acclimated to the Center and say good-bye to their child. Special messages and information for the educators are written in the communication booklet. While engaging in quiet play, book reading and welcoming the other children, parents and educators are all part of the greeting time between 7:15 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Morning Snack

Snack is prepared in the kitchen and begins at approximately 9:00 a.m. The children eat together in the kitchen. Infants are given bottles, cereal and other foods in the playroom. Children who arrive after snack has begun are welcome to join snack until 9:30 a.m. Snack ends promptly at 9:45 a.m.

Morning Explorations & Outside Time

Groups of children explore materials in the classroom and participate in small group work. The children and educators engage in a wide variety of experiences that are centered on the children's rich interests. Light, shadow, recycled materials and clay are just a few examples of materials that are offered. These activities take place throughout the day when the children are young infants, and between 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. as they become older infants and toddlers. During this time, groups of children and educators may also go to the playground or for walks around the community. We try to give all of the children an opportunity to go outside at least once a day.

Lunch Time

Lunch is served family style in the Infant Wing kitchen and Center dining room beginning at 11:30 a.m. Table food is provided by the Center. Educators support the children with their meals, and also encourage the development of self-feeding skills as the year progresses.

Open Exploration

Children who are awake during this period of time explore the classroom materials and environment with educators, participate in small group experiences, or visit other areas of the center.

Afternoon Snack

Afternoon snack begins at 3:00 p.m. The children who will be going outside will go to snack first. Snack is served in the Infant Wing kitchen.

Afternoon Explorations & Outside Time

During this time, small groups of children explore materials in the classroom, participate in small group work, go to the playground or go on walks around the community. Generally outside time would begin around 3:30 p.m. and ends around 4:25 p.m.

Late Afternoon/Going Home

Between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., most children make the transition from the Center to their homes when their parents arrive. Special messages and highlights of the child's day are shared with parents. The Center closes promptly at 6:00 p.m.

***Napping-** *In the Infant Wing, children take naps as needed or as directed by the parents. As the year proceeds and the children grow older, many of them naturally begin to transition to one nap during the day. This nap would take place after lunch. At all times the children are encouraged to rest as needed.*

***Diapering-** *Diapers are changed every two and a half to three hours or as needed.*