

Organization of the Day

Older Toddler Classroom

Greeting Time

Arrival time for the children is between 7:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Children develop their own ways of saying goodbye to parents; some children desire more time during this transition than others. All areas within the room are open for exploration. The piazza or secondary piazza may also be in use at this time. It is important that the children arrive by 10:00 a.m., as we come together as a community and move into our small group time.

Bathroom

The children begin visiting the bathroom around 9:00 to use the toilet or to have their diapers changed

Morning Snack

Snack is prepared in the kitchen around 9:15 a.m. The children go out to the dining room in small groups after they have visited the bathroom.

Morning Meeting

After the children have finished their morning snack, we all come together in the classroom for morning meeting. During this time, we share our plan for the day and give the children the opportunity to share something that is important to them. Generally, the meeting begins around 10:00 a.m. All children are asked to arrive and have separations with parents before this time. Please call the classroom if there are any changes in your schedule.

Small Group Time

From meeting time we go into our planned small group work. This may include a trip to the playground, a walk around our community, work in the studio, classroom, or other areas within the Center. Explorations of materials, continued project work, and meaningful exploration of classroom areas are some examples of what might occur during small group time.

Lunch and Bathroom

The children eat in two groups in the dining room for lunch. The children will be in a particular lunch group for the year (special exceptions may be necessary). The first group begins lunch at 11:30 p.m.. During this time, the other group is visiting the bathroom and preparing for lunch. After the first group has finished lunch, they come to the classroom to visit the bathroom and prepare for rest time. The other group then comes to lunch. Both groups are ready to begin rest time by 12:30 p.m.

Rest Time

The length of each child's nap varies, but almost all of the children do sleep. Soothing music is played in the classroom as the children fall asleep. Educators attend meetings and take their breaks during this time. Generally, the children begin to awaken between 2:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Bathroom and Afternoon Snack

After nap, the children visit the bathroom and prepare for afternoon snack. This generally takes place between 3:00—4:00 p.m.

Afternoon Activities

If the weather permits, we go outside to the playground for the afternoon. Small group work, open explorations within the Center, and mixed-aged group activities may occur within these periods.

Late Day and Reuniting

Between 5:00 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. most parents and children prepare for the transition from the Center to their homes. Special messages and highlights of the day are also shared. If you would like to speak with an educator at length, we suggest that you arrive between 5:30 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. **The Center closes promptly at 6:00 p.m.**