

The Children's Center School Age Program offers:

- **The same high quality expectations as our Infant, Toddler, and Preschool Programs – giving your child consistency in philosophy and care, so that the Kindergarten transition is one new place instead of two.**
- A Cut Above licensed, qualified staff with Early Childhood Education units
 - Licensing allows School Age teachers to be fully qualified having any 12 units from Arts and Social Sciences including Art and Music Appreciation, Psychology, Sociology, and P.E.
 - We require our teachers have units in Early Child Development, Child, Family, and Community, and Curriculum classes
- Staff exhibit a loving, nurturing atmosphere and demonstrate respect for families
- Ratio is between 1:10-1:14 (Our Licensing Agency requires 1:14)
- Individual homework help is available from experienced staff during the dedicated quiet time each day
- Our staff have been employed here for an average of 12 years and are familiar with the CA State Standards and can help as needed
- Huge classroom of dedicated space with many choices of activities
 - Our space is dedicated to our School Age Program and well exceeds the licensing requirement of 35 square feet/per child
 - Some afterschool programs have space that is shared by the school, and not all supplies in the room are available for children to use after school
- Three computers with educational games (limit 15 minutes per day per child)
 - These games include math, language, and history
- A wide variety of enriching books, art supplies, games, manipulatives and toys
- Materials are readily accessible to children, sufficient, appropriate, and in good repair
- Different areas in the room allow for a Quiet Area, a Block/Legos Area, an Art Area, a Dramatic Play area, a Snack Area. We also have a Movie area in our adjoining room for Friday afternoons
- Outdoor space with a blacktop, grassy area, large sandbox, climber, as well as two outdoor sheds filled with supplies like sand toys and sports/game equipment
- Behavior guidance is based on age appropriate developmental levels, as well as each child's individual needs and temperaments
- *As close as you can get to a place like home...come in, relax on a couch, take your shoes off, play in the comfort of friends, smell the snack cooking, get homework done, and have a great day after school!*

Curriculum and Program Goals

The School Age Program provides a variety of positive learning experiences for elementary school children. The school age years bring new and exciting challenges and rewards for children. We recognize that each child grows and develops at his or her own rate. Children display developmental landmarks at different times. We strive to meet each child's individual needs and provide activities that are of interest to them and at their current developmental level.

The primary job of a school age child is to develop a sense of personal competence. Children use feedback from important adults, peers and their own self-evaluation to judge their competencies. School age children's style of thinking is concrete, meaning that their thinking and reasoning is more logical and organized than it was during the preschool years. They can also understand and express a variety of emotions. Our staff are well aware of what these children need, and implement a program that is designed to help the school age child be as successful as they can be!

Our goals are as follows:

*We contribute to the children's **sense of self and help foster self-esteem** by:*

- Offering praise and reinforcement
- Helping the children to recognize their own unique talents and abilities
- Encouraging the children to talk about their feelings
- Helping the children develop problem-solving skills to use in friendships

We contribute to the children's **ways of thinking and learning** by:

- Creating time for children to make choices and ask them to explain their reasons
- Encouraging children to think about how things relate to each other
- Asking children open-ended questions
- Playing more complex and thought provoking games with the children
- Engaging children in conversations about thinking ideas through to completion
- Reading with the children and encouraging the children to read to us
- Providing children with musical learning opportunities
- Helping children learn about time management

We contribute to the children's **awareness of self and others** by:

- Involving the children in establishing the norms for the classroom
- Assisting them in understand the norms and the reasons for the norms
- Allowing the children to try a variety of team and competitive sports
- Encouraging the children to set high, but achievable goals for themselves
- Celebrating the children's accomplishments
- Helping them develop necessary social skills so they can establish positive peer relationships

We contribute to the children's **development of communication** by:

- Providing numerous occasions for children to spend time with friends and talk one-on-one with a variety of adult teachers
- Asking children to talk about their experiences with school, friends and other activities
- Encouraging them to articulate their likes and dislikes, and to provide explanations
- Facilitating interactions between children to help them better understand their feelings
- Creating opportunities for verbal problem-solving and taking the time to help children develop problem-solving skills

Daily Routine

School Year Routine

11:30-1:00	Kindergarten arrivals & lunchtime
1:00-2:45	Activity / Free play
2:45-3:00	Clean-up / 1st-5th grade students arrive
3:00-3:55	Outside/Snack
3:55-4:30	Homework / Quiet reading time
4:30-5:40	Choices (Free play / Undirected activity)
5:40-5:45	Clean-up
5:45-6:00	Group activity

Full Day Routine

7:00-9:00	Free play / Undirected activity / Snack
9:00-10:00	Outside play
10:00-12:00	Choices (Activities / Free play)
12:00-1:00	Lunch time / Outside play
1:00-2:00	Quiet reading time
2:00-3:00	Free play / Undirected activity
3:00-4:00	Outside / Snack
4:00-5:25	Choices (Activities / Free play)
5:25-5:30	Clean-up
5:30-6:00	Group activity

Click here for our [Introduction to School Age](#) and [Developmental Guidelines-1](#), [Developmental Guidelines-2](#) (ages 6-8), [Developmental Guidelines-3](#) (ages 9-12)