

## Curriculum Overview

Our child-centered, play-based curriculum encourages children to ask questions, to form connections, and to pursue their interests. We value each child's unique way of thinking and offer learning activities that best meet the needs of individual children.

Social and emotional development is an important focus of our curriculum. Preschoolers learn to identify feelings and discuss kindness as the basis of all social interactions. They explore friendship while developing their own sense of identity. Children are encouraged to think about concepts like fairness and equality through their interactions with one another. An appreciation of different cultures is woven into everyday learning through stories, arts and group discussions.

We offer a print-rich learning environment, where children experience early literacy through listening, storytelling, learning to write their names, connecting sounds to letters and discovering how to blend sounds together to read simple words.

Early mathematics learning is integrated throughout the day. In addition to teacher-led large group and small group math lessons, preschoolers engage in learning early math concepts while helping with daily classroom attendance, counting friends in a line, and making sure all children have the same number of crackers during snack time. Preschoolers learn about measuring during monthly cooking activities and explore geometry during block-building, working with manipulatives and through art.

Preschoolers engage in weekly hands-on science activities that allow students to predict, observe, and draw conclusions as they study seasons, plants, animals, birds, and cooking. In addition, preschoolers engage in bi-weekly STEAM lessons with our STEAM director, Victoria.

Art is an integral part of our daily curriculum. Preschoolers explore different art media and learn techniques to express their feelings, thoughts and new understandings. More focused art studies are offered during bi-weekly Art Classes.

Every day preschoolers have a chance to challenge themselves physically on our playground and during weekly physical education classes in the gym with our Athletic Director, coach TJ. Movement and music classes are a regular part of our classroom life.

Our families are an essential part of the COMO community, and are invited to participate in our preschool as mystery readers, visiting teachers who share their skills and cultural traditions, and as guests for celebrations during holidays and special events.