



Pamm's House

The Program

At Pamm's House, the children are the curriculum. what does this mean? I follow the interests and development levels of the children to plan learning activities. The skill level and types of activities will change as the the children grow and obtain new abilities and interests.

Each day I plan activities for development of gross motor skills* and fine motor skills**. Art and/or other activities are also planned. These activities can range from formal group activities to independent play.



Sample Daily Lesson Plan

Gross Motor: Move & Learn Mat

Fine Motor: Play with Duplo Legos

Art: Play Dough & Holiday Cookie Cutters

Outdoor: Paint with water on cement

As you can see many art activities do not produce any papers to take home. You will not always be able to see a tangible object of the children's labor, but the children do acquire new understanding of the world and new skills.

The focus is on the process, not the product of art activities. M.A. Kahl says in her book, Preschool Art, "'Process not product' means that you can explore art materials and enjoy what happens. You don't have to copy what an adult makes."

Language & Life Skills

Just as important as planned learning activities, is working on other areas such as language development, social and life skills.

Some examples are:

- ✓ Putting cup on the table when not in hand
- ✓ Learning to take turns (sharing)
- ✓ Asking or signing for what you want
- ✓ Manners
- ✓ Loving your friends, not hurting them
- ✓ Self-control
- ✓ Eating at the table with utensils
- ✓ Good health habits
- ✓ Playing together
- ✓ Helping friends

These skills and habits come with time.

Everyone learns at their own pace and training is geared towards each child's ability.

Training is done through examples from adults and older children, gentle reminders, rewards of praise for desired behavior, re-direction for undesired behaviors, encouragement, etc.

Sign language is used along with the verbal words. Non-verbal children will often sign and I find that children will often say and sign at the same time when learning words.

*Gross Motor Skills: Using large muscle groups.

Examples: Playing with beach balls, climbing, jumping

**Fine Motor Skills: Using small muscle groups.

Examples: coloring, painting, using a shape sorter, stacking blocks