



www.tcdschools.com

THE CHILD DAY SCHOOLS' DYNAMIC PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Welcome to The Child Day Schools! We would like to give you an inside look into our unique approach to early childhood education. Since 1976, The Child Day Schools has provided the most current educational programs within a caring and supportive community for children and families.

What sets us apart is our specially designed curriculum that sparks children's excitement and curiosity, while they learn readiness skills, science, and about the world around them. Our nurturing programs also support children's creativity, self-reliance, and compassion for others.

The Child Day Schools Educational Programs - *Uniting High/Scope and the Emergent Curriculum:* Based on years of experience, we have developed a successful synergy of these two curriculum models. High/Scope offers us a rich curriculum that is research-based and developmentally appropriate. Activities are both child-initiated, built on children's natural curiosity, and developmentally appropriate, matching children's current and emerging abilities. The Emergent Curriculum is usually based on children's interests and science. These exploratory topics develop children's analytical, school-readiness, and science skills as they acquire in-depth learning. We present activities that capture children's interest while instilling a life-long enthusiasm for learning.

The Framework of our Curriculum

***The Key Developmental Indicators (also known as Key Learning Experiences),
Room Arrangement & Daily Routine***

Key Developmental Indicators: These are specific areas of learning which are incorporated into every aspect of the program and create a dynamic catalyst for children's learning and development (see diagram on the following page).

Room Arrangement: Each environment is carefully arranged according to the developmental levels of the group and reflect the High/Scope *key developmental indicators* to ensure that active learning occurs. Our language-rich classrooms also reinforce concepts children are learning in their group project activities.

Daily Routine: The consistent daily routine reinforces the *key developmental indicators* and helps children feel secure as they experience the predictability of their day. From large and small group times to outdoor play, each aspect is carefully planned to meet the needs of the children.

This Framework Provides the Foundation for Other Essential Components of the Curriculum

Active Learning: Children gain knowledge through hands-on experiences and trial-and-error with the support of caring teachers. Children play and explore, and review their work within the environment and throughout the day. They problem-solve individually and in groups, creatively express their ideas, participate in pre-reading, science, and pre-math activities and learn important skills for working and playing together.

Teacher-Child Interaction: Teachers play a primary role in implementing the curriculum and creating an environment where children become trusting and independent. Teachers connect one-to-one with each child and are active in the child's learning. The teacher not only guides activities but also extends the child-initiated experiences through questions, comments and support.

Exploratory Group Projects: Teachers and children plan in-depth projects reflecting children's interest and developmental levels. Each project is reality-based and results in many hands-on learning activities incorporating all the key experiences including math, language, classification, and creative representation.

NUMBERS



Beginning number recognition & counting, & adding objects.

LANGUAGE



Listening to stories, learning words and ideas, exploring alphabet and printing.

CREATIVE REPRESENTATION



Creatively expressing ideas through art, dramatic play, etc.

CLASSIFICATION



Beginning of abstract thinking, exploring similarities and differences.



INITIATIVE



Taking care of one's needs, making decisions, and taking personal responsibility.

KEY DEVELOPMENTAL INDICATORS (KDI's)

(Also called *Key Learning Experiences*)

Some of the KDI's that are essential skills or area of knowledge.

SERIATION



Requires logical thinking, ordering according to size, patterns, etc.

MOVEMENT, MUSIC & SOUND



Developing coordination, balance, body control, rhythm, etc.

Dynamic education optimizing each child's potential

TIME



Beginning to understand span of time, now, tomorrow, etc.

SPATIAL RELATIONS



Understanding concepts of up, down; how objects relate in space.

SOCIAL RELATIONS



Sharing and playing together, beginning empathy and respect for others

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