



LONG-RANGE CURRICULUM GOALS FOR SAPLINGS GROUP

Our program embraces the whole child, not just specific areas of development. The activities encompass language development, sensory awareness, gross and fine motor development, spatial and number concepts, art and music appreciation, practical life skills, nature and science, visual and auditory discrimination and social personal growth.

EMOTIONAL: The emotional goals are for children to understand the words used for emotions (happy, sad, angry, hurt) and to express their needs and problems with words instead of crying, hitting or biting. Children will become comfortable with increasing exploratory behavior.

SOCIAL: The social goals are to respect our classmates, ourselves and our environment, to be able to talk and listen to other children, to begin actively participating in group activities, to be able to perform responsibilities such as putting away toys, and self-care (toileting, washing hands, cleaning up after snack).

COGNITIVE: The cognitive goals are to be able to recognize colors, speak in 4-to-6 word sentences, rote count from 1 to 10, put together 8-10-piece puzzles, name familiar objects in their environment (clothing, furniture, foods), identify sounds and sing songs, say their full name, know their age and recognize their first name in writing. There is the beginning of work on understanding opposites and prepositions.

PHYSICAL: The physical goals are to continue gaining gross motor competence with learning to hop on one foot, catch a large ball and throw with some accuracy. Children will be able to use a balance beam, ride a tricycle, put on/take off a coat without assistance and put on their own socks and shoes. Children will be able to continue developing their fine motor skills by holding crayons, making balls and snakes with clay, cutting accurately with scissors, stringing small beads and assembling small table toys such as Legos.