

## Frequently Asked Questions about the Creative Curriculum

- **What is the *Creative Curriculum*?**
  - *Creative Curriculum* is the country's leading scientifically based comprehensive curriculum for programs serving children from birth to age 5. Planning revolves around the needs and interests of each child. Instruction is based on observing and documenting what children do and say. Teachers offer activities that meet objectives just beyond each child's present level of mastery. Core knowledge areas (math, literacy, science and social studies) are integrated into each interest area in the classroom (blocks, sand and water tables, dramatic play etc.)
- **Will the day be structured?**
  - Classroom routine is very important to the success of the curriculum. The children's daily schedule includes group meeting times (circle), choice time, meal times, rest time, outdoor play and small and large group activities.
- **How will my child learn if he or she is just playing all day?**
  - Children learn through play. Teachers facilitate learning by observing children at play, and making descriptive statements and asking questions that get children to think about what they are doing. Teachers prompt children to extend their ideas, helping them learn about their world and master new challenges. We offer extensive opportunities for children to explore both new and familiar concepts in an environment where they feel safe and valued.
- **Will my child be prepared for public school?**
  - Yes! The *Creative Curriculum* has goals and objectives that include social/emotional development, cognitive, physical and language development. Teachers incorporate literacy and math skills into all the aspects of the curriculum. Children will count blocks as they build, compare and sort leaves they collect, and find letters they recognize around their rooms. Learning through play and exploring their world at their own pace increases children's enjoyment of school and gives them a positive view of learning.
- **What about arts and crafts projects?**
  - Arts and crafts and other activities will be offered to all the children, but the children may choose whether or not they want to participate. Art projects focus on individual expression and reflect the children's ideas and feelings. Craft projects will typically be theme-based. We encourage children to explore and experiment, and our curriculum focuses on the process of this exploration, rather than the products.