

A Day in the 4-5's Classrooms

Arrival

Children arrive at school eager to join their friends at a variety of table time activities. With activities such as playing with playdough, building with table blocks, putting together puzzles, stringing beads, or making designs with pegs, the children are strengthening fine motor skills and eye/hand coordination. Some children choose to get busy at the writing center, developing literacy, fine motor and writing skills as they write notes to give to parents and/or friends.

Circle Time

Everyone gathers together on the carpet and sing hello to our friends, check on the weather, and determine who will be our special helpers for the day. This is a time for sharing thoughts and ideas, solving problems, learning new concepts, building vocabulary, building self-confidence, and developing an increased attention span through group discussions, stories, songs, and movement activities.

Small Group Time

In smaller groups, we work on developing math and science skills through activities such as sorting, patterning, matching, counting, classifying, comparing, and investigating. We also develop literacy skills through letter identification and matching, responding to stories, sequencing, rhyming, writing, and creating stories as we engage in various games, writing, and drawing activities.

Snack Time and Lunch

These “down times” provide great opportunities for social interaction as we engage in lively conversations with our friends and teachers.

Playground

While out on the playground having a great time playing in small and large groups – running, climbing, playing ball, taking on pretend roles and digging in the sand box – we are developing coordination, spatial awareness, balance, and strengthening of our large muscles.

Free Choice

Free choice is a time to socialize, make independent choices, share, take turns, negotiate, and grow in the ability to work and play cooperatively.

During Free Choice Time, we can be found building rocket ships, the Empire State Building, or even the continent of Africa in the block center. In the dramatic play area we might dress up as a mom or dad going off to work, become a chef cooking at a restaurant, become a doctor or a vet taking care of patients, take a baby doll for a walk in the stroller, or set up a grocery store. Other areas encourage children to become engaged in expressing their creativity with paints, crayons, clay, or scissors and glue.

