

## **WELCOME TO UNITY'S 4K BUSY BUG PROGRAM!**

The Unity Busy Bug Prekindergarten program uses a child-centered curriculum that focuses on developmentally appropriate activities to help your child learn and grow socially, emotionally, and cognitively.

Our Early Learning Team believes that each child is a unique person with individual needs and an individual pattern of growth and development. We provide each child with opportunities to learn about him or herself and to explore the world in a loving, supportive, and challenging environment.

We provide each child with an environment where they will learn language and literacy skills, math skills, and science skills. Children also grow socially and emotionally by learning the value of themselves and others in our classroom.

Through our daily routines and child-centered curriculum, children develop social skills such as: sharing, caring for our classroom, developing a sense of responsibility, and learning to solve problems through communication and cooperation.

Our goal is to help each child:

- ❖ **Accept and value him/herself as an important, unique individual**
- ❖ **Accept and respect others, their similarities and differences, and their feelings**
- ❖ **Develop the ability to work with children and adults**
- ❖ **Develop a love of books, poetry, and stories**
- ❖ **Enjoy cooperative play and group activities (especially music, games and dramatic play)**
- ❖ **Develop creativity through art, music and dramatic play**
- ❖ **Learn to make positive choices and decisions, as well as problem solving strategies**
- ❖ **Develop the ability to use thinking and reasoning in a wide range of situations**
- ❖ **Develop math concepts such as number recognition, patterning, classifying and grouping, and problem-solving using meaningful experiences**

**During this important stage in your child's life, we encourage close communication between home and school. We encourage parents to visit our classroom and welcome your involvement with class projects and activities. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.**

**Our priority is your child and creating a kind and caring environment that provides a seamless and successful transition into school and the world of learning.**

## OUR CURRICULUM

Preschool builds a learning foundation for young children, helping them prepare for kindergarten. Our curriculum focuses on helping young children develop social-emotional, physical, language, and cognitive skills.

### **Social-Emotional Development**

Children learn how to manage their own feelings, express emotions appropriately, interact with others, build positive, trusting relationships with adults and other children.

### **Physical Development**

Children are increasing fine and gross motor skills. A part of gross motor development is balancing, coordinating, catching objects, running, climbing, kicking, throwing, pulling, etc. Fine motor skills include writing, drawing, cutting, and manipulating small objects with the hands.

### **Language Development**

Language development involves the means to communicate effectively. Through language development children are capable of communicating their ideas, thoughts, needs, and feelings. Also, language development involves sounds, grammar, and vocabulary.

### **Cognitive Development**

Cognitive development is essential in helping young children remember and connect experiences, helps children have a positive approach to learning, influences the processing of information, memory, problem-solving, reading, mathematics, and language acquisition.

### **Literacy**

Literacy development involves knowledge of the alphabet, reading, phonological awareness, print awareness, comprehension to books and other print materials, and writing skills.

## 10 Signs Of A Great Pre-K Program

- 1). Children spend most of their time playing and working with materials or other children. They are not expected to sit for long periods of time.
- 2). Children have access to various activities throughout the day. Look for assorted building blocks and other construction materials, props for pretend play, picture books, paints and other art materials, and table top toys such as matching games, and puzzles.
- 3). Teachers work with individual children, small groups, and the whole group at different times during the day. They do not spend all their time with the whole group.
- 4). The classroom is decorated with children's original artwork, their own writing with invented spelling, and stories dictated by children to teachers.
- 5). Children learn numbers and the alphabet in the context of their everyday experiences. The natural world of plants and animals and meaningful activities like cooking, taking attendance, or serving snack provide the basis for learning activities.
- 6). Children work on projects and have long periods of time to play and explore.
- 7). Children have an opportunity to play outside every day. (Weather permitting) Outdoor play is never sacrificed for more instructional time.
- 8). Teachers read books to children individually or in small groups throughout the day, not just at group time.
- 9). Curriculum is adapted for those who are ahead as well as those who need additional help. Teachers recognize that children's different background and experiences mean that they do not learn the same things at the same time.
- 10). Children and their parents look forward to school. Parents feel secure about sending their child to the program. Children are happy to attend.

<http://www.naeyc.org/>

## Who Do You Contact With Questions?

**If you any questions about Unity's Early Learning Program, you may contact the Early Learning Team at the numbers and addresses listed below.**

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