

### Kindergarten Philosophy

Our kindergarten program promotes the development of the whole child – socially, emotionally, academically and physically, within a joyful community of learners.

We encourage children to explore a variety of materials and to engage with each other through a balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities. We offer a range of learning experiences to meet the developmental levels of all children.

The program provides the opportunity for each child to develop a positive self-image, to learn to make good choices and to be kind and responsible.

Our kindergarten curriculum fosters an appreciation of linguistic, ethnic and cultural diversity while celebrating the uniqueness of every child.

### Physical Development

Half an hour is set aside every day for outdoor play. It is a time for kindergartners to engage in physical activity, as well as, to develop cooperation skills and practice social interactions.

Fine motor skills are developed through the manipulation of scissors, puzzles, clay, art tools and “hand gym” toys. Strengthening the finger muscles is important for self-help skills such as buttoning, zipping and tying shoes and as preparation for writing.

In kindergarten we begin to work on proper letter formation and printing with upper and lowercase letters. The children have ample opportunities to practice their letters on paper, at the easel, with clay and chalk.

A thirty- minute rest time is mandated for kindergartners enrolled in the full-day program. We also serve a nutritious mid-morning snack.

A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P
Q	R	S	T

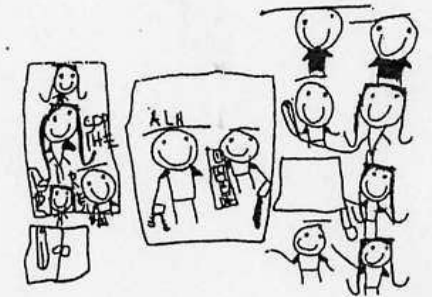


Jan Demers & Greta Wilcox  
2008

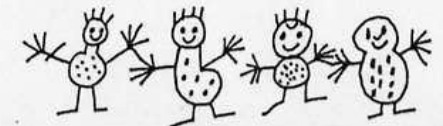
## Crocker Farm

### Kindergarten Program

*This brochure will provide you with information about our kindergarten philosophy and curriculum. We hope you will use this as a guide in supporting your child's success in school.*



We are an NAEYC (National Association of the Education of Young Children) accredited program.





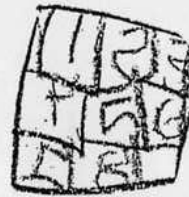
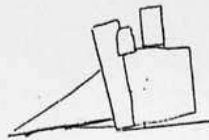
## Language Arts

Every day, kindergartners are involved in activities that encourage a love of language and support their developing literacy skills. Speaking, listening, reading and writing are inseparable parts of language development. As we read literature from many cultures, children engage in retelling, predicting outcomes, drawing conclusions and making connections to their own lives.

We offer experiences in art, music, dance, drama and storytelling to help children find personal meaning in school literacy. Play provides a natural and meaningful context for exploring the many uses of written language—for example, making signs for block buildings or writing shopping lists in the drama area.

Teachers create a range of opportunities to help children discover the puzzles and delights of reading. These include shared reading of Big Books, songs, poetry and daily messages, individual and small group reading lessons, listening to stories on tape and playing phonetic games.

Drawing and writing go hand in hand as kindergartners attempt to communicate their ideas. As they grow in their letter knowledge and their ability to represent sounds in words, they begin to label their drawings and write about their lives in and out of school.

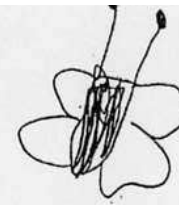


## Math

During the kindergarten year, children develop an understanding of numbers, patterns, geometry, measurement and graphing. They explore ways of representing their thinking with models, pictures and numbers. They begin to solve mathematical problems and develop the vocabulary to explain their thinking to others. We use the *Investigations* program as our main resource.

Mathematics is integrated into our units of study and daily routines. Our math work takes many forms as we consider our weather data and calendar, build with blocks, measure and cook. In kindergarten we try to keep mathematics concrete and relevant to the children.

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Library
- Computer



## Science

Kindergartners begin the year discussing “What do scientists do?” They learn to use their senses to gather information, to make hypotheses about what they observe, and to draw conclusions based on observations and experimentation.

Our goal is to develop a sense of wonder and respect for the natural world. As we bring our connections with nature back to the classroom, we create a more engaging and lively learning environment.

## Social Studies

The social interactions among children are central to the kindergarten social studies curriculum. Our goal is to enable children to live and work together in a respectful and cooperative way. Through discussions, activities, meetings, and most importantly through play, children are provided a supportive context in which to practice these skills. Children will learn to understand and manage their own feelings and to recognize and respond to the feelings of others.

