

Salt Lake City School District Early Childhood  
**Program Disclosure**



**Program Philosophy**

Our classes provide early learning opportunities for families and their children from prenatal to age five. We believe that you are your child's first and most influential teacher. Thank you for entrusting us with positively guiding your child's development. The early years of a child's life are crucial for optimal development. Our Early Childhood programs provide a high-quality learning environment where children become independent, confident, lifelong learners with a strong sense of self. We proudly offer a positive, child-centered preschool experience that fosters a love of learning in a nurturing school community. Our Early Childhood classes provide opportunities for families to be actively involved in the program, through preschool orientation, family-teacher conferences, classroom volunteering, and family group connections.

**Family Partnerships**

The Early Childhood staff recognizes the important role of the family in the learning process. We welcome and encourage families to take an active role in their child's classroom experience. We also hope that each family will enjoy new friendships with other families because of their child's experience. Our goals for family partnerships are to provide opportunities for families to contribute their expertise to the classroom community learning experience and encourage positive connections between children and adults to benefit every child's development. We also invite families to participate in our Parents as Teachers™ program where parent educators connect families to resources, health screening services, personal visits, and family group connections.

**Curriculum**

We offer a child-centered and developmentally appropriate, full-inclusion program for three and four-year-old children, and parent-child classes for 0-3-year-old children. We have chosen to implement the purposeful play-based learning framework of Creative Curriculum® and Teaching Strategies Gold® assessment for preschool. The curriculum is a comprehensive system of learning based on research and best practices in all areas of child development: social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language. Our play-based curriculum offers children many opportunities for positive interactions with other children and adults.

- Purposeful play allows children to learn about themselves and about the world around them.
- Purposeful play allows children to learn new skills, problem-solving strategies, test new ideas, and master their bodies.
- Purposeful play allows children to make choices about where to play in the classroom while they are learning a variety of important academic and personal development skills.

We measure student assessment three times during the year on 64 objectives. We treat each child with respect and reinforce his/her value as an individual and a unique member of the school community.

**Communication**

Communication between home and school is vital for a successful preschool experience. We communicate with families through monthly newsletters. You will see weekly lesson plans and other important information posted on the Family Bulletin Board in the classroom. Our Early Childhood Office will also communicate important information by email, telephone, district website, and through postal mailing.