



Director: Vanessa K. Baird

Telephone: 506 455 3222

143 Douglas Ave, Fredericton N.B E3A 2N8

The Infant Child

6 months to 15 months (JR)

15 months to 24 months (SR)

Natural Play

Reggio Inspired Play Room

The Environment is the third teacher.

Spring Roots Early Learning & Child Care Center believes that the key to early learning is the play environment. The elements of nature used as play materials have all the benefits of growing healthy children. It is our vision to take on a “less is more” approach with all “natural” equipment and to provide natural open-ended play materials.

During the early years including pre-birth to six years of age, children are rapidly acquiring root skills in each domain of development; emotional and social development, communication and language, cognitive problem solving and physical development. These are all supported in Natural Play.

When Children play using rocks, logs, sticks, water, sand, shells, and any materials found in nature they will gain many benefits toward early learning in; math, physical science, dramatic and symbolic play, language and literacy, art, sensory exploration, movement and music, gross and fine motor development. When they play with toys that don't limit the child's ability to interact and create spontaneously through the free experience of his or her own emotional process: The imagination!

The role of the educator is to facilitate support for the children by following their lead. They allow children to play without interruption; they will observe, document, add and assist the children in play. Through their observations the programming will occur, projects will take place that can last days, weeks, or months.

The Daily Routine

We provide service in four age groups in our centre for children aged 6 months to 5 years of age. Each age group falls into its own category and follows a general routine.

The components of the programs all follow similar schedules which include; the structure of the day, activities and experiences that are planned and offered to the children, Natural physical environment, toys and materials, learning areas, health safety and warm interactions.

In each group there are times for; Indoor and Outdoor Play, Physical needs, Toileting Routines, Nutrition Breaks, Quiet Rest Periods, Small Group and Large Group Experiences.

The focus of care **with all age groups** will be to provide an inclusive program that respects each child's individual abilities needs and strengths. The educator will provide a language rich environment that encourages communication through positive interactions. The child will be given opportunities to explore, experiment and problem solve, which will foster a feeling of competence.

They will feel valued and cared for through positive interactions with each other and adults, which will develop their self esteem. They will gain a sense of autonomy as they will have flexibility and choice.

They will be given opportunities to learn through their interactions with each other and through their all natural environment.

Programming is inclusive, anti bias and non racial and follows a documentation process which comes from the children's interests. Within each age group, discussions with children about their choices and experiences will create a collaborative emergent program plan, which will be developed, followed and changed as learning happens naturally. Programming will emerge week to week and is not planned too far in advance as children's thoughts and ideas will come and go change often or through discussions alterations may happen. Teachers are able to document, collaborate, discuss and decide how to assist children's development by offering alternatives or adding to the activities or projects. Visual documentation will help parents, children and teacher. The natural environment will provide children with a variety of rich, interesting materials that they can explore and use their individual imagination!

Infant Room One and Two

Exploring my Senses

Learning to Trust

The focus of care with an infant will be to provide an inclusive program that respects each child's abilities, needs and strengths. In order for an infant to feel safe their needs will be met immediately by warm caring adults, this will continue to foster the sense of trust in the infant. The program will offer experiences in a natural setting that appeal to the infant's senses and contribute to their overall growth and development. The infant program will also focus on a language rich communication that will encourage positive interactions. Their days will be filled with exploring through touch, taste, smell and hearing abilities, through picture labelling, stories, music, puppets, playing with manipulative hand held toys, walks outside, and lots of love.

The Educator/Child ratio will be maintained throughout the day:

- **Room One 1:3** 6-15 months old you are required to provide snacks and drinks for morning and afternoon. You are required to bring baby food and milk/formula if using bottles. We allow for Breast feeding moms to come in when they need to feed and be with their child.
- **Room Two 2:6** 15-24 months old. Play includes dramatic play, blocks, music/instruments, stories/nursery rhymes, outside play, beginning craft time, etc. The focus in this class is having fun while exploring new things in an all natural loving, respectful environment.

Infant Personal Belongings:

All items need to be labelled.

- bottle/cup
- blanket and/ or soother
- diapers/cream /wipes
- any personal teething ring or comfort item
- indoor shoes/slippers and outdoor shoes [label the inside of the shoe]
- change of clothes-undershirt-socks-top/bottom or one piece PJ
- medication* as needed or prescribed