

RENAISSANCE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

1603 North Cass Street
Milwaukee Wisconsin 53202
414-276-1133

EDUCATION POLICY

Renaissance Child Development Center is a nondenominational, non-sectarian program. There is no religious component to our curriculum. We do, however, welcome families to share their cultural traditions in the classroom.

The center's program is designed to help children:

- be curious, to wonder, seek answers to questions,
- strengthen physical skills,
- learn to cooperate with others,
- develop a positive self-esteem, and a feeling of good self worth, and
- facilitate social and cognitive development.

Planning for classroom activities is done by teachers on a weekly basis. Lesson plans are posted and upcoming activities are announced in the monthly newsletter.

The children participate in outdoor play each day that the temperature is over 10 degrees (Fahrenheit). We have a playground, go on walks around the neighborhood, or visit area playgrounds, including the Cass Street Playground, across the street from the center. If the weather will not permit outdoor play, we use a large muscle room in the center. Large muscle development is an important part of our daily curriculum. If a child is too sick to participate in all aspects of the daily plan, the child is too ill to be in attendance at the center.

Developmentally Appropriate programming for Infants/Toddlers:

- Teachers will respond promptly to a crying child.
- Each infant will be allowed to follow his/her own sleeping and eating pattern.
- Each infant will receive physical contact and attention each day.
- Activities such as eating, diapering, and toileting will be used as occasions for language development and other learning.

- Non-walking children will be moved to different locations and positions within the room.
- Children will be taken outdoors as often as the weather permits.

Examples of developmentally Appropriate programming for preschool children:

1. Self-esteem and self image:

- draw attention to names, birthdays, families
- praise actions
- correct behaviors or actions not the child, such as
"I do not like it when you hit."

2. Social interaction, self-expression:

- organized games
- music group time
- dramatic play
- meal time

3. Creative expression:

- provide art through a variety of media for non-directed activities including music, dance, movement and dramatic play

4. Large muscle development:

- climbing
- running
- lifting
- stair climbing
- dance

5. Small muscle development:

- coloring, painting, drawing, writing
- toys such as legos and duplos
- sewing cards, bead stringing

6. Intellectual growth:

- experiments with plants, magnets, etc.
- field trips, nature reserves, museums
- sensory boxes
- sand/water play
- puzzles

Developmentally Appropriate programming for school age children:

Planning for the school-age child is similar to the preschool planning, allowing for age-appropriate choices. School age children have more freedom in the planning and selecting of activities and projects.

During early morning or late afternoon hours, groups of children may be combined.

Daily written information is given to parents for children 6 weeks through 3 years of age. This daily sheet will contain information concerning meals, naps, diapering and toilet learning as applicable and the day's activities. The parents of older children will receive verbal daily information.

Parents will receive a monthly newsletter of information about the center and each classroom. Teachers will send out individual written information to families as needed. We will offer parent-teacher conferences two times per year. Parents are always welcome to schedule a conference with a teacher or the director at any time.

Various cultures are represented in the Center's celebrations, books, puzzles, dolls, puppets and pictures in the Center. Children are taught to value and respect differences in people.