



The Little Red House LC Curriculum

6 weeks-12 months

Areas of Development

The curriculum focuses on six areas of development: Cognitive, Communication, Emotional, Fine Motor, Gross Motor and Social Skills.

Cognitive Skills: Infants are building their memories, learning to develop words and learning to recognize familiar sounds. They' re exploring with their hands and mouths. In our infant room, your child will explore different textured materials; sing recognize sounds, and complete simple learning puzzles.

Communication Skills: By developing communication skills, infants learn how to express wants and needs to others. We understand the importance of our teachers constantly communicating with your child. Our teachers read books and poems, sing songs and teach your child how to put on finger plays.

Emotional Skills: Emotional development involves infants feeling safe in their environment and secure with the adults in their lives. We help your child build trust and attachments by watching your infant' s signals and responding to them. Our teachers hug, cradle and walk your child around the classroom while talking about everything they see.

Fine Motor Skills: Fine motor skills are developed in the small muscle groups like those in our fingers and hands. Our teacher's help infants learn to grasp items and help them eat, color and complete other daily activities. We help improve pincer grasp by putting small foods in their hands, then on their tray, so they can feed themselves. They begin to wave hello and goodbye, and explore clay and other objects with their hands.

Gross Motor Skills: Gross motor development is the growth of the large muscle groups, like those in the legs and arms. Gross motor skills for infants include holding up their heads, rolling over, crawling and pulling themselves up. The Little Red House Learning center teachers speak encouraging words to help your child roll over. We provide your infant with plenty of tummy time, and our infants dance to different kinds of music and take walks around the center, inside and out.

Social Skills: An infant's social skills consist of smiling, making eye contact, imitating facial expressions and wanting to be close to other people. The Little Red House Learning center is a place where your child will see many different, yet consistent and familiar faces. Our teachers model good manners and proper social skills to your infant. Your child will travel around the center to meet others—teachers and children—and will play near friends in his or her age-appropriate classroom to develop the early bonds of friendship.

13 to 24 months

Cognitive Skills

Toddlers are learning new vocabulary, perfecting how they move through their environment and making connections with others. The *Discovering Me* curriculum focuses on establishing these connections through songs, finger

plays, books and games. We give toddlers new experiences to build their imagination as we encourage them to name colors, objects and people.

Communication Skills

Toddlers begin to use words to express their needs and to identify familiar people and objects. The Little Red House Learning center teachers work to improve your child's vocabulary. When your child points to something, the teacher will name the item and ask your child to repeat it. Our teachers model good manners by saying "please" and "thank you," and by welcoming guests into the room. They encourage your child to do the same. We take advantage of these teachable moments so your child doesn't miss a second of fun and learning.

Emotional Skills

Emotional development involves toddlers feeling safe in their environment. They will establish a strong bond with their teachers and experience a wide variety of emotions. Our teachers talk to your child about his or her feelings and what other people may be feeling.

Fine Motor Skills

Fine motor skills are developed in the small muscle groups like those in our fingers and hands. At The Little Red House Learning center, toddlers are encouraged to do things by themselves like washing their hands and using a fork and spoon to feed themselves. Toddlers have many opportunities to practice their skills throughout the day. Our teachers encourage them to work at their own speed so they feel successful in the skills they are developing.

Gross Motor Skills

Gross motor development is the growth of the large muscle groups, like those in the legs and arms. Toddlers love to climb, so we provide them with safe climbing structures on our age-appropriate outdoor playground. Our older toddlers work on their throwing and catching skills, and enjoy making their way through obstacle courses that are set up in the classroom.

Social Skills

Toddlers engage in longer periods of play, but still periodically check to make sure you are close by. They are not always ready to share toys and are very sensitive. At The Little Red House Learning center we developed social skills activities to help your child learn to share and respect others. Your child will learn to take turns stacking blocks, assisting teachers and other children with clean up and playing follow the leader.

2 years

Areas of Development

The Little Red House LC day care curriculum focuses on your two-year-old child's primary areas of development.

Language Arts and Literacy: When they are two years old, children are constantly practicing and increasing their vocabularies. We create ample opportunities for them to sing, chant and participate in finger plays. Children are encouraged to read in the reading center and retell the stories using pictures or felt boards.

Mathematics: Teachers engage children in counting and identifying numerals. They also encourage activities that will help children build one-on-one correspondence, recognize shapes and measure various items with

standard (ruler, tape measure and thermometer) and non-standard (paper clips and foot prints) measuring devices.

Science: Children are natural explorers and there is so much to learn! At The Little Red House Learning Center, children are given the opportunity to investigate items that float and sink in the water table and search for buried treasures in the sand table. The Little Red House Learning Center teachers help children recognize the parts of the human body. They discuss the difference between people, animals and plants. Children also learn about the weather, seasons and how things work.

Social and Emotional Development: The Little Red House Learning Center helps children build their independence. This is a vital time for children to interact and play alongside their peers and to begin learning how to solve problems effectively. Your child will love pretending and playing with other children in our dramatic play center.

Gross and Fine Motor Development: Children's independence continues to develop as they practice their motor skills. Their fine motor skills are enhanced by learning to feed themselves with forks and spoons during our family style meals. They also practice writing, using scissors and completing puzzles. The learning continues when their gross motor skills are heightened by playing on our age-appropriate playgrounds. They are able to run and climb outside, jump and walk backwards, and throw and kick a ball. Children also love to dance and have fun with the many musical activities incorporated into The Little Red House Learning Center's daily routines.

Character Education: At The Little Red House Learning Center we believe it is important to introduce children to a wide variety of character traits. Each month we focus on a positive value, such as honesty, generosity or

patience, to help children better understand the society we live in and to help them develop into caring adults.

3 year olds Areas of Development

The Little Red House LC day care curriculum focuses on your three-year-old child's primary areas of development.

Language Arts and Literacy: Our curriculum includes many opportunities for 3-year-old children to listen to stories, retell them, sing and say simple rhymes. *Music & More*, has been incorporated into classrooms and offers a home-based component. Children are encouraged to ask questions, share ideas, explain feelings and talk about what they are doing as they learn. Children begin to recognize print through the learning center signs and begin to identify letters and their names. Dramatic Play, Blocks and Transportation and the Library center are a few examples that encourage language development through play.

Mathematics: In our curriculum, activities are written to give children the opportunity to sort objects and learn how to sequence items. Children will practice counting beads and blocks, and begin solving simple math problems. Our teachers will also work with the children to identify similarities and differences within a group of objects.

Science: At The Little Red House Learning Center, children are given the opportunity to practice observation and problem solving skills. They will be able to observe what happens when a piece of celery is placed in red food coloring. Children will learn about people, plants, animals and weather. The Little Red House Learning Center teachers will also help children recognize the parts of the human body.

Social and Emotional Development: The Little Red House Learning Center provides an ideal community atmosphere to learn, play, take turns and share with friends. In the learning centers, children have the

opportunity to participate in many activities with friends. The Little Red House Learning Center teachers will also be there to help guide children to develop a better sense of self. They model appropriate ways to express emotions so that children will learn how to communicate effectively.

Gross and Fine Motor Development: At The Little Red House Learning Center, there are many opportunities for children to work on gross motor skills. We provide the opportunities to practice walking in a straight line, walking backwards, jumping, throwing, catching, balancing on one foot and hopping. At The Little Red House Learning Center, our teachers will also encourage confidence and support so that children have the motivation to continue to develop new skills.

The Little Red House Learning Center teachers also support fine motor development by providing appropriate materials, such as playdough, crayons, markers, puzzles, etc. Children are encouraged to practice scribbling, and some of those scribbles will begin to resemble letters and words. Children are also given the opportunity to feed themselves during our family style meals, zip up or button their coats, and wash and dry their hands independently.

Character Education: The Little Red House Learning Center believes it is important to introduce children to a wide variety of character traits. Each month we focus on a positive value, such as honesty, generosity or patience, to help them better understand the society we live in and to help children develop into caring adults.

4 years

Areas of Development

The Little Red House LC day care curriculum focuses on your 4-year-old child's primary areas of development.

Language Arts and Literacy: At 4 years old, children begin to realize that they can put letters together to make words, and words together to make sentences. Your child will practice writing skills while writing his name and simple words. All 4 year olds love to sing, recite poems and share stories about their lives. We let your child lead the way as our expert teachers give encouragement to help your child along.

Mathematics: In the *Ready, Set, Go* curriculum, your child will count and compare objects and groups of objects. Your 4 year old will participate in making graphs, completing patterns and measuring things with conventional and nonconventional measuring tools.

Science: At 4 years old, children are naturally inquisitive, so we created the science portion of the *Ready, Set, Go* curriculum to meet their needs. Children make observations, chart weather daily and identify differences in the seasons. They plant seeds and record the growth, learn the importance of keeping the earth clean and how to recycle at school and home.

Social and Emotional Development: Children begin to understand the meaning of friendship by the time they're 4 years old. They hug each other or sit with their arms around one another as they read a book. They begin identifying their feelings. At The Little Red House Learning Center we encourage children to discuss their emotions, to tell friends why they are special and to share enthusiasm for new people and new things.

Gross and Fine Motor Development: At 4 years old, children have good control of their fine motor skills. They use crayons to turn scribbles into letters and words. They can zip, button and snap their own clothes. During Family Style Dining, 4 year olds will serve themselves, passing food to others and use forks and spoons to eat.

At The Little Red House Learning Center we know that learning happens all the time, not just in the classroom. When your child is outside on our

age-appropriate playground, the learning continues. Your child will chase friends, climb up the ladder and slide down the slide, walk like a gorilla and jump like a kangaroo.

Character Education: At The Little Red House Learning Center we believe it is important to introduce children to a wide variety of character traits. In order to further your child's character development, we focus on a positive value each month; such as, honesty, generosity and patience. This helps children better understand our society and helps them develop into caring young adults.