

## About Our Program

The Westchester Jewish Center Early Childhood Center (ECC) offers a range of programs for young children. We provide a developmentally appropriate program that supports children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive growth through varied experiences and activities.

In our Reggio Emilia inspired program, we view children as capable and competent and respect them and their individual needs. The program is implemented for each class depending on the age of the children and their interests. The co-constructed curriculum stimulates their natural curiosity as they explore new ideas.

Structured days provide ample opportunities for busy time and quiet time, indoor and outdoor time. A small teacher to student ratio assures that every child gets the individual attention he or she deserves in a safe and secure environment.

Children receive a solid Jewish foundation including holiday celebrations, community Shabbat and classroom Shabbat experiences.

## Twos

Two-year-old classes are offered 2 days, 3 days or 5 days a week for two hours and 15 minutes. Children are given as much time as necessary to feel comfortable enough to separate from parents. The days are filled with motor activities, art experiences and songs and games as well as ample time to climb and explore on the playground.

## Threes

Three-year-old classes are held 5 days a week for three hours. Their developmentally appropriate curriculum stems from the children's interest. Through this emergent curriculum, children feel valued and honored. In addition to the many activities both inside the classroom and out on the playground, children have music with our specially trained music teacher.

## Fours

Four-year-old classes meet 5 days a week for 3 hours. A strong emphasis is placed on socio-emotional development. Children learn and explore in all the different curricular areas through activity centers in the classrooms and opportunities in our outdoor learning environments. Four-year-olds continue to enjoy music class once a week.

## Pre-K

Pre-K classes meet 5 days a week from 9:00am – 12:00pm. This is the perfect transitional class for any child who has completed a 4s program but who is not quite ready for kindergarten. Children will continue to learn and explore through activity centers and outdoor play. Additionally, children will be exposed to pre-academic skills in areas of math, literacy, science and social studies. Pre-K students can participate in all extended day classes as well as their regular music class.

## Extended Day

Extended Day Programming is offered to students in the 3s, 4s & Pre-K. Children eat lunch and engage in an enrichment activity such as: Dance & Drum, Tae Kwon Do, Fenom Fitness, Art & Mad Science.

## Mommy and Me

Mommy and Me introduces toddlers ages 1-2 and a parent or caregiver to a fun, interactive class with play, socialization, music and movement on Friday mornings.

## Baby Group

Led by an early childhood consultant and licensed psychotherapist, our Baby Group allows parents to engage in lively discussion on child rearing in a supportive environment.

## Special Programs

Throughout the school year, our vibrant school community hosts lively parent-only events such as the annual welcome cocktail party, as well as family events including routine community Shabbat dinners, Hanukkah Party, Purim Carnival and Passover Model Seder.

