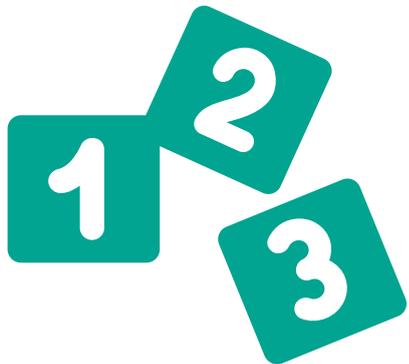


PLAY BASED LEARNING APPROACH

EAC YMCA Preschool & Infant programs offer a play-based approach that involves both child-initiated and teacher supported learning with hands-on activities through center play, artistic activities, and mindfulness practice that creates a warm and healthy classroom environment.



DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE CURRICULUM

Big Day (Preschoolers): The Big Day curriculum prepares children for Kindergarten through intentional and engaging learning opportunities that support children’s social and emotional, academic, and physical development.

Creative Curriculum (infants): The CreativeCurriculum explores all aspects of a developmentally appropriate program and helps teachers offer loving care and engaging experiences for infants, toddlers, and two’s to nurture their development and learning.

In-House Supplemental Curriculum:
EAC Y has specialized curriculum directors who develop additional developmental-appropriate projects to add to our preschooler’s experience. These activities are aligned with Texas PreSchool Guidelines. The prekindergarten guidelines are aligned with the Kindergarten Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), sequenced to follow child development and give teaching strategies for each of the guidelines. The guidelines offer educators the information and support to prepare all children for success in Kindergarten.



TEXAS RISING STAR

The Texas Rising Star program is a voluntary quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for child care programs. Numerous research studies have shown that children who attend higher-quality early learning programs are more prepared for school entry than children who do not attend high-quality programs.

Our programs offer quality that exceeds the child care licensing standards for director and staff qualifications, teacher-child interactions, program administration, family education and engagement, and indoor and outdoor learning environments. These above and beyond practices positively affect the development of the children we serve.



LEARNING CENTERS

During center time the children will guide their own learning with their curiosity and interests by exploring the several areas throughout the classroom that include:

- Book Nook
- Building and Construction
- Dramatic Play
- Creative Expression
- Puzzles
- Math
- Science
- Sensory Station

This time allows children to grow in their social skills such as self regulation, problem solving, collaboration with others, independence, self esteem and confidence.



BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS AND POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

EAC YMCA offers a program where children can engage with peers and establish meaningful friendships.



PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Children will have several opportunities throughout their day to actively explore their indoor and outdoor environments by using their bodies to practice their gross motor skills such as running, jumping, balancing, dancing, crawling, and more.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Our **Extend-A-Care YMCA** staff members are making great efforts to include Social Emotional Learning as a piece of your child's daily schedule.

Children will participate in SEL activities throughout their day that will help prepare them to:

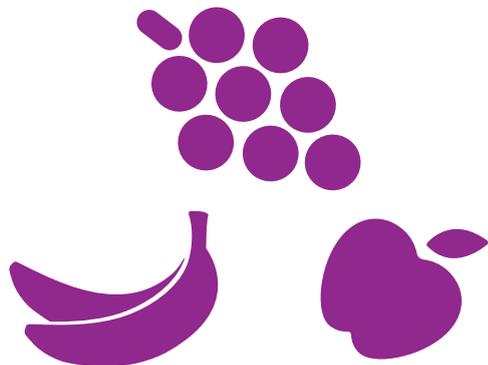
- Manage their emotions and behaviors;
- Establish healthy relationships with others;
- Promote problem solving skills; and
- Understand and follow expectations and boundaries; while being supported in a warm and healthy environment.



HEALTHY SNACK

EAC YMCA ensures children have access to a healthy, balanced snack each morning and afternoon.

Snacks include a variety of vegetables and fruits, whole grains, and small amounts of added sugar and saturated fat. All USDA approved.



SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION

Preschoolers will experience engaging, hands-on activities during small group instruction which allows the teacher to provide specific support to help each child move to the next level of learning. These activities include fine motor skills, sorting, counting, and number and letter recognition.

