



# SECC for PRESCHOOL



## SCHOOL READINESS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

- Ages 3-5 years old

At **SECC**, teachers and parents work together offering a play-based, developmentally appropriate learning experience. Unlike many other preschools, we are able to incorporate learning into our entire day. Our classrooms are broken up into sections such as the block area, dramatic play area, and science center.

### Benefits of Play Based Learning

#### Cognitive Skills

- ◇ While playing with blocks, children are practicing problem solving, prediction and hypothesizing.
- ◇ Our art is focused on the experience and on the exploration of techniques, tools, and materials. Children are not required to follow step by step instructions; their art is unique and original. This is commonly referred to as 'process art.'
- ◇ Storytime advances pre-reading skills like rhyming, wordplay, and the ability to follow a plot.

#### Physical Abilities

- ◇ Children build muscle mass and coordination as they jump, climb, swing, run, and move during play.
- ◇ We encourage physical development while walking the nature trail in our back woods, playing on the playground and playing structured games in the back field.

#### Social Emotional Development

- ◇ Children establish a sense of self, while exploring their own interests and becoming a confident learner.
- ◇ Children discuss, negotiate and strategize to create elaborate play scenes; take turns; and work together toward mutual goals.

### Play– Based Philosophy

Studies show that play-based learning enhances children's academic and developmental learning outcomes. When children engage all of their senses in learning tasks, they increase their ability to learn. The National Association for the Education of Young Children has included play as a criterion in its accreditation process for programs for young children. Play based programs are also called 'child centered,' because the children guide their own learning with their curiosity and interest.



### Communication with Families

The Frog and Bear classrooms each have their own tablet connected to the Brightwheel app. The app allows the teachers to keep families up to date with photos, videos, and messaging. Each classroom also has their own parent bulletin board where parents are able to see what their child learned through play and how we are practicing our kindergarten readiness skills.

**“When they're learning and playing with joy, then it's a positive experience. They develop a positive approach to learning.”**

# Preschool Daily Schedule

6:45-8:15: Drop off and guided play in Bear/Frog rooms

8:15-9:00: Guided play in Frog and Bear room learning centers

9:00-10:00: Group project (math, science, art etc.)

10:00-10:30: AM Snack

10:30-11:00: Circle Time

11:00-12:00: Outside Play (guided large motor games, playground, walks)

12:00-12:30: Lunch

12:30-1:00: Guided table activities

1:00-1:15: Transition to rest time

1:15-3:00: Rest Time

3:00-3:10: Transition to snack

3:10-3:30: PM Snack

3:30-3:50: Circle Time

3:50-4:30: Learning Center time and afternoon project

4:30-5:15: Playground/Center Space

5:15-6:00: Table activities/departure

“Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood”

-Fred Rogers

**“PLAY  
is the highest form  
of research.”  
-Albert Einstein**

