

Welcome to the Elephant Room



Welcome to the Infant Room, where you can be assured that your infant will build strong trusting relationships as he begins to notice and manipulate the world around him. We are committed to nurturing your child through individualized routines. Every interaction is an opportunity for a meaningful learning experience. We have built the foundation of our infant curriculum by providing a safe, secure, and stimulating environment.

As you prepare for your child's first day, these are some of the supplies that you will need

- 1 large package of diapers
- 1 container of diaper wipes
- Diaper Cream and/or ointment as needed
- Two complete changes of clothing (be sure to include clothing for warmer and cooler days)
- A lightweight blanket or sleepsack
- 2 pacifiers as needed
- Bottles labeled with child's first and last name (Some companies who sell personalized permanent or reusable labels are Oliver's Labels, Identity Direct, and Inchbug)
- Family pictures

(IT IS IMPORTANT TO LABEL ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS)

Each infant has unique eating habits and nutritional needs. Here are some things to keep in mind.

- Bottles may be premixed at home and ready to feed OR we can store a can of the formula used by your infant, and mix bottles as needed. If you choose for us to prepare your child's bottle, please provide clean empty bottles on a daily basis.
- Breastmilk may be provided in individual bottles prepared from home OR you can bring a larger supply in a Rubbermaid-like Container, and we can prepare bottles as needed from that supply. There is less waste when we are able to use smaller portions of breastmilk at a time.
- Families are responsible for providing all solid foods as needed for their infant's individual diet.
- A supply of dry infant cereal and jars of food can be stored at the center. Each item must be labeled for your child.
- As your child begins the transition to table food, we will provide the Center's lunch and snack menu for your selection. Please highlight only those items you wish for your child to eat.

Because babies set their own schedules, we have carefully designed our curriculum to capture those teachable moments in daily routines and interactions.

- Our curriculum is carried out through weekly lesson plans which help develop language skills, fine and large motor skills, and encourage sensory exploration during art and music time.
- Books are the keystone of our curriculum which provides a hands-on connection to the spoken word.
- A wide variety of playful activities are used to help reach developmental milestones such as rolling over, sitting, crawling, standing, and walking.
- For our very youngest babies, tummy time is incorporated into each day. This helps them to strengthen their back and neck muscles and is a great time for one-on-one conversations between teacher and child.

Frequent and positive communication is essential as we grow our relationship with your family.

- As you drop-off your baby each day, be sure to complete the top portion of the daily log. This information helps us to follow your baby's individual schedule throughout the day and provide you with information when you come to pick up.
- There is a phone in the infant room, and we encourage you to call anytime you have a question or concern.
- To capture the moments that we enjoy each day, we have created a **private** Shutterfly account for the infant classroom. Please provide your email address, and we will enter your family as a member. As a member you will have access to any pictures that we publish of your child.
- Monthly newsletters are distributed to each family. This tool allows your family to take a closer look at the activities and experiences your child has while with us. In addition, we provide you with information on upcoming special events, and suggestions for activities, songs, and fingerplays to try at home.

Our foremost responsibility is to provide a safe and secure environment for your child. You can help us by:

- Signing in and out on the clipboard each day.
- Notifying us of any attendance changes.
- Informing us of anything that may affect how we care for your baby. This includes letting us know about bumps and bruises, changes in your child's temperament, alternate pick-ups or pick up times....

Please feel free to come to us with any additional questions or concerns. We look forward to building a lasting relationship with you and your child.