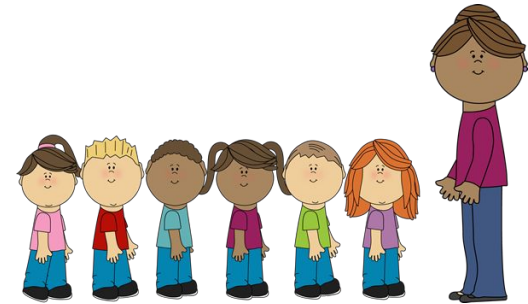




Welcome to PreK Information Night

Newell Elementary School
27 High Street
Allentown, NJ 08501
609-259-7292 x3350
Margarita Baldeo, Director of Special Services

Tonight's Agenda



Who's Who?

Margarita
Baldeo

PreK Team

Specialists

Specialists

Stacie Wible

Rachel
Rondinelli

Your Child's Day

Nikki
Domenech

**Why is Play so
Important?**

Alex Grcic
Joyce Mason

**Curriculum Goals
& Activities**

Carolyn Zindel

Language Development

- ▷ Speak to your child in a clear, correct, and simple manner.
Avoid baby talk.
- ▷ Make conversation with your child a two-way street. Give your child sufficient time to answer questions.
- ▷ Model good listening behavior. Make eye contact when your child is speaking.
- ▷ Encourage your child to use his/her words instead of gestures.



Language Development

- ▷ Ask questions that require your child to use higher level thinking skills such as “why.”
- ▷ Expand your child’s vocabulary by including him/her in running errands, cooking, and visiting with friends.
- ▷ Engage your child in games that require listening and following directions.
- ▷ Read, read, READ with your child.



Language Development

- ▷ Encourage your child to use sentences of increasing length; ask him/her to “use all the words.”
- ▷ Encourage your child to become independent in important pre-k skills, such as putting on a jacket and opening a juice box.
- ▷ Encourage your child to verbalize his needs and desires.
- ▷ Play games in the car...labeling, looking for specific items, answering questions about scenery.



Language Development

- ▷ Arrange play dates to improve your child's social language skills and increase independence.
- ▷ Blow bubbles and party horns to build oral-motor skills.
- ▷ Encourage your child to respond to greetings from familiar people.
- ▷ Encourage your child to taste and tolerate new foods.
- ▷ Encourage your child to attend to a given activity for 20 minutes.



Physical Development

Gross Motor

- Climbing, balance
- Running, hopping, skipping, jumping, galloping

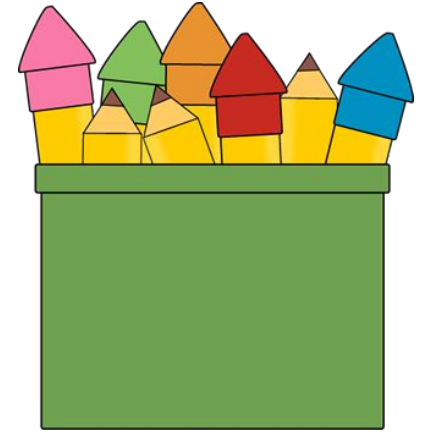
Postural Control/Upper
Body strength to support
writing readiness



Fine Motor

Control small muscles in
hands

- Coordinates eye-hand movement
- Uses tools for writing and drawing
- Grasp Development



Physical Development

- ▷ GO fingers are thumb, index and middle fingers, STOP fingers are ring and pinky.
- ▷ Practice using GO fingers to pick up objects.
- ▷ Practice using STOP fingers to pick up objects (larger ones).
- ▷ Encourage child to use GO fingers on crayon/pencil and tuck in STOP fingers while coloring.



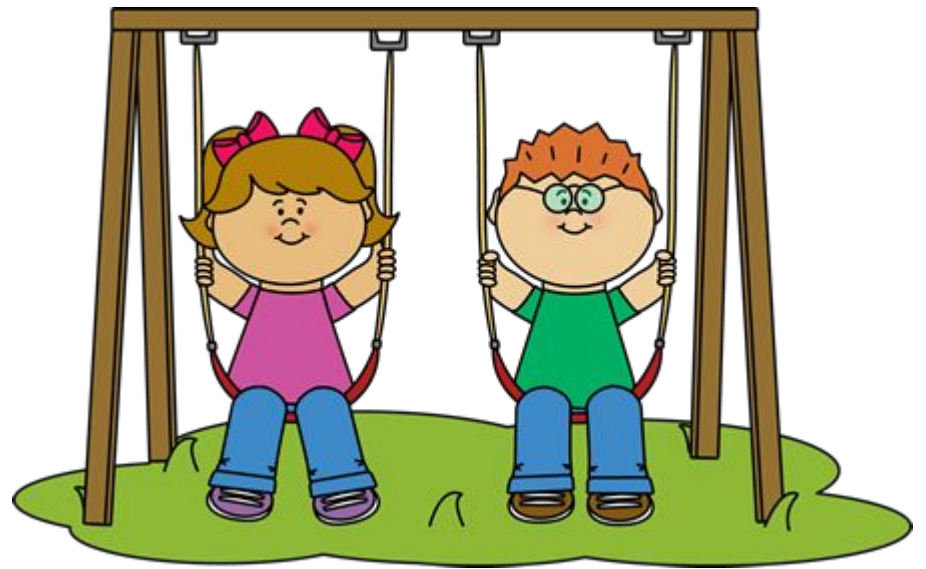
Physical Development: What can I do?

- ▷ Color/draw on vertical surface DAILY or every time you color (use easel or tape picture on wall)
- ▷ Have your child spend as much time as possible on their bellies propped on elbows. For reading, coloring, puzzles, watching TV, video games/IPADs, talking. The more time the better.
- ▷ Put a rubber band on every pencil/crayon/marker your child uses. Wrapped around it on the spot where you want them to place their GO fingers.
- ▷ Purchase Pop Toobz and theraputty (medium strength) for use at home to strengthen hand muscles. Hide objects in the putty and make chains out of the Toobz that you open and closes.



Your Child's Day

- ▷ Opening Group
- ▷ Small Group Work
- ▷ Make Believe Play Block
- ▷ Lunch, Recess, Specials
- ▷ Rest Time



Opening Group



Mystery Activity

Build and reinforce literacy & math skills

Engage with peers

Problem solve



Message of the Day

Supports development of Scaffolded Writing

Done daily and concepts carry over to Play Planning



Timeline Calendar

Uses number line for concept of time.

Days=months, Months=Years

Count and clap

Transform into conventional format



Share the News

Children engage in collaborative conversations

Topics cover: feelings, problem solving, opinions, ideas, concepts

Turn & Talk format



Weather Graph

Observe & use a graph to record, summarize, read, & analyze weather

Comparing quantities

Concept of Zero



Attention Focusing/Community Building

Refocus the group in nondisruptive manner

Practice rhyme, oral language skills, combine speech and motor

Opening Group



Freeze Game

Children dance to music
looking at poses on a card

Freeze to make pictured pose
when music stops





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

The Importance of Play

#1

75% of brain development occurs after birth

#2

A child's brain doubles in size in the first year and by the age of 3 has reached 80% of it's adult size

#3

Play is more than fun:

Builds confidence

Feel loved, happy, satisfied

Develop social skills

Develop language & communication

Learn about caring for others

Learning about caring for environment

Develop physical skills

Connect & refine pathways in the brain



Make Believe Play Block:

Make Believe Play Practice

Teacher demonstrates roles and actions in center

Students practice by following along with the teacher

Play Planning

Students play plan by drawing a picture, and generating a message

Teacher scaffolds message writing and sound development

Daily assessment taken

Make Believe Play

Children execute play plans

Children can play in base level

Teachers scaffold play & assess levels

Tools of the Mind Stages of Play:

Pre-Play

First Scripts

Roles in Action

Roles with rules and beginning scenarios

Maturing make-believe play (familiar themes)

Mature make-believe play (new and evolving themes) & Dramatization



Major Curriculum Goals-

It's all about the scaffold! ZPD.



Self-Regulation:

Cognitive, Emotional, Physical

- 1.-Fostering children's mature intentional make-believe play.
- 2.- Encouraging positive classroom interactions that promote self-regulation, and eliminating classroom interactions that promote unregulated behavior.
- 3.- Engaging children in games and activities that target specific aspects of self-regulation.
- 4.- Embedding a self-regulation component in every activity.

Scaffolded Writing

The gateway to learning literacy.

Teaching reading through writing.

Shared & Individual

Occurs in:

Message of the Day, Write Along, Write a Familiar Finger Play, Play Planning, Story Labs, Science Eyes, Story Extensions

Make Believe Play

Centerpiece of the curriculum!

45-60 minutes daily

Plan play, engage in play together, clean up after period

Teachers scaffold Play Planning and Play Development

PreK Information Resources



This
presentation

UFRSD
webpage
*Preschool
Program*

PreK Curriculum
Presentation

Our process is easy!

Access
form @

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4ZUcQeQ72E8Y1JpTWZNGINeDA/view?pli=1>

Fill out
registration

Mail to:

Margarita
Baldeo
UFRSD
27 High St
Allentown, NJ
08501

Thanks!

Any questions?

- Please visit the Tools of the Mind Website Parent Tab for more information:
- www.toolsofthemind.org
- Please visit our school homepage for more information about our Pre-K program, enrollment forms, etc.
- www.ufrsd.net
- Open House the day before children begin school