



Nashua Early Education Program Curriculum Expectations

“Integrating Children’s Unique Abilities Since 1976”

The Nashua Early Education Program (NEEP) provides a developmental learning approach where children with special needs, along with typically developing children come together to learn, grow, and play. Through play, children develop social, communication and cognitive skills, mature emotionally, and gain the self-confidence required to engage in new experiences and environments.

NEEP provides a positive, structured learning environment with a multi-curricular approach in which children have positive social relationships, acquire and use knowledge and skills, and take appropriate action to meet their needs. The NEEP Curriculum is taught using activities designed to foster growth in all developmental areas.

The Learning to Learn program has been developed to provide an educational experience for children whose birthdays occur after September 30th. This transitional classroom is designed for students who otherwise may not have access to an appropriate preschool curriculum due to their date of birth. Students will be enrolled in either the morning or the afternoon session.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUCCESSFUL LEARNER

- Exhibits curiosity
- Will follow classroom rules and routines with guidance
- Learns through experiences of cause-and-effect
- Engages in play to explore their environment

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

- Develops an attachment to preschool staff
- Engages in brief or momentary interactions with other children, but may need adult support
- Shows interest in basic emotions in self and others
- Uses "please" and "thank you", but may require reminders
- Begins to exhibit problem-solving strategies with adult assistance

COMMUNICATION

- Understands and follows simple one-step directions
- Uses language for a variety of functions (i.e. commenting, requesting, greeting, answering, etc.)
- Engages in short dialogue
- Enjoys chants, songs and finger plays
- Points to 15 common objects and labels 10
- Gives own name

SELF-HELP SKILLS

- Attempts to access and open snack materials
- Assists with personal needs routines (i.e. hand-washing, toileting, etc.)
- Assists with managing personal items (i.e. coat, backpack)

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- Demonstrates increasing body strength, flexibility and control
- Shows a range of mobility skills
- Will use playground equipment safely with assistance

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Will explore a variety of mediums in class activities (i.e. finger-paints, shaving cream, play dough/clay)
- Engages in fine motor tasks (i.e. bead stringing, puzzles, coloring, etc.)

EMERGENT LITERACY

- Will engage in the "reading process" by looking at a book appropriately
- Will be able to recite parts of familiar songs and predictable familiar stories
- Will begin to understand that print conveys meaning

COGNITION & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: MATH AND SCIENCE

- Will rote count to 5
- Can point to and label 5 body parts
- Can match objects by color
- Can match objects by shape
- Uses their senses and body to investigate people, places and things
- Observes and responds to different causes and effects