



## A day in Building Blocks...



### **Greeting and free choice time 8:45-9:05/11:30-11:50**

At the start of class, teachers will open the doors and invite everyone inside. Coats should be placed in the coat bin next to the cubbies in the hallway, and parents need to sign their child in at the parent information counter inside the classroom. As children come into class, they are greeted and given time to explore the room and play with friends.

### **Circle Time 9:05-9:35/11:50-12:20**

We meet on the ABC rug. Each child is given a 'special letter' to sit on throughout the year. We begin each day by choosing a 'helper' and go through the helper jobs – talking about the weather, choosing a number fish, and completing our calendar.

For the remainder of circle time, we read stories and participate in fun activities to reinforce our theme – we dance, play games, enjoy using the felt board, and do group projects. Every day includes time to sing, and lots of movement!

### **Center Time 9:35-10:25/12:20-1:10**

At this time, kids are encouraged to explore all areas of our room. We use multiple centers that reinforce our themes, build on beginning skills, and encourage play. Craft activities are a constant and include a variety of materials that change each day. Our block area is always open, as is our dramatic play area and explore-it-corner. In these centers kids get to work with peers to build, create, play, and explore, encouraging learning in a multitude of ways. The materials in these centers change monthly. Our sensory table is out almost everyday, and may be filled with anything from sand to water, shaving cream to pudding.

Snack is included as a center and is a choice. Kids wash their hands, find their name tag, and sit down at our snack table. When they finish they clear their spot and go back to exploring our room.

### **Clean Up 10:25-10:30/1:10-1:15**

Everyone works together to get our room back in order!

### **Letter of the Week 10:30-10:40/1:15-1:25**

Using the Zoophonics program, we introduce a new letter each week. The letters are introduced as an animal, along with the sound it makes, its shape, and three things that begin with that letter. Our goal is to introduce the kids to the idea that print has meaning, an important step in the early reading process. We also read a story that features the week's letter.

### **Outside time 10:35-10:55/1:20-1:40**

We try and go outside whenever possible. We use the playground area, which includes some sand toys and trucks. At times we also enjoy the sand volleyball area in the back of the rec center. Here we can play in the sand, use chalk to draw on the pavement, or play games. If the weather is bad, we will go to the gym and play basketball, ride scooters, enjoy other sports equipment, or play games.

### **Closing 10:55-11:00/1:40-1:45**

We talk about our day and sing our 'Good-bye' song. We will open the door to invite in our parents. Children all need to be signed out, and cubbies should be checked everyday for projects or information.



## **Building Blocks**

### **All the Extra Stuff you Need to Know!**

#### **Snack Time**

Preschoolers are constantly moving and need healthy snacks to keep up with all they try and do! Parents are asked to sign up each month to provide our class with snacks. Sign ups are located at the parent information counter in the classroom. There will be special sign ups for party days and special events.

#### **Music and Cooking Days**

Every Friday we will enjoy making music or cooking up special treats! Ms. Larissa has a background in music education and enjoys sharing her love of all things musical with the kids. We will listen to many different kinds of music, often using drawing, dancing, or books to accompany our sounds. We also use instruments to make music of our own! Ms. Linda will be using her love of cooking to help the kids explore many different kinds of food! We will mix, stir, chop, bake, and eat our way through lessons. Fridays quickly become favorite days for everyone!

#### **All About Me**

This is a fun, family centered activity that provides your child with the opportunity to share a little about themselves with their friends. Your child will be given a rainbow worksheet to take home and, with your help, complete. On their 'all about me' day, your child will share this sheet with the class, as well as family photos, pictures they have drawn, and a favorite toy. This is a fun chance for kids to bring a little bit of home into the classroom, and to enjoy a few minutes in the spotlight! Parents are encouraged to attend the 'presentation', which takes just a few minutes.

#### **Building Block Book Bags**

Beginning in October, we will send our 'book bag' home with one child each Monday. The bag consists of a book for you and your child to enjoy together, an animal friend to play with, and a notebook to draw a picture. On Wednesday, your child will be given time to share their picture and tell the class about their favorite adventures with the book bag!

#### **Play-doh Donations**

We ask that parents help supply us with homemade play-doh each month. We find that the homemade stuff is easier to work with and is less crumbly than the store bought variety. We will give you a recipe and may specify colors. Please see the sign up at the parent information counter.

#### **Coats and such...**

Colorado is known for its ever-changing weather! We do try and go outside every day, so please dress your child appropriately. Coats, jackets, gloves, hats, etc. should all be clearly labeled with your child's name. Everything can be left in the basket next to the cubbies in the hall at the beginning of class each day.