

A "Typical" Day in the Stepping Stones Classroom

8:00 Teacher Classroom Set Up / 11:00 Teacher Lunch and Set Up

Our teachers have to set up and break down the room each day. This includes moving furniture, storing supplies, setting up activities and preparing for the day. The teachers also unload materials through the back door during this time. We ask that you wait in the lobby for class time, not in the hallway.

Our teachers have a half hour each day to eat lunch and prepare for the later class.

8:15/11:00 Sign In, Question of the Day and Free Play

When the children arrive at Stepping Stones they should choose a cubby and place their tag in it. Then they should enter the room, answer the Question of the Day and get involved in Free Play activities. Free Play activities include use of a variety of building materials, manipulatives, dramatic play activities, science and art explorations. The children are free to do what they choose and can request materials that interest them, too.

9:00/11:45 Clean up and Morning Meeting

Morning meeting is a whole group time where we share ideas, have discussions, read stories, sing songs, play games, and participate in whole group explorations and experiences. On Wednesdays, we work in our journals during meeting too.

9:35/12:20 Recess

The class generally visits the playground, the sand pit or the gym daily, sometimes for organized group games, sometimes for free play, and sometimes for specially planned activities.

10:00/1:15 Centers

The children are introduced to the center activities and use their planning tags to plan their day and navigate the room. Center activities are generally more focused and structured than Free Play activities, but there is some overlap! Initially, children visit only the centers that interest them and spend as much time as they would like; as the year progresses, we encourage the children to try all the centers and help them "manage their time" so that they have an opportunity to visit each center each day.

10:50/2:05 Clean up and Closing

Children participate in cleaning up the room, and then meet in the meeting space for a quick closing activity and good bye.

11:00 Teacher Clean Up, Set Up, Lunch / 2:15 Classroom Clean Up

Teachers clean up from the earlier class, set up for the 11:30 class and have lunch.

Teachers remain in the classroom to do a final clean up, lock up materials and shelving and close the classroom for the day.

These are a busy, important part of the classroom maintenance and teacher work time so children need to be picked up from class on time each day.