## **Philosophy**

We believe that each child is unique. Early childhood is a remarkable and critical stage of life when young children learn through exploring their environment, making discoveries, asking questions and forming hypotheses about the world around them.

We do our best to be sensitive and responsive to children's interests, needs and individual competencies. We make every effort to maximize a child's development and learning by enriching their engagement in meaningful learning experiences as they ask questions or try things out.

We encourage them to be active and curious as they put together (or construct) their individual interpretations of the world. Finally, we work to create an emotionally responsive setting where children learn respect for their individual and cultural similarities as well as the differences that exist between themselves and others.

We consider children's family relationships to be primary in their lives. Our goal is to honor each child's family and find ways to work together as partners for the good of the child. We want to encourage an atmosphere where parents and teachers can learn from each other and share what is important to them. Serving children is inextricably linked with serving children's families.

We believe that children will learn best during their time with us if they have strong, supportive, and nurturing relationships with our staff. We realize our moment to moment interactions with children have a profound influence on their development and learning. We also believe that the social relationships children develop through play and peer interaction significantly contribute to their development and learning across the language, cognitive, social, emotional and physical domains of development.