

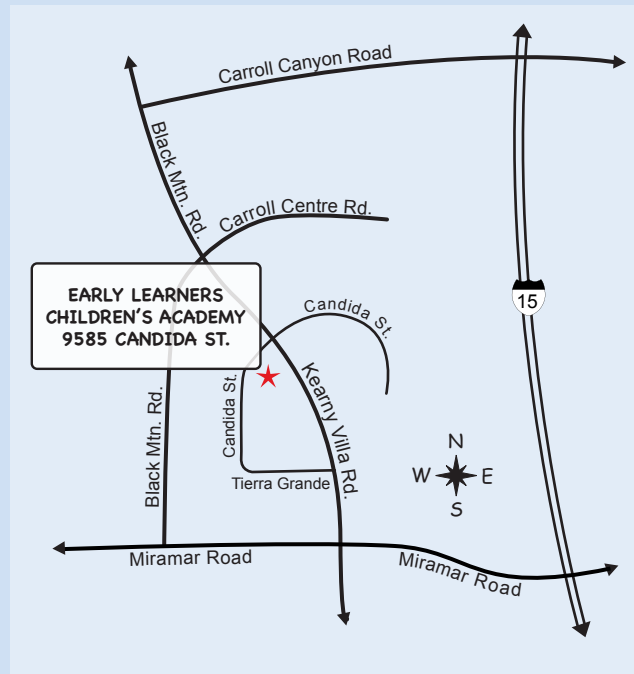
PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL

Children have a natural desire to be with their peers. With your help and understanding, the transition from home to school will be a positive experience for you and your child. We offer the following suggestions.

- 1 Talk about school mentioning things he or she will do.
- 2 Come with your child to visit the school. Explore the classroom with him/her and talk about coming back soon.
- 3 On the first day, walk your child into their classroom. Avoid carrying them as this makes your departure more difficult. Say good-bye in a casual manner. Long kisses and hugs only make your child feel that you don't really want him/her to stay. Tell him/her you will return soon. You will build a sense of trust if you let your child know when you are leaving and return as promised. Do not sneak away when your child is not looking.
- 4 Once you have said your good-byes, walk resolutely away. Most children will be involved happily within minutes. If your child is reluctant we suggest that you return in an hour the first few days.
- 5 Your child might feel more secure bringing a favorite blanket or toy. He or she will give it up when they are ready.



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EARLY LEARNERS CHILDREN'S ACADEMY

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PHILOSOPHY

We believe that all children can learn and grow in a nurturing, caring, and safe environment. This allows them to make meaningful choices and encourages them to become active learners. Believing that children are influenced within a home, community, and social environment, all programming for a child, whether full or part day, should support a child's development by providing a safe and healthy play and learning environment.

GOALS

- To provide a safe, nurturing, learning environment with caring adults who enhance self-esteem, encourage independence, and offer an abundance of developmentally appropriate activities.
- To respect each child's individuality and encourage their respect for others through social skills.
- To allow children to explore and be active, inquisitive, creative learners while developing at their own individual pace.
- To empower children by allowing them to make their own choices, take risks, and share their own ideas so they can reach optimum potential.
- To help children develop an enthusiasm for learning, where school is fun, exciting, and a positive place to be.
- To foster good communication with parents so that they feel comfortable that their children are in a safe, secure place with adults they can trust.
- To encourage self-discipline by having limits clearly defined, consistently enforced, and kept to a minimum.

COMMUNICATION

We are here to meet the needs of your child. If you have a concern or question please let us know. Newsletters go home regularly and are posted on the bulletin boards. The Parent Board in the reception area has additional information for you to read. The director is available most of the day.

DISCIPLINE

The director and teachers will set limits for safety and security. Each teacher sets the limits for his/her classroom appropriate to the age level and needs of the children. Problems are rare when limits are clearly defined and consistently enforced. The techniques of positive reinforcement and redirection are constantly used. If a continuing problem does arise, a conference will be scheduled so that school and family can work together towards a solution.

CURRICULUM

Children feel secure when there is a sense of order to their day. Each room has a schedule so the children know "what will happen next." Many activities are offered and a few of them are listed in this brochure. Emphasis is always on active involvement, creativity, and exploration.

Intellectual – Colors, numbers, shapes, and reading readiness encompasses all areas of the curriculum since preschoolers learn through active involvement. Letter People Blue Print for Learning utilized in Pre-K programs.

Art – Emphasis is on the process not the product. Creative art is offered through paint, collage, color, and cutting-unlimited possibilities.

Science – Animals, planting, cooking, bug hunting, exploring, and searching.



Social Skills – Learning to share, growing in cooperative play, circle time, eating together, waiting a turn.

Cooking – Making snacks, measuring, pouring, mixing, and tasting.

Physical – Small motor development through the use of scissors, crayons, painting and manipulative toys. Large motor development through climbing, running, jumping, swinging, bikes, dancing, etc.

Language – Learning to express needs, using words to solve problems, daily language is encouraged.

Music – Daily songs, finger play, and rhythm.



SNACKS

A mid-morning & mid-afternoon snack of juice, fruit, or vegetables, crackers, and other nutritious foods will be served on a daily basis.

SHARING FROM HOME

Check with your child's teacher concerning items brought from home. Some classes have certain "sharing" days; others welcome "sharing" anytime. Guns and other violent types of toys are not allowed at school. They will be kept in the office and given to the parent when the child is picked up.



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