



KEHILLAH ALEF קהילה



early
childhood
center

Developmental Milestones

Kehillah means community! Our Kehillah program serves children 1-2 years old. The younger toddler years are filled with curiosity and the emergence of many new talents and skills that include recognizing the value of community as children learn to engage in parallel play with their peers. The Kehillah staff is committed to providing your child a safe, stimulating and developmentally appropriate environment where the children can learn and grow. Each of the toddlers spends the majority of his or her day in the security of the classroom where they work on the skills connected with feeding themselves at meals, washing their hands, and participating in short teacher initiated activities such as songs on the carpet, a book before nap or a craft activity at the table. Toddlers also have time throughout the day to explore and play with materials in the classroom during free choice time. This could range from building with blocks, looking at books, pretending with dramatic play materials, or experimenting with materials in the sensory table. Through these activities teachers begin to model and engage children in participating with basic self-help skills such as taking off shoes, cleaning up toys, or throwing away trash after meals. The toddlers also venture outside of the classroom for weekly swim lessons and art classes. Daily Connect is utilized in our toddler program for each individual child; this gives teachers the opportunity to communicate with parents regarding each child's sleeping, eating, diapering schedule and their overall disposition throughout the day.

The Kehillah daily schedule and weekly curriculum is designed for children to develop the following skills during the year:

- Trust and emotional security through building relationships and showing preferences with familiar adults; responding to unfamiliar adults cautiously; finding comfort in new situations; and showing emotional connections and attachments to others.
- Self-awareness by expressing feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds, or gestures; developing awareness of self as separate from others.
- Ability to manage own behavior and understand simple routines, rules, and limitations.
- Interest and awareness of other children and beginning to interact with other children.
- Listening and understanding by showing an interest in listening to sounds, responding to verbal and nonverbal communication of others, and beginning to understand gestures, words, questions or routines.
- Communication and speaking skills by using consistent sounds, gestures or actions to express needs and wants and imitate sounds, gestures, or words; using sign language to communicate words for a variety of purposes.
- Emergent literacy by taking interest in songs, rhymes, and stories and in photos, pictures, and drawings; beginning to develop interest in books.
- Exploration and discovery skills by paying attention to the people and objects in their surroundings, using their senses to explore their environment, and attending to colors, shapes, patterns, and pictures.
- Memory skills and the ability to recognize familiar people, places, and things and search for missing or hidden objects.
- Problem solving skills through experimenting with different uses of objects.
- Imitation and symbolic play by observing sounds, gestures or behaviors and using objects in new ways or in pretend play.
- Ability to move body, arms and legs with coordination and demonstrate large muscle balance, stability, control, and coordination. The use of their hands or feet for making contact with objects or people to enhance fine motor development, while also coordinating eye and hand movements.

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KAVOD ALEF כבוד



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Developmental Milestones

Kavod means respect! Our Kavod program serves children 2-3 years old. The older toddler years are filled with curiosity and the emergence of many new talents and skills including moving from parallel play to group play and learning how to share, use their words to express emotions and be respectful of one another. The Kavod staff is committed to providing your child a safe, stimulating and developmentally appropriate environment where your child can learn and grow. Each of the older toddlers spends the majority of his or her day in the security of the classroom where the children work on the skills connected with navigating group dynamics, fine tuning general self-help skills, and participating in teacher initiated activities such as songs or a book on the carpet, a craft activity at the table or discovering through an experiment conducted as a group. Children in the Kavod rooms also have time throughout the day to explore and play with materials in the classroom during free choice time; this could range from developing fine motor skills with puzzles or connectors at the table, building with blocks, looking at books, pretending with dramatic play materials or experimenting with materials in the sensory table. Through these activities teachers engage children to participate in self-help skills such as cleaning up toys, throwing away trash after meals, using their words when communicating their emotions and needs, and developing dressing skills for outdoor play or swimming. The toddlers also venture outside of the classroom for weekly swim lessons and art classes. In addition to this, a music specialist teacher comes to each class weekly. Daily notes are utilized in our toddler program for each individual child; this gives teachers the opportunity to communicate with parents regarding each child's sleeping, eating and diapering schedule and overall disposition throughout the day. Teachers will also use these notes to highlight memorable moments that may occur during the day.

The Kavod daily schedule and weekly curriculum is designed for children to develop the following skills during the year:

- Trust and emotional security through building relationships and showing preferences with familiar adults; responding to unfamiliar adults cautiously; finding comfort in new situations; and showing emotional connections and attachments to others.
- Self-awareness by expressing feelings and emotions through facial expressions, sounds or gestures; developing awareness of self as separate from others; and showing confidence in increasing abilities and skills.
- Ability to begin to manage own behavior, show ability to cope with stress, show increasing independence, and understand simple routines, rules, and limitations.
- Engage in play with other children, recognize the feelings and emotions of other children, and learn social skills and the words to use to express feelings, wants, and needs.
- Listening and understanding by showing an interest in listening to sounds, responding to verbal and nonverbal communication of others, and understanding gestures, words, questions or routines.
- Communication and speaking skills by using and imitating sounds, gestures, or words for a variety of purposes, while also using language in simple conversation.
- Emergent literacy by taking interest in songs, rhymes, and stories, in photos, pictures, and drawings, in books and other print materials, and beginning to recognize and understand symbols and letters.

- Exploration and discovery skills by showing interest and curiosity in new people and objects and understanding cause and effect relationships.
- Memory skills where they are able to recognize familiar people, places, and things, search for missing or hidden objects, and recall and use information in new situations.
- Problem solving skills through showing imagination and creativity in solving problems, using a variety of strategies to solve problems, and applying knowledge to new situations.
- Imitation and symbolic play by using objects in new ways or in pretend play and using pretend play to express creativity and imagination.
- Ability to move body with a purpose to achieve a goal.
- Skills to coordinate eye and hand movements and controlling small muscles in hands when doing simple tasks to enhance fine motor development.