



CLASSROOM PROFILE: A3 INFANTS

STAFF

Teacher: **Kristen Isch**

I have a BA from The Ohio State University in Social and Behavioral Sciences. I have work experience from both a child care center in Mansfield Ohio as well at the OSU Child Care Program for one year as a Teaching Aide. I choose to work in early childhood education because I enjoy helping children to grow and develop as individuals. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, friends, and my dog. I also enjoy reading fiction and laying out poolside!

Assistant Teacher: **Manju Kumari**

I have a Bachelors Degree in Home Economics. I have been with OSU Child Care Program since 1997. I love children and I am so glad to work with the babies and families in A3. I have two children and enjoy being with my kids in my free time.

Assistant Teacher: **Katie Fink**

I have a bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Science from The Ohio State University. As an undergraduate, I worked at the Child Care Program and at the Nisonger Early Childhood Center. I choose to work in early childhood because I love to see children grow and develop new skills. I am also very interested in research in the field of early childhood. For fun I ride and show my horses and, of course, cheer on the Buckeyes!

ROOM SCHEDULE

7:00 - 9:00am	Arrival: greet parents and children; breakfast (Older infants – Toddler Schedule; Younger infants – baby food); Self-select activities
9:30 - 10:00am	Diapering
10:00 - 10:30am	Large muscle room/outside play
10:30 - 11:00am	Activities
11:00 - 12:00pm	Lunch (older infants – toddler lunch; younger infants – baby food)
12:00 - 12:30pm	Diapering
12:30 - 2:30pm	Quiet play; napping; diapering as children wake from naps
2:30 - 3:00pm	Afternoon snack (older infants – toddler snack; younger infants –formula)
3:00 - 4:00pm	Activities
4:00 - 4:15pm	Diapering
4:15 - 4:45 pm	Large muscle room /outside play
4:45 - 6:00 pm	Self-select play/buggy rides/books/music

As many classrooms partner with the room next door, families are encouraged to get to know the staff in the adjoining room as well as the staff in our Evening Program, if applicable.



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INFANT CLASSROOM INFORMATION

Infant rooms provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for infants to explore throughout their day. Experiences with teachers, peers, language, movement, music, books, water, sand, art and dramatic play materials enhance children's growth and development. Teachers design experiences based on children's developmental needs and individual interests. These experiences are documented for families on the classroom Possibilities Plan.

The infant room environment is planned to be safe and stimulating for all children in the group. One way we keep the room clean and safe for crawling infants is by maintaining a "shoeless" environment. We ask that all adults entering the room remove their shoes or use shoe covers provided by the Program.

While infants have many materials and experiences provided for them in the classroom, it is also important that some materials come from home. Please bring the following items for your child:

- diapers
- diaper wipes
- a blanket, if desired
- two changes of clothing
- a pacifier or small "lovey" object, if desired
- bottles
- formula, breast milk, baby food (if not using program-provided food)
- appropriate outerwear for each season

Infant feeding is both a physical and social-emotional process. All infants are held when bottle-feeding to facilitate contact with a nurturing adult. Infant feeding is individualized, incorporating the child's changing developmental needs and individual cues, as well as family preferences. As infants grow older, they are encouraged to be as independent as possible when eating; plastic bibs are provided for them as this process can often be messy. Monthly menus are provided so that families can indicate those foods that they would like older infants to eat at mealtimes.

Sleeping is also both a physical and social-emotional process that requires teachers to observe carefully for children's cues. We may help infants fall asleep by holding, rocking, singing, rubbing backs or gently rocking a crib. Infants are permitted to sleep only in cribs.

We look forward to developing relationships with children and their families. Please take some time at arrival each day to tell us about your child's evening and morning at home so that we can more effectively meet their needs. When you return, we will tell you about your child's day with us. In addition, we will provide you with a "daily chart" indicating your child's feeding, napping, diapering and play activities.

Please feel free to contact our room at anytime during the day. You may call 292-4453 and ask for room A3 or email the room directly a3@hr.osu.edu. You may also direct questions or comments to the Infant Age-Level Specialist.

We look forward to meeting your child and family!