



CLASSROOM PROFILE: A4 PRESCHOOL

STAFF

Master Teacher: Lori Bolen

I have a BS in Education, Child and Family Development from Bowling Green State University. I have worked with the YMCA as both a site director and a preschool teacher. I love watching children discover new things! The enthusiasm with which they share their new found discoveries makes each day something to look forward to! I have been with the OSU Child Care Program since September of 2004, all of that time in A4! In my free time I enjoy gardening, scrap booking, watching baseball and football games and camping.

Assistant Teacher: Erin Gabriel

Before coming to the OSU Child Care Program I worked with four year old children at Children's World Learning Center and worked in the child care center at Lifetime Fitness. I enjoy working with children because they are so eager to explore and learn new things. I also love how trusting and caring they are. I have been with the program since November of 2004, all of that time in A4! I spend most of my free time reading, making cards, scrap booking, watching hockey, and gardening.

ROOM SCHEDULE

7:00 - 8:30am	Welcome and free play
8:30 - 9:30am	Morning snack/breakfast is offered
9:30 - 9:45am	Clean-up, bathroom
9:45 - 10:30am	Outside play or large muscle room
10:30 - 10:45am	Large group (stories, songs, games and conversation is shared)
10:45 - 11:45am	Child initiated & planned activity time
11:45 - 12:00pm	Outside play or story time
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00 - 3:00pm	Nap (at 2:30 non-sleeping children have quiet activities at the tables)
3:00 - 4:00pm	Snack, sunscreen applied, activity time (table activities, blocks, dramatic play)
4:00 - 4:30pm	Outside play
4:30 - 5:45pm	Large group time
5:00 - 6:00pm	Child initiated activities

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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PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM INFORMATION

Preschool rooms provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for children to explore throughout their day. Teachers design the environment and experiences based on children's developmental needs and individual interests. Experiences with peers and teachers, written and oral language, books, music, movement, nature, science and math materials, blocks and other construction materials, water, sand, art and dramatic play materials enhance children's growth and development.

Group experiences, long-term projects, child-directed and teacher-directed experiences are all part of the preschool curriculum. In addition, teachers align the children's experiences with the Ohio Department of Education Early Learning Content Standards. Planned curriculum is documented for families on the classroom Possibilities Plan.

Teachers document children's experiences through the use of photographs, dictation, artwork and constructions. Teachers may also share your child's experiences with you through phone calls, email, or notes in your mailbox. In addition, individual conferences and classroom family meetings are held throughout the year.

Preschool children are encouraged to explore their environment independently. Because exploring with all your senses can be a messy process, we ask families to dress children with this in mind. Please provide an extra set of clothes to be used when necessary. In addition, children go outdoors in all kinds of weather, so it is important that families provide appropriate outerwear for each season.

Preschool children often enjoy bringing something from home to share with their friends. Please help children choose materials that promote thinking and interaction (puzzles, games, books) or materials that promote imaginative play (vehicles, dramatic play props, dress-up clothes).

It is important to us that children have a wide variety of open-ended materials with which to play. Research has shown that highly imaginative play develops the executive brain functions that children need in order to self-regulate emotions and behavior, negotiate with peers, think critically and problem-solve. Therefore, we ask that parents help children leave action figures (both the male and female varieties) and electronic toys at home.

Preschool children nap on cots which are made more comfortable by a small blanket, pillow or sleeping toy brought from home. Teachers may help children relax by reading stories, playing soft music, or rubbing backs. While some children may not nap, everyone must spend some time resting every day.

We look forward to developing relationships with children and their families. We consider our partnerships with parents to be foundational to our program. Please consider sharing your family's culture or your own unique talents with our classroom. You are welcome to visit at anytime.

Please feel free to contact our room at anytime during the day. You may call 292-4453 and ask for room A4 or email the room directly a4@hr.osu.edu. You may also direct questions or comments to the Preschool Age-Level Specialist.

We look forward to meeting your child and family!