



CLASSROOM PROFILE: A7 TODDLERS

STAFF

Teacher: **Debra Christen**

I have experience working with children in a variety of settings. In December 2003, I graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree. I hold a Michigan teaching certificate with an Early Childhood Endorsement, as well as an Ohio Early Childhood Certificate. I started at the OSU Child Care Program in April 2004 and I am excited to be working here with you and your children.

Assistant Teacher: **Aubrey Hilton**

I have a bachelor's degree in international studies focusing on world economics and business from OSU. My goal is to get a master's degree in integrated social studies to teach 5th through 12th grade. I worked as a teaching aide at the OSU Child Care Program for three years prior to being hired fulltime.

ROOM SCHEDULE

7:00 - 8:30am	Welcome; free play
8:30 - 9:00am	Snack; toileting; clean-up
9:00 - 10:00am	Outside or large-muscle room play
10:00 - 10:15am	Group time (either small or large)
10:15 - 11:15am	Table activities; free play
11:15 - 12:00pm	Lunch; quiet time; toileting
12:00 - 3:30pm	Naps; toileting; snack; free play
3:15 - 4:15pm	Muscle room
4:15 - 5:00pm	Outside (weather permitting) or activities in room
5:00 - 6:00pm	Good-byes; free play

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.

TODDLER CLASSROOM INFORMATION

Toddler 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 teachers, peers, language, movement, blocks, music, books, nature, water, sand, art and dramatic play materials enhance children's growth and development. These experiences are documented for families on the classroom Possibilities Plan.

Toddlers 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. In addition, children go outdoors in all kinds of weather, so it is important that families provide appropriate outerwear for each season.



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Mealtime is both a physical and social-emotional process. This is a time to try new foods, use developing language skills, engage in social interactions and practice self-help skills. Teachers make mealtimes a relaxed group experience and guide children to be as independent as possible. Monthly menus, including snacks and meals, are provided for families.

Napping is also both a physical and social-emotional process that requires teachers to observe carefully for children's cues. Toddlers 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 toddlers may not nap, all children must spend some time resting every day.

Perhaps the most prominent developmental milestone for toddlers is potty training. All diapering and toileting in toddler rooms is done in a relaxed manner which allows children to grow and development on individual timelines. Teachers work as partners with parents when children are showing signs of taking the last steps towards potty training.

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. Daily information provided for families may include mealtime, napping, diapering or toileting and play activities.

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.

Please feel free to contact our room at anytime during the day. You may call 292-4453 and ask for room A7 or email the room directly a7@hr.osu.edu. You may also direct questions or comments to the Toddler Age-Level Specialist.

We look forward to meeting your child and family!