



## CLASSROOM PROFILE: A8 TODDLERS

### STAFF

Teacher: **Kate Gauron**

I have a B.S. in Human Ecology specializing in Family Studies. I worked as a part time Teaching Aide at the OSU Child Care Program for two years and as a lead teacher at Bright Horizons for a year and a half prior to becoming the lead teacher in A8. I enjoy working with children because they are amazing teachers themselves! In my free time I enjoy watching sports (GO BUCKEYES!), reading, and exercising.

Assistant Teacher: **Katie Kissinger**

I have a B. A. in Early Childhood Education from Muskingum College of New Concord, Ohio. I completed my student teaching in England with children ages four to six. I previously taught at a lab school and another child care center. I have also taught tap, jazz, and pre-ballet. I choose to work in early childhood education because I have always wanted to be a teacher, even when I was a child! Working with young children is a new, exciting experience everyday and there are not many jobs where you can spend all of lunchtime pretending the table is a boat at sea! Outside of work I enjoy camping, hiking, music and reading.

### ROOM SCHEDULE

7:00 - 8:30am	Good morning/free play
8:30 - 9:00am	Breakfast
9:00 - 9:30am	Diapers and toileting
9:30 - 10:45am	Planned activities (art, sensory table, dramatic play)
10:45 - 11:30am	Outside/muscle room play
11:30 - 12:00pm	Lunch
12:00 - 12:15pm	Group/clean-up
12:15 - 12:30pm	Diapering and toileting
12:30 - 3:30pm	Nap time
3:30 - 4:00pm	Afternoon snack
4:00 - 4:45pm	Diapering and toileting
4:45 - 6:00pm	Free play/outside or muscle room

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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### 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.

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 A8 or email the room directly [a8@hr.osu.edu](mailto:a8@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!