



CLASSROOM PROFILE: B3 INFANTS

STAFF

Teacher: Natasha Hall

I have worked in the education field since 2003 and at The Ohio State University Child Care Program since November 2004. I received my Associate's degree in Early Childhood Development from Columbus State in March 2007 and I am currently attending Otterbein College to get my Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood with a concentration in Sociology and Psychology. I have two beautiful children, Daemeion and Dae'Ja, who love to play with in my free time. I also enjoy reading and family outings. I am happy that you have entrusted me to help your infant discover the world!

Assistant Teacher: Denise Steinwender

I have worked at the Child Care Program since 1988. Over the years I learned about child development not only through experience but at many workshops, conferences, and seminars. I love children and cannot think of anything else I would rather do! In my free time I enjoy spending time with my two sons, Kyle and Trevor, and our special pets Rocky (raccoon), and our two dogs Shilo and Bitsy. When I can, I like to read and watch old (and new) movies.

Assistant Teacher: Angelica Gutierrez

I graduated in 2008 from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. I worked part time at the Child Care Program for two years prior to being hired as an Assistant Teacher. I choose to work in early childhood education because it is so rewarding to know that my work greatly impacts each child's life. I enjoy every moment I get to spend working with children. In my free time I enjoy being with my daughter, Vanessa, my family and my friends.

ROOM SCHEDULE

6:30 - 9:00am	Greet families, self-selected activities, morning snack for older infants on table foods
9:00 - 11:00am	Developmentally appropriate activities which may include interests such as creativity, sensory play, books, music, fingerplays, inside/outside gross motor play. Activities are planned to enhance cognitive, language, sensory, social/emotional, and physical development. Daily routines such as feeding, diapering, and napping are individualized for each child throughout the day.
11:00 - 12:00pm	Lunch for older infants, self-selected activities, routines as needed
12:00 - 3:00pm	Naptime for older infants, quiet play, soft music, routines as needed
3:00 - 4:00pm	Afternoon snack for older infants
4:00 - 6:00pm	Outside/muscle room play, self-selected activities, buggy rides, and routines as needed

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.



CLASSROOM PROFILE: B3 INFANTS

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 B3 or email the room directly b3@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!