



...Itty bitty steps to the next class Ducks & Hippos



What is the difference in the Hippos?

Your child will be taking one nap a day on a mat. Naptime is 11:45-2:00 so please do not drop off during this period of time. Also, the class eats at the same time and generally follows the same schedule. Breakfast is from 7:45-8:15. Lunch is from 11:00-11:35 and snack is 1:30-2:00, when they get up from nap. Sometimes they have a second snack around 5:00.

Major skills your child will be working on:

- Sign Language
- Spanish
- Circle time which includes Language and Literary Development
- Practicing balance and walking
- Napping once a day
- Sitting in a chair at a table
- Eating breakfast, lunch and snacks
- Sleeping on a mat
- Drinking from a sippy cup
- Sensory activities

What you can do to help your child:

Repetition is important for our Hippos, the young 1's. The Hippos thrive on routine and structure. Please continue to work with your child on basic words such as please, thank-you, yes, mommy, daddy, ball, up, etc. Also continue to reinforce good table manners, such as sitting nicely at the table, keeping their feet on the floor, not throwing food or water, and having patience. The Hippo Class works on the transition from bottles to sippy cups along with not using passies.

One year olds have a hard time expressing their needs and wants, so they can become frustrated and resort to hitting, pushing, and biting. We practice using "nice hands" with the children. If your child is showing signs of biting, please begin correcting the behavior at home and inform the teachers so we can assist. We use positive reinforcement and redirection to help your child learn how to play nicely and share with their fellow classmates. Please do not hesitate to share suggestions, concerns, or questions you may have. It is our goal to work with parents as a team to assure your child is getting the love and support they need while learning and growing.

Where is your child's work?

Your Hippo's work will be underneath your child's picture and name hanging on the wall. The children love to show off their work!

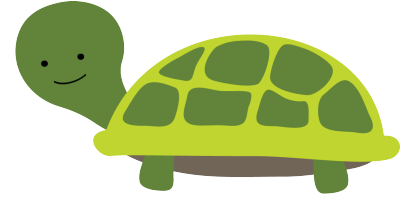
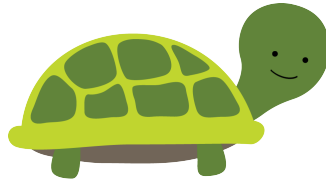
One Last Thing –

Transitioning to a new room - Often transition can cause stress for your child for the first couple of weeks. It is normal. Crying, not wanting to eat, or sleep at naptime are common and should diminish as your child becomes familiar with their routine and teachers. We ask that if this situation occurs with your child, reassuring your child that they will be just fine and a quick drop off in the mornings will help everyone and everything run more smoothly.

We are looking forward to a great school year with your child and hope that this will help answer any questions as well as inform you on some of the things we will be working on. If you have any questions please feel free to talk to us.

Thank You

Hippo Teachers



...Itty bitty steps to the next class
Toddlin' Turtles & Penguins

Major skills your child will be working on:

- The Toddlin' Turtles & Penguins focus on independence. This includes: sitting at the table for up to 20 minutes at a time, circle time, self feeding, and being able to use words to communicate self-expression.
- We encourage the children to express themselves freely; this includes lots of singing with movements.
- The Toddlin' children learn and use sign language daily. Sign language helps children who are not able to verbally express themselves.
- Please let us know if your child shows an interest in potty training.
- We also learn about proper hygiene. This includes frequent hand washing as well as teaching children the techniques of teeth brushing and face cleaning.
- During circle time we work on the alphabet, shapes, colors, and numbers. Books are read to the children daily and we sing songs during circle time, transitions, and learning new concepts.
- Manners are also very important at this stage. Sharing, yes please, and no thank-you are just some that we practice daily.
- Using words to express needs
- Nice hands with friends
- "Walking feet"
- Keeping toys out of our mouths
- Keeping our shoes on

- Washing hands to stay healthy

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS:

- Jumping with 2 feet
- Climbing stairs with minimal help

- Rolling a ball

FINE MOTOR SKILLS:

- Puzzles
- Holding a crayon correctly
- Using tools to manipulate play-doh
- Pipe cleaners into spaghetti strainer
- Q-tips into a spice container

What can your child do at home:

- Dressing self
- Self feeding- use a spoon and open cup practice We help them with holding a cup using 2 hands with minimal spillage.
- Keeping shoes on at home (for some reason they love taking them off here)
- Potty training
- Weaning off passies/stuffed animals/blankets/bottles/sippy cups
- Sharing
- Sign language (Patty Shukla sign on Youtube) We use please, thank you, all done, more, mom, dad, milk, water, etc.
- Common manners

INTRO TO POTTY TRAINING- We are NOT a potty training room but we talk about sitting on the potty, read books, introduce pull-ups if requested by parent.

Flash cards and review:

*Shapes

*Colors

*Letters

*Numbers

Where is your child's work? Please check our work bin located on the table by the coat hooks on Fridays. Children love to show their parents their amazing work!

One Last Thing – Transitioning to a new room - Often transition can cause stress for your child for the first couple of weeks. It is normal. Crying, not wanting to eat, or sleep at naptime are all normal behaviors and should diminish as your child becomes familiar with their routine and teachers. We ask that if this situation occurs with your child, reassuring your child that they will be just fine and a QUICK DROP OFF in the mornings will help everyone and everything run more smoothly.