



How do we stimulate and look after toddlers and pre-schoolers (2 to 5)

You may be thinking about putting your child into childcare. With so many choices how do you know which one will best prepare your child for school?

A good quality childcare centre can support all learning stages for a child. Our qualified teachers know how to support children in developing foundation skills. We have the right puzzles, toys and equipment to stimulate and challenge your child. We have thought out spaces for your child to explore and discover new play areas.

We place a strong emphasis on developing numeracy and literacy skills. Through group play your child will begin to socialise and learn life skills like turn taking and sharing.

Remember by introducing your child to education before school you are helping to make the transition to school easier. New entrant teachers report they can always tell which children have had an early childhood education because they are familiar with routines like mat time and have other important skills, like being able to hold a pencil.

Our partnership with you

There is a lot of research about the benefit of an education before school along with the support and encouragement at home by parents of what children are learning.

One of the most important aspects of teaching a child is the partnership with you. Our teachers develop close relationships with you so that together we can know how to best support your child and share experiences of what is happening in their development.

We develop individual portfolios for your child so that you can share in their day. We encourage parents to celebrate their child's achievements and progress by taking an interest in and writing in these books. The portfolio becomes a wonderful treasure of your child's life before school.

What do we teach?

At Kidicorp we believe in working with children in age groupings. We think this is the most conducive way to encourage learning. Our centres have been teaching the highly researched early childhood curricula, Te Whaariki for many years. It guides best practice for teachers providing early childhood programmes. It

lays the foundations of the core competencies that support life long learning. It sets children up for being ready for school. All our teachers regularly revise their professional development to ensure we offer stimulating programmes for children and keep up to date with current theory and practice.

Each of our centres has a clear set of goals for each age group so that appropriate programmes are planned based on the early childhood curriculum.

Daily Activities

When you watch your child dash off to the dough table, do you wonder what they are learning and whether the sand pit and the dough table are preparing them for school?

The answer is absolutely yes! What looks like child's play is actually the basis for a life-time's learning. If they don't learn these things as pre-schoolers, they are actually already behind their age-group when they start school. The different learnings that the core curricula below encourages are part of building the base of understanding maths, language, writing, exploration, social skills and much more.

We want children to love learning so we create an environment where they can be immersed in and absorb literacy and numeracy as part of what looks like play.

Sand and water play

Starting with sand and water play - this is where the development of maths and science concepts start. Children weigh and measure and begin to understand volume. As children play alongside their peers they develop relationship skills and working with others, as they see something that looks like fun, and want to play with it themselves.

Block building and Puzzles

Block building and puzzles are an important step in cognitive development, meaning that as children experience the world around them, they form pictures in their minds of what they see. Playing with blocks gives them the opportunity to re-create these pictures in concrete form. This is an important step towards abstract thinking. Blocks also teach co-ordination, children have to manipulate, stack, balance, lift and arrange them. It is great for hand and arm muscles and hand and eye co-ordination.

Call 0800 Kidicorp for more information or visit www.kidicorp.co.nz

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