

Dolphin Group (Infant 1) Program Plan

Sandcastle Child Care is licensed to provide care from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday, 12 months per year. The Dolphin classroom is licensed for 8 infants ranging in age from 6 weeks to 9 months of age. The average child/staff ratio is one staff person for every three infants. Sandcastle offers a quality experience to infants through primary care giving and a safe and nurturing environment in which the infants are able to explore and learn at their own pace. Infants will be supervised by a staff member at all times. Parents are provided with a daily sheet which informs them of their child's activities throughout the day. Parents are encouraged to participate in any part of their child's day and activity during the child's stay in the program. A variety of families and cultural backgrounds are represented in the classroom. We welcome parents to participate in the classroom representing their families and cultural backgrounds. The Dolphin room will post weekly lesson plans using the Creative Curriculum approach and one written assessment, using the Focused Portfolio Assessment tool, will be provided to the parents prior to the child moving to Infant 2 (when the child is approximately 6 months old).

Our Goals and Objectives for the Dolphin room are as follows:

Physical Development (Gross and Fine Motor)

Gross Motor

- Infant's primary task is head control
- Beginning to have voluntary control of arms and legs
- Moving from place to place by rolling, creeping, crawling, cruising or walking

Fine Motor

- Is able to grasp objects
- Reaches for objects with both arms
- Holds objects and can manipulate them well
- Grasp with thumb and forefinger
- Changes objects from one hand to the other
- Explores and manipulates with forefinger
- Developing eye-hand coordination

Intellectual Development

- Encourage curiosity by providing a variety of small objects of different textures, shapes, and sizes
- Talk to infant, especially during care giving

- Encourage and provide opportunity for self-help skills such as holding own bottle
- Allow infant to interact with the other children

Social Development

- Mirrors provide opportunity for infant to develop self-image
- Talk to infant, especially during care giving
- Encourage and provide opportunity for self-help skills such as holding own bottle
- Allow infant to interact with other children

Emotional Development

- Provide for attachment needs as an infant needs to develop a primary relationship
- Allow opportunities for uninterrupted concentration

Partial list of activities and equipment/materials include:

- Quiet: Reading books, singing songs or finger plays, stroller rides, quiet background music, soft toy area.
- Active: Large muscle toys, excersaucers, jumpers, sensory experiences, manipulative toys.
- Teacher Directed: Small group or individual experience such as sitting, rolling, tummy time, art
- Child Directed: Playing with soft blocks and toys, manipulating toys, practicing developmental stages such as sitting, rolling, reaching crawling.

Please note that activities and equipment are rotated to provide for a variety of learning experiences. Toys are washed daily and mouthed toys are washed in between use.

Dolphin Group (Infant 1) Daily Schedule:

Each infant is on his/her own schedule, depending on their primary or developmental needs. Infants will be changed, fed and allowed to nap throughout the day according to their individual needs.

Our classroom works on the following each day:

- Tummy Time
- Fine Motor Skills
- Gross Motor Skills
- Art and Sensory
- Movement and Music

This Program Plan will be reviewed once a year by both the teaching staff and the Director.

Teacher: _____ Date: _____

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Director: _____ Date: _____