Creative Beginnings Mission Statement
Our mission is to nurture children and their families by providing a safe, stimulating, and responsive environment.

Our high quality of care enables families to focus on their work with peace of mind.

Kindergarten Key Learning Areas

**Literacy and Language:** Spoken and written language is used to communicate effectively with others. Exposure to a variety of books on many different topics provides a greater appreciation of literature and resources to gain information.

**Reading:** Children apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate text from a variety of genres.

**Writing:** Guidance using phonetic spelling and the high frequency word wall aids the children in developing independent writing skills. The “Kid Writing” program introduces the conventions of writing and spelling which progresses from drawing pictures, writing words, forming sentences, and composing stories during daily journal writing activities.

**Math:** Concrete manipulatives help to solidify understanding of number identification, shapes, counting, patterning, graphing, measuring, and estimation. Concepts of time, money, and basic addition and subtraction are also reinforced with everyday activities in a math-rich classroom environment.

**Technology:** Children are made aware of the impact of technology on their everyday lives. Opportunities are possible for them to navigate a computer by themselves or to collaborate with a classmate. A variety of educational programs offer the opportunity to refine math and language skills through interactive learning. Teachers assist children in researching topics to enhance learning of concepts and themes.

**Science:** Children gather data and make and discoveries using various scientific tools that promote scientific thinking through inquiry, prediction, observation, and experimentation in the physical and natural sciences.

**Social Studies:** The curriculum focuses on the ways people live, human interdependence, citizenship, government, economics, geography, and an awareness of past history. A variety of materials and experiences expose the children to diversity, culture, and ethnicity.

**Creative Expression:** Daily opportunities for personal creative expression in various domains of the arts including dance, dramatics, music, and fine arts are pursued based on curriculum topics and interests of the children.

Top 10 Reasons to Pick Creative Beginnings for Your Child’s Kindergarten Experience

1. High-quality care and comprehensive year-round education with extended hours 6:30 am – 6:00 pm (except the 6 major holidays)
2. Individualized attention and differentiated instruction
3. Daily schedule is developmentally appropriate and responsive to individual needs and interests
4. Parent partnership and collaboration between staff and family
5. Convenient to Fox Chase, Abington, NE Philadelphia, Jenkintown, Huntingdon Valley, and public transportation
6. Diverse environment and multicultural learning experiences
7. Emphasis on hands-on cooperative learning, discovery, and small group instruction
8. NAEYC-accredited and PA Keystone 4-STAR rated since 2002
9. Curriculum aligned with the PA Early Learning Standards
10. Teacher commitment, longevity, and experience

Kindergarten Curriculum

The Creative Beginnings Kindergarten Curriculum is an integrated approach that blends a strong Language Arts component with emergent themes in math, science, geography, and social studies. Hands-on materials provide a way to present new concepts and skills to children either as a whole class or in a small group, or serve as extensions of lessons. The curriculum is supplemented by specialists who offer music, science, literacy, and gymnastics experiences.

**Treasures** is a research-based, comprehensive Reading and Language Arts program featured in the Creative Beginnings Kindergarten program. High-quality literature, explicit instruction, and varied opportunities for practice ensure that children will develop reading and writing skills and lifelong interest. The program is arranged to integrate daily experiences in oral language, phonemic awareness, comprehension, and vocabulary. Program components include Big Books, trade books, oral language cards, retelling cards, decodable readers, leveled readers, workbooks, and a read-aloud anthology. Writing activities correlate to “Kid Writing” journal exercises.

**Handwriting Without Tears** Kindergarten program incorporates hands-on activities with a multi-sensory approach to teach the mechanics of upper and lowercase letter formation. The workbook is used at the conclusion of the lesson to provide additional practice with paper and pencil for letter, word, and sentence skills.

The **PATHS** program is grounded in social and emotional learning which helps children resolve conflicts peacefully, express emotions positively, empathize, and make responsible decisions.

In addition, the **PATHS** program has been proven to help build executive function in children’s developing brains which includes impulse control, problem solving, planning and reasoning skills, and their working memory. These skills are proven predictors of math and reading competence throughout a child’s school career. In fact, research indicates that this component is more important to a child’s school readiness than IQ scores.

Program-Wide Expectations for Positive Behavior

Be Safe ★ Be Responsible ★ Be Respectful ★ Work Together