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.

Toddler-Plus Key Learning Areas

**Creative Thinking and Expression:** Children are given opportunities to develop their imagination and creativity through a variety of media. They will actively and responsive engage with the arts (dance, dramatics, music, and fine arts). As they view other’s work, children begin to appreciate and respect differences in culture and viewpoint.

**Mathematical Thinking:** Children gain knowledge and understanding of mathematics through active manipulation. As teachers facilitate real-life application in a math-rich environment, children develop counting and numeracy skills needed to understand everyday experiences and begin to use number concepts to communicate their own thoughts and ideas.

**Scientific Thinking:** Children use their senses to actively explore the environment and world around them. They investigate by observing, describing, questioning, explaining, and drawing conclusions. These skills support discovery about the natural world and the scientific process, and provide the foundation for inquiry and experimentation.

**Social Studies Thinking:** The curriculum focuses on a child’s understanding of themselves, their community, and the larger world. Children begin to learn about fairness, friendship, responsibility, and cooperation. A variety of classroom materials and experiences represent ethnicity and diversity and culture.

**Health, Wellness and Physical Development:** Children refine gross motor skills as they learn control, balance, and coordination. Fine motor skills are practiced to provide a foundation for artistic expression, printing, and self-care. Children also grow in their ability to manage self-help, personal health, and safety skills.

**Language and Literacy Development:** Children are exposed to a print-rich environment that includes a wide variety of books and language and literacy experiences designed to expand vocabulary, increase enjoyment of literature, and reinforce listening comprehension. Children develop phonemic awareness by listening to rhyming stories and songs and engaging in word play activities.

**Social and Emotional Development:** Teachers support development of self-identity and social competence by modeling respect for the children, using positive behavior support techniques, and by encouraging learning and peer interaction within an accepting, nurturing, and responsive environment.

Program-Wide Expectations for Positive Behavior

Be Safe ★ Be Responsible ★ Be Respectful ★ Work Together

**Big Body Play for Older Toddlers**

When adults model activities, children get more involved in play. Big Body Play is one of the best ways for young children to become aware of their bodies in space and build their skills while exploring their abilities.

Creative Beginnings is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and has earned the highest rating of 4 STARS by the state of Pennsylvania. Our program works collaboratively with families to integrate cultures, promote the optimum growth and development of all children, and provide high quality educational care. To request additional information or to schedule a tour, please contact the director at 215.728.5330 or [Kathleen Roberts@fcce.edu](mailto:Kathleen.Roberts@fcce.edu)

Toddler-Plus Curriculum

The Creative Beginnings Toddler-Plus Curriculum is designed to support the overall development of 24 – 36 month old children through a carefully planned, stimulating learning environment. The daily schedule provides large and small group experiences with flexibility to respond to increasing skill level and growing independence. The environment is designed to be a forerunner to the preschool-level environment. The curriculum is designed to enable more child-initiated choices as children show readiness. The classroom is arranged into areas that promote exploration and learning through play. These areas include dramatic play, blocks, table games, practical life, science, literacy, creative expression, and gross motor. The Toddler-Plus Curriculum is a dynamic approach rooted in emergent themes that are primarily hands-on, concrete, and child-directed. Activities promote social/emotional and intellectual development of children through naturally occurring interactions. The curriculum is supplemented by specialists who offer music and seasonal gymnastics experiences.

HighReach Learning for Twos and Threes is aligned with PA Early Learning Standards and built on three ideas which support our program philosophy: Children learn best with real things and real people, when they are exploring things that interest them, and when their potential for learning is supported by family involvement. The HighReach Learning curriculum is designed to enhance learning opportunities that are rich in language and hands-on discovery for young children.

**Top 10 Reasons to Pick Creative Beginnings for Your Child’s Toddler-Plus 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 learning, discovery, play, and opportunities for child-initiated choice
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