

Kiddie Cats Childcare & Learning Center

Engaging young minds through learning and play is our goal each and every day.

CURRICULUM:

Kiddie Cats implements a curriculum that is consistent with its goals and promotes learning and development in each of the domains: cognitive, emotional, language, physical and social. Children have opportunities to learn through art, music, drama, the social sciences, math and literacy experiences. The Childcare & Learning Center utilizes the programming, materials and resources that specifically align with the expectations for success at our local school district. The Center's curriculum guides the staff in conducting ongoing assessment of children's progress to support individual needs and the development of a daily schedule that is predictable yet flexible and responsive to individual needs.

TO DEVELOP SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Our program focuses on our children learning about themselves and others by developing the skills to regulate their own behaviors as well as managing feelings and responding to others' feelings with growing empathy. The Center utilizes the [Positive Interventions and Supports Framework](#) used by our local schools. We strive to have all children learn the skills to play with other children and be a member of a group, as well as developing their personal care skills. The Kiddie Cats Center promotes positive relationships among all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth and belonging as a part of a community and to foster each child's ability to contribute as a responsible community member.

TO DEVELOP EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

Infants at Kiddie Cats have opportunities to experience songs, routine games and books through individualized play, including rhyming, singing and interactive games. There are daily opportunities for children to hear and respond to various types of books, poems and songs. Toddlers begin to use a sequence of gestures through finger play and opportunities for independent exploration of books and experiences to help them understand that pictures represent real things in their environment. We provide an environment that helps children develop their abilities to convey their ideas, thoughts, and feelings through speaking and writing and their ability to demonstrate early reading skills. Our Center's philosophy aligns with the literacy skills experiences in our local elementary schools as well as the [Iowa Department of Education's expectations for Early Childhood](#).

TO LEARN ABOUT MOVING

Kiddie Cats provides both indoor and outdoor opportunities for our children to develop their basic gross and fine motor skills. The Center gives your child opportunities to build large and small muscle skills, strength, stamina, and knowledge needed to live a healthy lifestyle.

TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD

Our Center provides opportunities for children to sustain attention. We practice understanding how objects can be used and develop an understanding of cause and effect, as well as understanding that things can be grouped. Opportunities for discovery, problem solving and engagement in pretend play are provided. We support the children's mental processes needed to think, make sense of the world, and understand knowledge across different subjects, including the arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

TO LEARN ABOUT COMMUNICATING.

The children at Kiddie Cats Childcare Center are engaged in opportunities to develop both their receptive and expressive language through participation in conversations.

TO LEARN ABOUT LEARNING

Our children have varied opportunities to develop a sense of competence and positive attitudes toward learning, such as persistence, engagement, curiosity and mastery. The Iowa Department of Education's [Iowa Learning Standards](#) provide the Center a guide for the social, emotional and cognitive skill development for all children at Kiddie Cats Childcare and Learning Center.