

Welcome to the Elephant Room!

Fostering self-motivated growth and lifelong learning

Our preschool Montessori-based classrooms welcome children aged 3 to 6 years in mixed-age groups, creating a dynamic and collaborative learning environment.

Our goal is to nurture each child's natural curiosity, love of learning, and respect for themselves and others.

In the Elephant Room, we focus on nurturing:

Kindergarten Readiness

Strengthening early literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, and classroom routines to build a strong foundation for school success.

Advanced Language & Communication

Encouraging rich conversations, storytelling, and vocabulary-building through interactive group time, books, and imaginative play.

Social-Emotional Growth

Fostering empathy, self-regulation, conflict resolution, and positive peer relationships in a supportive environment.

Independence & Responsibility

Empowering children to make choices, care for their environment, and take ownership of their learning and behavior.

Physical Development

Refining fine motor skills for writing and art, and strengthening gross motor coordination through games, movement, and outdoor play.

Creative Thinking & Expression

Nurturing imagination through dramatic play, music, open-ended art, STEM exploration, and inquiry-based projects.

Respect for the Whole Child

Following each child's developmental pace, providing a prepared environment that nurtures autonomy, confidence, and a love of learning.

Morning Activities

Mornings in the Elephant Room are guided by Montessori philosophies, designed to inspire rigorous, self-directed growth across all areas of development.

During this time, children participate in a blend of individual, small group, and whole group activities, using authentic Montessori materials tailored to their unique needs. Each activity is carefully designed to promote not only academic growth but also social, emotional, and physical development. These activities support learning in:

Practical Life Skills

Children learn how to take care of themselves and their surroundings. This includes activities like pouring, buttoning, sweeping, and preparing snacks. These tasks build independence, coordination, and focus.

Sensorial Development

Children explore the world using their senses—touch, sight, sound, taste, and smell. Activities help them sort, compare, and describe what they experience, building a strong foundation for thinking and learning.

Natural Science

Children discover the wonders of nature and the world around them. Through hands-on activities, they learn about plants, animals, seasons, weather, and how things grow and change.

Social Studies

Children learn about people, places, and cultures from around the world. They begin to understand where they live, how people live in other parts of the world, and important traditions and celebrations.

Language and Phonics

Children build a love for language through stories, songs, and conversations. They begin recognizing sounds, letters, and words, which sets the stage for reading and writing.

Math Concepts

Children explore numbers, shapes, patterns, and measurement. Using hands-on materials, they begin to understand math in a concrete and fun way.

Art and music

Children express themselves through drawing, painting, singing, and dancing. These creative experiences support emotional growth, fine motor skills, and appreciation for beauty and rhythm.

Afternoon Activities

In the afternoons, children transition into same-age groups tailored to their developmental stage.

3 to 3½-Year-Olds: Nap Time

Enjoy a restful nap to recharge for the rest of their day.

3½-Year-Olds: Enrichment Class

Participate in our Enrichment program, focusing on early academic skills that support a smooth transition to Pre-K. This includes letter and sound recognition, fine motor development, numbers and counting, and more. Children that turn 4 in October and November start out in the Enrichment Class in September. Children that turn 4 in December, January, February, or March join the Enrichment Class in January.

4-Year-Olds: Pre-K Class

Engage in a comprehensive curriculum emphasizing foundational academic skills such as counting, one-to-one correspondence, number writing to twenty, comparing quantities, addition, sight words, beginning print concepts, letter-sound correspondence, early writing skills, and beyond.

Pre-K students must be 4 years old by September 15th to be in this class.

Kindergarten Program

We offer a Kindergarten program for eligible children, based upon interest each year. Detailed information is provided during our annual re-registration period.

Elephant Room Schedule

7:30-9:30 Drop Off & Free Play (Playroom)

9:30 Bathrooms, Wash Hands & Snack

9:45 Circle Time (Attendance, Calendar & Weather)

9:50 Lesson

Monday: Letters

Tuesday: Colors/Shapes

Wednesday: Numbers

Thursday: Geography

Friday: Show and Tell

10:00 Work Time (Worksheets, Projects, Materials)

10:30 Montessori Lesson

Monday: Language

Tuesday: Math

Wednesday: Spatial Reasoning

Thursday: Geography

Friday: Science

10:45 Bathrooms & Wash Hands

11:00 Play Time (Playroom/Outside)

11:30 Clean Up & Story

11:45: Bathrooms & Wash Hands

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Clean Up & Bathrooms

1:00 Afternoon Classes (Nap, Enrichment, Pre-K & Kindergarten)

3:00 Bathrooms, Wash Hands & Snack

3:15-6:00 Play Time & Pick Up (Playroom/Outside)

Elephant Room Supply List

What to Bring for Your Child

Daily Essentials:

Pull Ups and Wipes (if applicable)

We recommend sending a sleeve of pull-ups (*not easy-ups; must have the velcro sides*) along with a pack of wipes to keep in your child's supply bins at school. Your child's teachers will send home notes when they begin to run low, so there is ample time to bring more in before they run out.

Seasonally Appropriate Extra Clothes:

Include 2-3 full changes of clothing to keep in your child's cubby, *including socks and shoes*. Be sure to check them often as the seasons change or your child grows. When potty training, make sure to send plenty of extra changes of clothes!

Sunscreen:

Must be pump or stick only - no aerosol or continuous spray is allowed.

Hat/Mittens:

Hats and mittens are welcome. You may send them in to keep them in your child's cubby for outside time, if desired. We ask that you do not send gloves unless your child can put them on by themselves.

Nap Time (if applicable):

Crib-Sized Fitted Sheet and a Blanket

Sheets and blankets should be brought in on Mondays and will be sent home on Fridays for laundering. You may send a special lovey or stuffed animal in for nap time as a comfort item for your child to sleep with, if desired.

Lunch & Snack Times:

Lunch (packed inside a lunchbox), Utensils, and Cups

All food should be sent in labeled containers for lunch. Please do not send glass containers, as they are breakable. Please send any necessary utensils with your child each day with their lunch and two napkins, packed inside a lunchbox. There is not a microwave in this classroom. If you would like to send warm food for lunch, you may do so in a thermos container.

Please send leak-proof sippy cups for water and/or milk. Water can be refilled throughout the day as needed.

BCH does provide morning and afternoon snack. If you do not wish for your child to have school snack, you may send snack from home. If you decide to send snack from home, please make sure it is labeled with your child's name and the snack time you would like your child to eat it (either AM or PM).

Backpack:

Please send a backpack large enough to neatly fit your child's lunchbox, papers, art projects, and all daily belongings.

Important Reminder

Label every item (including clothing, cups, food containers, utensils, lunchboxes, backpacks, etc.) with your child's full name to help us avoid any mix-ups. Many children have the same or similar items!

Elephant Room QR Code for Google Photos

Photos of the children and classroom activities are posted weekly for those that choose to allow photo permission in your child's enrollment paperwork. The photos are uploaded to a private Google Photos album for each classroom.

Scan the QR code below to access and join the Google Photos album for the Elephant Room.

