

## *About Us*

It is our philosophy to be age-appropriate, individually appropriate, and developmentally appropriate for each child in our center. We believe that the best way for children to learn is by touching seeing, tasting and exploring. By providing a structured/play classroom, children are able to explore and learn at their own interest level and pace. We also believe that the children should be exposed to a structured preschool setting and we are committed to providing a high quality Early Childhood Education program.

Curriculum will be planned in compliance with “Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children From Birth Through Age 8”. Our program provides a wide variety of experiences designed especially for young children where they can learn at their own level of interest. We offer a combination of child-initiated and teacher-student directed activities. Socialization is a major component of our program. Teachers and students help the children learn communication skills, self-help skills, cooperation, problem solving, and respect for peers, teachers and parents. The high school students are trained to interact and play with the children in such a way that they are continually being taught concepts such as colors, shapes, patterns, sorting, counting, many pre-math and pre-reading skills and small/large motor skills. This is a part of the many activities the children do each day. It may seem as though the children play for most of the day. This is correct in the sense that children’s work is play and very important in their development.

Activities and learning centers are designed to promote children’s development in each of the major developmental areas:

- Creative Art & Music
- Science & Discovery
- Mathematics
- Language
- Dramatic Play
- Fine and Gross Motor Development
- Social - Emotional

The environment in our classrooms conveys a safe, comfortable place where the children feel loved and secure. They have many opportunities to interact with children of their own age and the other children of various ages. We believe this is important to their having a well rounded social experience rather than being exposed to only children of their own age.

The Spartan Station is also committed to providing a high quality laboratory setting for the Child Development and Child Care students. We believe there is a critical need to prepare high school students with adequate knowledge and skills regarding appropriate child care realizations and techniques for the home and workplace.

Our facility has the capacity for 35 children categorized in compliance with Utah State Child Care Licensing guidelines as follows: three infants ages 6 weeks to 12 months, five infants ages 12 to 24 months, seven toddlers ages 2 years old to younger 3s, and 20 preschoolers consisting of older 3s, 4, and 5 year olds.

Children will be accepted into the program in the following order:

1. Children of families who are currently enrolled in the program.
2. Children of the faculty and staff of Murray High School.
3. Children of Murray School District Employees.
4. Children of Murray City residents.

All parents must have read, understand, and agree to comply with the policies and procedures outlined by the Station Contract Agreement and the Spartan Station Parent Handbook.

Parents are welcome to visit anytime they wish. We are always open for suggestions and discussions of the program. Parents and/or grandparents are welcome to accompany us on fieldtrips or other activities we may be involved in. Before giving items to charity please consider donating to the preschool. We could use 'dress up' clothes, hats, scarves, purses, toys, scrap paper or anything you think would be interesting for the children's activities or learning centers. Parents, please feel free to share experiences, cultures, talents, jobs, or any other resources to which you may have access.