

Welcome to Discovery Kids/Summit Academy Open House

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Tuesday, September 28, 2021





Agenda



Introduction to Staff Academy Leadership Team

Principal

Mary Bennett

Director of Discovery Kids

Yulanda McVay

Unit Director of Early Childhood Programs

Mary Belile

Education Coordinator Preschool

Chrissy Ray

Introduction to Staff – Academy Leadership Team

Coordinator of Speech & Language–

Ms. Rachel Epstein, M.S.Ed/CCC-SLP

Coordinators of Speech & Language

Ms. Kelly Siminski, MA CCC-SLP

Clinical Coordinator – OT/PT

Ms. Suzanne Tuburdyke, OTR/L

Clinical Coordinator - OT/PT

Dr. Jill Beang, PT, DPT

Supervising Clinicians

Audrey Howard

Discovery Kids/Summit Integrated Program

○ What is integration?

Integrated programs seek to provide a safe and nurturing learning experience in which children can play and learn. Special needs and typically developing children are placed together in an integrated learning environment that utilizes a developmental approach. Children are immersed in a variety of planned activities that promote readiness skills, language and social/emotional growth. Research has shown that all students benefit from being in this type of program.

Class Ratio

- Staffing
- 1 General Education Teacher, 1 Special Education Teacher
- 3 Teacher Assistants
- Related Service Providers (Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy)
- 16 Students

Creative Curriculum

- Curriculum use for 3-4 year old children
- The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical-thinking skills.
- The daily schedule includes small and large group activities, centers, snack, story time and teacher facilitated play time. The class participates in specials that include gross motor, gym time, music and art, as well as play outdoors when weather permits.

Creative Curriculum

- The Creative Curriculum Overview The philosophy of The Creative Curriculum® is that young children learn best by doing. The Creative Curriculum® is built on theories of development in young children, that all children learn through active exploration of their environment and therefore the environment plays a critical role in learning. The goal of the Creative Curriculum is to help children become independent, self-confident, inquisitive and enthusiastic learners by actively exploring their environment. The curriculum identifies goals in all areas of development: Social/Emotional, Cognitive, Physical and Language. The planned activities for the children, the organization of the environment, the selection of toys and materials, planning the daily schedule and interacting with the children, are all designed to accomplish the goals and objectives of the curriculum and give your child a successful year in school. The richer the environments, the more concrete opportunities there are for children to learn by interacting with materials and people. The teacher's role is to create an environment that invites children to observe, to be active, to make choices, and to experiment.

Centers

- • Dramatic Play (Housekeeping)
- • Blocks
- • Manipulative/Table Toys
- • Art
- • Sand, Water & Rice
- • Library
- • Music
- • Writing Center
- • Computers
- • Outdoors
- • Science Discovery
- • Listening Center
- • Large Motor Area
- • Trains/Doll House

The Core Knowledge Curriculum

- 4-5 year old classroom curriculum
- Core Knowledge is a research-based, teacher-tested curriculum that engages students in diverse historical, scientific, and cultural content. The idea behind Core Knowledge is simple: knowledge builds on knowledge. The more you know, the more you are able to learn.

What is the Core Knowledge program?

- Core Knowledge Language Arts® (CKLA) is a comprehensive program (Preschool–Grade 5) for teaching reading, writing, listening, and speaking while also building students' vocabulary and knowledge across essential domains in literature, world and American history, and the sciences.

What are the four areas of core knowledge?

- The Preschool Sequence addresses physical, social, linguistic, and cognitive aspects of development. You can download an overview of major areas of skills and knowledge addressed in the Core Knowledge Preschool Sequence.

Summitup

- Evidence-based curriculum addressing all domains needed for increased independence
- Developed by a Summit team, with changes and improvements made continually
- Curriculum-referenced assessment conducted for all new students
- Electronic record tracking progress across all years a student is at Summit
- Allows for consistency and continuity across years
- Early curriculum focuses on learning to learn skills, the development of communication skills and adaptive skills
- Secondary curriculum prepare students for the transition to adulthood

Carrying Over to Home

- **Let's keep learning and communication going!**
- Get involved
 - Ask your child's teacher/therapist for progress updates
 - Talk about what you can do to work on skills to home
 - Ask for list of curriculum objectives
 - Tell teacher/therapist what skills can be addressed at school to increase independence/involvement at home, be part of the decision to prioritize working on specific skills

Pyramid Model

Social-Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (SEFEL) Pyramid Model



What Is the Pyramid Model?

- The Pyramid Model is a social and emotional learning framework that-- when implemented with fidelity-- promotes young children's healthy development, and prevents challenging behaviors. The core work in the Model focuses on building adults' skills so that they can support children's social and emotional health. This is done through strengthening relationships and directly teaching emotional literacy, self-regulation, listening, friendship skills, and basic problem solving. The Model addresses how and when to identify and provide for children who may need individualized supports.

Tadpoles

- Discovery Kids Learning uses the Tadpoles app to help keep parents and teachers stay connected. Parents can receive daily reports, photos, and special notes from their child's teacher. Parents may also leave daily notes for the teacher. This app is a wonderful way to keep communication open between school and home.

Class Dojo



ClassDojo

- Class Dojo is an EXCELLENT way to stay connected with your child's school program; it is quick and easy!
- Reminder that teachers cannot share photos or videos of daily/ weekly student activities if their child does not have photo or video clearance.
- Teachers might not answer messages during teaching hours 9 to 230. If there is important information that the team needs to know call reception to leave a message for the team.

Home/School Communication

We encourage and welcome communication from all of you. Emails are a great way to get in touch!

If you are calling the classroom, during the day, your call will be forwarded into the classroom's voice mail. Teachers and/or other staff members will contact you before or after school.

In the event of an emergency, please ensure that we have **working** emergency phone numbers on file.

Discovery Kids uses Tadpoles to Communicate with families.

Summit uses ClassDojo to communicate with families.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Discovery Kids and Summit will offer conferences/ informal meetings to discuss progress within the classroom and to share information from a home/school perspective.

COVID Updates

- You will continue to receive updates in the form of a letter sent electronically and/or hard copies in backpacks
- The most recent letter will be provided at Open House
- Please ensure you are familiar with this information
- We are doing EVERYTHING we can to keep your children safe and protected at school

COVID Updates

When to keep your child home:

If your child is experiencing **ANY** of these symptoms not related to a pre-existing medical condition (as documented, in writing, by a doctor), they will not be able to come to school.

- Temperature of 100 or above
- Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Unusual fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

Allergies

**ALLERGY
ALERT**

Summit is an 'Allergy Sensitive' School

What does this mean?

- 'Allergy Sensitive' signs throughout the school
- Training for ALL staff on allergy safety and Epi-pen administration
- Individual signs both inside and outside the classrooms for students with life-threatening allergies
- Allergy Alert Labels on case books and lockers
- Peanut Butter Replacement (Sun Butter)
- Lesson plans for student to be advocates for their own allergies
- Allergy Alerts on our central attendance system, per individual student
- Emergency 'Blue' Cards (with a RED card for student with known life- threatening allergies)

Safety in the Parking Lot

- Our speed limit is 10 mph
- Please allow your child to unload on the side closest to the building
- Please do not pass cars or busses unloading children
- Please shut your car off while unloading and loading
- THANK YOU for helping keep all students and staff members safe!





Thank you!

We appreciate all you
do!

Together, we make the
difference!

THANK YOU



THANK YOU

