

## Early Childhood 4

Early Childhood 4 (EC4) in the traditional classroom utilizes the Frog Street curriculum. Frog Street is a comprehensive, research-based program that integrates instruction across developmental domains and early learning disciplines. The cornerstones of the program are an extensive integration of themes, disciplines and domains, special attention to social-emotional development, many levels and support of differentiated instruction, and a joyful approach to learning.

With the availability of iPads to all our Early Childhood students, they are now able to use Lexia. Lexia Reading helps provide explicit, systematic, and personalized learning.

Being a Great Expectations Model School, we incorporate the Magic Triad in each day of learning. We set high expectations for all, show respect for one another, care for one another, and help each other succeed. We work together developing a win/win attitude, establishing a climate of mutual respect, building self-esteem and valuing and celebrating the successes of self and others.

The primary goal of the Montessori program is to help each child reach full potential in all areas of life. Activities promote the development of social skills, emotional growth, and physical coordination as well as cognitive preparation. The holistic curriculum, under the direction of a specially prepared teacher allows the child to experience the joy of learning, time to enjoy the process and ensure the development of self-esteem. It provides the experiences from which children create their knowledge. Montessori's dynamic theories included such innovative premises as:

1. Children are to be respected as different from adults and as individuals who are different from one and another.
2. Children create themselves through purposeful activity.
3. The most important years for learning are from birth to age six.
4. Children possess unusual sensitivity and mental powers for absorbing and learning from their environment, which includes people as well as materials.

The students attend Music and Motor Development two times weekly. They also go to the Library once a week to check out age appropriate books. We have a Music program during the month of December and at the end of the year. We have parties to celebrate the holidays. And instructors incorporate other celebrations into the themes they teach.