



# Early Learning Center

## Toddler, Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten

Welcome to  
our classroom.

### Academic Rigor

AGES 2 TO 4

In Giffthill School's Early Learning programs, academic rigor means focusing on personal discovery and fostering a deep and enduring sense of curiosity and wonder about the world around us. Purposeful play builds the essential foundation for literacy and numeracy, and for becoming a respectful and responsible member of a community of learners. The Spanish Immersion program honors our commitment to celebrating a multicultural community while also enriching students' language development.



### IN TODDLER, PRESCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS

Academic rigor looks a lot like play! Students build a foundation for math, science, and engineering by working with patterns, building structures with blocks, using calendar math, and by planting their own gardens in our signature EARTH program classes. Young students explore the world around them through nature walks and weather talks.

An enduring love of language and literature is fostered through daily read-alouds, and activities like puppet shows and reader's theater. Students begin learning to shape letters by working with "Mat Man" manipulatives. Exposure to a bilingual (English-Spanish) environment occurs daily through art, song, and imaginative play; while motor skills, balance, and coordination are nurtured during daily playground time and twice weekly movement classes.

Students learn how to make positive contributions to our community, and build responsibility and independence, through class jobs and daily circle time. They put these skills to use during regular field trips, book-buddies, and classroom visits by community members.