

Little VICTORIES

FLEXIBLE CHILD CENTER
& PRESCHOOL

Welcome to the Caterpillar Room





Dear Families,

Welcome to the Curious Caterpillar Room! We have put this packet of information together for you to tell you a little about our classroom expectations and curriculum. Our toddler classroom consists of children ages 16 – 25 months. Our classroom is set up in learning centers. These centers are designed for your toddler to have the opportunity to have hands-on learning at their own rate and interest. We have found that a toddler's best learning motivation is their own exploration. We use thematic units to interconnect the learning that is done in the classroom centers to the learning that takes place through organized activities. Our goal in this room is to also start encouraging self-help skills, develop better communication skills, improve motor development, and to build on their cognitive development.

We feel honored and excited to be working with your child and are excited of the opportunity to discover your child's unique personality, strengths and their challenges. If you ever, for any reason, have a question or concern regarding your child, please do not hesitate to talk to us. We also look forward to getting to know your entire family as we partner with you in the process of nurturing your child's growth and development.

Sincerely,

Anjanet and Brittany

General Little Victories Information

- 1. Extra Clothes:** Kids are kids and the best way to be a kid is to just get in there and explore things! Please dress you child in clothes that are meant to get dirty. We will *never* exclude a child from an activity because they may get dirty and you can expect to see some really good stains coming home! We like to do messy, wet, and creative activities during art, science and outdoor play and ask that you ***have at least one complete set of clothes at school*** to change into in case we get a little too messy, wet or creative. This consists of underwear, socks, pants/shorts and a shirt.
- 2. Summertime Reminders:** Due to state licensing guidelines, we are only allowed to apply sun block to children who have provided their own from home. Please bring a bottle of *sun block* to keep at school. We also would like to have children wear *sturdy shoes* that allows for safe running, climbing and riding. Flip-flops do not provide adequate support for young feet and make it extremely difficult to run and climb. Sandals that buckle and tennis shoes are much better for young children and as an added bonus, will keep those feet much more clean!!

- 3. Wintertime Reminders:** During the colder months, we enjoy exploring outside and enjoying all that the snow has to offer! If the temperature is above 20° with wind chill, we will adhere to our outside schedule times. Please make sure to bring boots, snow pants, mittens (not knit as they get wet) and hats. Because many children have similar clothing, we ask that you **PLEASE LABEL ALL OUTDOOR CLOTHING.**

Curious Caterpillar Information

- 1. Naptime Blanket:** Having a blanket, snuggle or nuk at nap times makes children feel more relaxed and calm, which means that they can fall asleep more easily. Also, our room heats up when we are all moving and playing but our room cools down when all those little bodies are sleeping. A blanket keeps the chills away. We also ask that blankets be taken home on your last day of the week for washing and returned to school when your child next attends. This helps us all stay healthy!
- 2. Sippy Cups:** Your child may be at an age where children are learning to drink from a cup. If your child is under the age of two, please bring a sippy cup labeled with your child's name for him or her to use throughout the day. We will send the sippy cup home with you at the end of each day for washing. If your child is over the age of two, we will provide Dixie cups for him or her to use.
- 3. Art File:** We have art everyday in our classroom. Children's art work may be displayed in the classroom or hallway initially then when it is taken down, we will place it in your child's cubby or pouch on the door. Please check for artwork daily!
- 4. Curriculum and How Children Learn:** As is stated in Little Victories curriculum overview statement: *Little Victories uses Developmentally Appropriate Practices set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in developing their theme based curriculum. Our staff ensure that your child will be given the opportunity to learn and grow using all of their five developmental areas: Physical, Emotional, Cognitive, Social and Creative. We develop our thematic curriculum based on seasonal themes and the interests of the children.*
- 5. Daily Communication:** We believe that frequent communication with families is essential to the success of a child's educational experience. Children that are in attendance over 3 hours per day will receive a daily communication sheet that will give you all sorts of information on their day. We have a copy attached in this handbook for your review. Families that attend less than 3 hours per day may also receive a communication sheet upon request.

Theme of the Week: **Winter**
Colors of the Month: **White**
Sign Language: **All Done**

Language Arts: *The Snowy Day, Baby Donald Makes A Snow Friend and Winter.*

Science/Math: *Circles, Foam paint, How many circles in our snowpeople? Bubbles.*

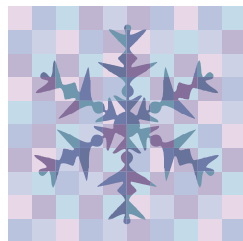
Gross and Fine Motor: *Gluing snowpeople.*

Art: *Glue snowpeople, Glitter snowflakes, Mittens.*

Dramatic Play: *Crawl through kitchen*

Sensory: *Rice and Cars*

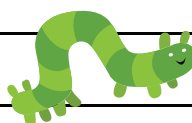
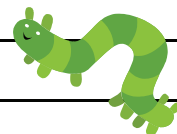
Large Motor: *Rocking horse, Tunnel, exercise balls, Playground, Ride on toys.*





Caterpillars Daily Schedule

6:30am	8:00am	Welcome/Discovery Centers
8:00am	8:30am	Breakfast
8:30am	9:00am	Diapers/Bathroom Break*
9:00am	10:00am	Outside
10:00am	10:30 am	Snack
10:30am	11:00am	Learning Centers
11:00am	11:45am	Art and Sensory Table Activities & Diapers
11:20	11:45am	Group Time Stories, songs, finger plays, dancing, and group activities
11:45am	12:15pm	Lunch
12:15pm	12:30pm	Stories/Quiet Time
12:30pm	2:30pm	Nap/Rest Time
2:30 pm	3:00pm	Diapers/Books
3:00pm	3:30pm	Snack
3:45pm	4:45pm	Outside/gym
4:45pm	5:00pm	Diapers
5:00pm	5:30pm	Snack/Free Choice
5:30pm	6:30pm	Combined Toddler Classrooms





Curious Caterpillar's Column

December 2011



December Highlights:

- Themes: Winter and Christmas
- Color of the Month: White
- Sign of the Month: "More"



What have we been working on?:

- Animal sounds
- Color recognition-both verbally and visual identification
- Practicing taking off and putting on our shoes
- Identifying friends in room by names

Transitions: Steven and Kit moved to the Busy Bees room, we'll miss you! Welcome Olivia from the infant room! 😊

Winter Gear:



We will be going outside to play as long as the temperature and wind chill combined is 20 degrees or higher. Please label all your child's clothing.

Children should have the following daily: Hats, Waterproof mittens, snow pants and boots. Please feel free to leave snow pants and boots at LV during the week and then take home on Fridays.

Fun activity to try at home!

SNOW PAINTING - Fill spray bottles with cold water-hot or warm water could melt snow. Add a few drops of food coloring to the bottles. (Be sure that the bottles have enough coloring in them to make the colors visible once they are sprayed on the snow) Allow children to spray the snow to make beautiful pictures. Can use small bowls and paintbrushes for those children who's fingers are strong enough for spray bottles. Enjoy!

Dates to Know:

Santa's visit—Monday December 5th from 5:00-6:30pm



Story time—Wednesday December 15th—Librarian from Stillwater Library

Holiday Party—Friday December 23rd (more information to come)

Curious Caterpillars Classroom List

*Please be sure to label all items

Please look over this list seasonally to make sure your child has everything he/she needs throughout the day. If you prefer, you may leave these items at school.

SPRING

- Full extra change of clothing
- Diapers, wipes & ointments
- Small blanket for rest time
- Nuk (if used)
- Sunscreen
- Rain coat on rainy days



SUMMER



- Full extra change of clothing
- Diapers, wipes & ointments
- Small blanket for rest time
- Nuk (if used)
- Sunscreen
- Swim diapers for sprinkler play
- Raincoat on rainy days
- Sturdy Shoes (no flip flops please)

FALL

- Full extra change of clothing
- Diapers, wipes & ointments
- Small blanket for rest time
- Nuk (if used)
- Dress your child in layers for cool mornings and warm afternoons.



WINTER

- Full extra change of clothing
- Diapers, wipes & ointments
- Small blanket for rest time
- Nuk (if used)
- Winter coat
- Warm padded mittens
- Hat
- Snow pants
- Boots





Curious Caterpillars

Name: _____ Date _____

Today I was: Happy Silly Tired Sad

Today I Ate:

Time	Amount		
8:00	Some	Most	All
10:00	Some	Most	All
12:00	Some	Most	All
3:00	Some	Most	All
5:00	Some	Most	All

I NEED....

DIAPERS WIPES OINTMENT OTHER

Today I Slept from: _____ til _____

Comments:

Diapers

_____	W	BM	DRY
_____	W	BM	DRY
_____	W	BM	DRY
_____	W	BM	DRY
_____	W	BM	DRY
