



The Magnificance of Multi-Age

The benefits of multi-age classrooms are multifaceted. While many are social in nature, there are also intellectual and emotional advantages to this educational style. A particularly enlightening consideration is the more natural reality of being part of an age diverse group, as childhood is the only time humans are ever divided into arbitrary one year age groups.

Some of the more obvious benefits of multi-age classes include the leadership opportunities for the older children and the exposure of the younger students to the skills of their older classmates. The joy that both groups exhibit when learning and teaching together is evidence of a different type of learning taking place than that between adults and children.

A spirit of cooperation organically evolves amongst the varied ages and skills. The pleasure of this cooperation is a key component of empathy development. Research is increasingly conclusive that our ability to differentiate our own emotions from that of others is far from a given and must be intention-

ally cultivated through experience. Our older students are still very young! Their capacity to notice and appreciate the importance of helping and making allowances for their younger classmates is one of the most important lessons that we offer. We are impressed everyday by our students spontaneous, empathetic demonstrations.

A key advantage to multi-age is that the lengthened time spent with the same teachers and peers increases students' comfort in their environment and simply wastes less time than adjusting to a new group and routine after just gaining confidence after a single school year. This extended time in an established community also lends itself to a more individualized educational approach, especially in the case of early childhood, when every kind of skill can be expected to develop at different times for different individuals.

Having a minimum of 3 years in the same class allows our students plenty of time to adjust, observe, gain skills, practice those skills, then master those skills as a leader and teacher of their younger peers. The independence and competence that this provides our students is significantly stronger thanks to the diversity of ages and length of time for which our multi-age setting allows.



SEASONAL SHIFT

We are moving into a seasonal transition and as an outdoor program, it is imperative that we all work together to guarantee your childrens' success and comfort. As the mornings begin to cool off, it is important that your child come dressed in layers (longer sleeves on top of shorter sleeves for more independent removal) as well as have appropriate shoes and jackets. Boots are ideal in the rainy, colder months. We ask that your child has a rain jacket every day because we do not always know when a storm may pass through. If you would prefer to leave a rain layer at school that is fine.

DAILY NEEDS FOR YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS:

- *Rain gear, EVERY DAY
- *Come dressed in layers
- *Extra layers
- *Extra pair of shoes (can stay at the barn if easier than bringing back and forth)

* DAILY REMINDERS *

Please ensure you remember these things to help our program run smoothly and to set your child up for success each day:

- *Water bottle (*FULL & labeled, remove from backpack in cubbie*)
- *Rain jacket
- *Nut-free snacks
- *Label EVERYTHING! (*Jackets, extra clothes, snack containers, etc.*)



REGISTER FOR FREE

FAMILY
TOOL KITS

For families with children ages 0-5

Scan the code or visit the web address below.

getset-tc.org

Kits include activities, resources
and family fun!



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Important Dates

- FALL FESTIVAL**
Saturday, October 19
12 - 4 p.m.

Join us at our original location at Rooster Head Plantation's farm (1200 Old Hendersonville Hwy) for a family friendly fall festival. We will be operating the kids area.

- Family Hike & Picnic**
Sunday, October 20
10 - 12 p.m.

Join us at the Pisgah Forest Ranger Station for a hike on the exercise trail and then for a casual picnic after. Pack a picnic for you and your family and let's enjoy Fall together! Email to follow with additional info.

- Fall Photo Week**
November 6 - 8

Kaelee Denise will come to school during these mornings to snap candid photos as well as individual school photos. More info will be provided closer to these dates.

- STONE SOUP CELEBRATION**
Wednesday, November 20
4:30 - 7 p.m.

Mark your calendar for our third annual Stone Soup event where our community comes together to cook and eat a meal together. More details to follow.

- CLOSED**
Thanksgiving Break
November 25 -29

- Last Day of Fall Semester**
December 20

- First Day of Spring Semester**
January 6

Fall Payment #3 Due:

Friday, October 18

Fall Payment #4 Due:

Friday, November 15

Final Fall Payment #5 Due:

Friday, December 20