

Auntie's Infant Care

Care Program

About our Facility

Tucked in along a quiet dead end street sits our humble in home family daycare center. Primarily we care for children ages 12-30 months with some exceptions made for siblings of school age where needed.

Mission Statement

Our vision is to nurture your child's curiosity and love of nature in an academic rich environment. Our program will promote and maintain a safe space for your little one to grow physically, socially and morally into the unique individual they were meant to be.

Description of Care Program

Along with everything you'd expect from a daycare program Auntie's aims to bring you a little something different. Your child can expect the excitement and pride that comes along with gathering eggs from our chickens. They will learn to grow and nurture a garden of their very own as well as gain knowledge of forest life on our many walks and hikes.

We have outfitted our facility with hands on toys, and projects which promote motor and sensory development such as sensory tables, activity walls and more.

Description of nap time

Nap times will be at a set time each day as per our schedule and will be in assigned rooms based on each child's individual needs. Children will be provided with a nap cot/crib, and comfort items of their choice. Blankets and pillows are also made available. Supervision is in place at all times.

Facility Information

Care Program: Licensed In Home Family Daycare for ages 12 months – 2 years, Full and Part time

Location: 642 Thorneloe Rd. Kelowna, BC. **Contact:** Aleisha Desrosiers 250.864.2304

Hours of operation: Year round. Mon- Fri, 8:30am – 5:30pm. & Sat, 5:00pm – 8:30pm. CLOSED on Statutory holidays unless otherwise specified.

Capacity: 7

In Depth Description of Care Program

Indoor Activities promoting large and small muscle skills and development;

- 1) Zumba: Our days start with Zumba, Zumbini and/or Yoga to bring an exciting start to the day and excise large muscle groups
- 2) Circle Activities: Fun standing circle activities and songs will be used on rainy days such as silly dancing, hokey pokey, limbo and more.
- 3) Sensory Tables: We have several interchanging sensory tables which promote the use of small muscle and fine motors kills
- 4) Building Blocks: Several types of wooden and interlocking blocks are accessible to children during free play times.
- 5) Free play Toys: In addition to building blocks, figurines, play food, puzzles and more are also available for children to practice fine motor skills during free play.
- 6) Core curriculum activities: Our core curriculum activities include activities such as; painting, science experiments and other hand on learning promoting use of large and small muscle groups.

Outdoor Activities promoting large and small muscle skills and development

- 1) Nature walks: We are fortunate enough to have calm streets and forests to explore! Running, jumping and climbing are encouraged to get those large muscle groups moving!
- 2) Outdoor free play: Age appropriate climbing structures, activities tables, swings, slides and balls are all provided to work all muscle groups, promote hand eye co-ordination and fun!

Activities that promote the development of self help skills

- 1) Independent dressing & Grooming: Children will be taught and expected to take responsibility for taking shoes on/off as well as coats and backpacks to be placed in the cubby area. Other hygiene tasks such as bathroom breaks and hand washing will be left up to children as well with adequate supervision to ensure safety and effectiveness.
- 2) Chores: Children will be taught to take responsibility for cleaning up toys and activities they have pulled out. As well small chores such as washing their cup and dishes, watering plants and feeding class pets will be exposed to the child.
- 3) Self feeding: Part of our program is educating children on food and nutrition and having them take part in preparing their own snacks as well as filling their own plate, pouring their own drinks, consuming foods and clearing dishes as independently as their age permits.

Activities that promote good health and safety

- 1) Food education: As mentioned we put a special emphasis on what children in our program consume and aim to make this a fun and education experience by letting children grow, pick, prep and consume their own fruits and vegetables!

- 2) Personal Hygiene; Promoting independence and pride in ones self, children are educated on the proper ways to clean hands, brush teeth and comb hair.
- 3) Fire and Emergency Drills: Monthly drills outlining what to do in an emergency, how to call for help, what to do if a parent/care provider is unresponsive and more are taught to children to keep them as safe as possible in a crisis.
- 4) Daily Safety: Examples of daily safety practices taught; What to do if you are lost, who is safe to speak to, respecting roads and parking areas, animals safety, and more

Activities that encourage development of concept-building skills

- 1) Circle Time: Our circle time includes discussion and activities related to time, dates, weather and planning. We use our schedule calendar and clock to encourage smooth transitions between tasks and give children a way to anticipate and understand 'what's next'!
- 2) Free play toys: Blocks, sensory tables, puzzles and tubes give children the opportunity to explore creating their own structures as well as learn how different combinations of pieces and heights, depth and lengths will produce different results.

Activities and materials that encourage creative endeavours

- 1) Science Experiments: We will explore science by getting messy in the kitchen with slime, playdough, and tasty baking!
- 2) Arts & Crafts: Our painting areas are available for children to create whatever springs to mind! Seasonal crafts, daily free form art and sandcastles are also on the agenda!
- 3) Music: Dancing, singing and creating our own music is part of our ore curriculum and gives each child an opportunity to be creative and express themselves.
- 4) Pretend play: We have a dress up station available during free play time as well as play **kitchens.**

Activities and materials that foster a greater understanding of the environment.

- 1) Garden Plots: Our garden plots provide a rich space to learn more about our environment and how everyone and thing has a special meaningful place in this world! We will grow fruits and Vegetables as well as flowers which naturally help ward off pests and encourage pollinating insects.
- 2) Wild & Farm life: Our outdoor explorations will lead us through the natural habitats of wildlife and we will discuss the differences between wild, farm and pet animals. Where they live, what they eat and how they contribute to or disrupt the environment around us.
- 3) Reduce, Reuse and Recycle: We put in to practicing reusing otherwise discarded items for crafts and useful items for our garden and local wildlife. Children are encouraged to help sort our recyclables for pick-up day.

Activities that encourages the language development, communication and social development of children;

- 1) Circle Time: During our circle time we all take turns ask each individual child how they are today and give them a chance to tell a brief story and be chatty. This teaches the children listening skills as well as aids in language development. As well it gives all the children an opportunity to be the focal point of the group and enjoy that sense of importance.
- 2) One on One Time: At the end of each day children will be brought aside from the group to have a one on one conversation. This few minutes of genuine and semi private interaction can give us a lot of information on how the child is feeling and gives a lot of insight into their actions either from that day or ongoing. It also teaches the child a basic understanding of an appropriate conversation where each person has their feeling heard. This aids the child not only in language development but social interactions.
- 3) Group Projects: Having all children work on group art activities, gardening projects or science experiment gives a great opportunity for children to use their language skills. They will be encouraged to use the proper methods of verbal mannerisms to ask for their turn, a certain item, voice a discovery or suggest something for the project.
- 4) Journal Time: Each child had their own journal of blank pages which they are encourages to draw a story or experience in each day. Once complete they will be asked to tell their story and a summary will be written in for them to show and discuss with their parents.

Activities that encourage social and emotional development in children;

- 1) Circle time: Oh the benefits of circle time! As mentioned circle time is a very social event. Each child has their turn to express themselves through song, and story. They also have a chance to listen and learn. We can take this time to discuss the correct words and expressions for feelings. For example ‘Children, Johnny just told us his story about going for a boat ride with his Grandpa! Johnny has a smile on his face. How does Johnny feel about the boat ride? He is happy! We show our happiness by smiling!’
- 2) Group Projects: Group projects gives each child a turn to shine and contribute. This gives each child the pride of being an important member of a team. Children have a chance to earn a sense of pride and self worth by completing tasks within the group that the other children can recognize and appreciate. We make a point to ensure the children understand each one of them contributed a special piece to the project and that they were an important part of the end result.
- 3) Social Studies: We touch lightly on social studies, our country, and the beauty in it’s diversity. We will engage in projects from different cultural backgrounds and engage in stories of unity and appreciation for everyone’s differences.