



CURRICULUM BROCHURE  
2's, 3's and 4's Programs

# RCNS - 2s, 3s, & 4s

## ABOUT OUR CURRICULUM

At RCNS, our curriculum is based on the philosophy that play is the legitimate work of every child. Our goal is for every child to feel loved, valuable, and competent as human beings.

With a nurturing staff and low teacher child ratios, our program provides a stimulating variety of individual and group experiences designed to promote and encourage exploration, discovery, creativity, self-confidence, and social interaction so that each child is a successful learner.

Together we explore the world around us through music, math, writing, literature, science, art, cooking, creative movement, language, and nature. Playtime is scheduled year-round in our state-of-the-art outdoor play areas as well as our indoor gyms, where children are grouped by age.

Through our Living Values curriculum, children learn to get along with one another, take turns, share, settle disagreements and work independently. Each day the children experience the world around them, express their creativity, and enjoy activities that will help them become lifelong learners.

### RCNS 2s

2 Day 2s AM is offered Monday & Tuesday from 8:45AM-11:15AM

2 Day 2s PM is offered Monday & Tuesday from 12:15PM-2:45PM

3 Day 2s AM is offered Wednesday-Friday from 8:45AM-11:15AM

3 Day 2s PM is offered Wednesday-Friday from 12:15PM-2:45PM

The teacher-child ratio is 1:6

Children must be 2 by December 31st.

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## 2s PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Daily learning and play in your child's classroom
- Daily Music & Movement class
- Daily Outdoor or Indoor Play (weather deciding) on our state-of-the-art playground
- Weekly Library
- Monthly music with Mr. Kurt
- Monthly visits from Nature of Things
- Storytelling residencies with Treehouse Shakers
- Thematic musicals performed by Treehouse Shakers
- Visiting artists & performers

At RCNS, we know that children learn best through center-based play in the classroom. Our teachers are facilitators of play in the classroom centers, providing the children with different materials and experiences to foster learning.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

In the 2s, children will learn to successfully separate from their parent or caregiver as they enter their first classroom experience. Children will form new friendships and learn to play with other children. Over the course of the school year, teachers will help children move from parallel play to group play as they begin developing their own imagination. Children will develop listening skills and begin to share and take turns with their friends.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Fine Motor Skills*

In the 2s, children will work with manipulatives such as simple puzzles and pegs to develop small muscle and hand-eye coordination. Children will participate in various thematic units such as the farm and transportation. Each unit will incorporate various sensory activities, block play, and art experiences to encourage fine motor development.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Gross Motor Skills*

In the 2s, children will develop large muscle coordination and skills in the classroom and on our outdoor play equipment. Children will become comfortable walking forwards, backwards, and using the stairs. Children will participate in music and movement activities to develop increased physical and spatial awareness and comfort jumping, turning, and dancing.

## CREATIVE EXPRESSION

In the 2s, children will develop creativity through art, song, and movement. Within each thematic unit, children will create artwork using various methods and materials. Children will sing songs in their classroom and in music class.

## COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

In the 2s, children are encouraged to develop their curiosity for the world around them. In the 2s, children will have early exposure to beginning math concepts. Children will learn basic shapes, sizes, and colors and will develop comfort with sorting and matching objects meaningfully. Children will begin to count and recognize numbers to 5. In their classroom, children will develop the ability to stay on task for several minutes and be encouraged to listen for 5 minutes in a group setting. Children will learn to recognize their own name and respond to it when called.

## LANGUAGE & LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

In the 2s, children will be immersed in a language-rich environment to stimulate vocabulary growth. Children will develop the ability to speak in two or three-word sentences and engage in conversation with their teachers and classmates. Children will learn to express needs, likes, and dislikes and answer yes or no questions. Within a group setting, children will listen to stories and answer simple comprehension questions to strengthen their attention span and foster an interest in books and stories. Children will begin to use manners such as “please” and “thank you” while also developing listening skills and the ability to follow single-step directions.

## SELF-HELP SKILLS

In the 2s, children are encouraged to develop an age-appropriate level of independence within the classroom and school environment. Our school day begins with learning self-help skills, when children are taught to take off their jacket, and hang it up in their cubby along with their book bag. As the school day progresses, our 2s are taught to wash and dry their own hands in preparation for a snack, when the child will drink from a cup and feed themselves.

## RCNS 3s

3 Day 3s AM is offered Wednesday-Friday from 8:45AM-11:15AM

3 Day 3s PM is offered Wednesday-Friday from 12:15PM-2:45PM

5 Day 3s AM is offered Monday-Friday from 8:45AM-11:15AM

5 Day 3s PM is offered Monday-Friday from 12:15PM-2:45PM

The teacher-child ratio is 1:8

Children must be 3 by December 31st.

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### 3s PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Daily learning and play in your child's classroom
- Daily Music & Movement class
- Daily Outdoor or Indoor Play (weather deciding) on our state-of-the-art playground
- Weekly Chapel
- Weekly Library
- Monthly music with Mr. Kurt
- Monthly visits from Nature of Things
- Storytelling residencies with Treehouse Shakers
- Visiting artists & performers

At RCNS, we know that children learn best through center-based play in the classroom. Our teachers are facilitators of play in the classroom centers, providing the children with different materials and experiences to foster learning.

### SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

In the 3s, children will develop the ability to play in groups of two or three children, where they will practice sharing and taking turns. Children will gain and enjoy independence by doing things for themselves. Over the course of the school year, children will gain increased communication skills and begin using their words to describe personal feelings. Children will participate in dramatic play activities to foster imagination and role play home/life experiences to better make understand their own environment.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Fine Motor Skills*

In the 3s, children will work with manipulatives such as beads and string and art tools to develop small muscle and hand-eye coordination. Children will practice drawing simple shapes and cutting lines with scissors. Children will have beginning exposure to Mat Man from Handwriting Without Tears. Children will learn to write the first letter of their own name. Children will participate in various thematic units across the school year. Each unit will incorporate various sensory activities, block play, and art experiences to encourage fine motor development.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Gross Motor Skills*

In the 3s, children will continue to develop large muscle coordination and skills in the classroom and on our outdoor play equipment. Children will become comfortable throwing and catching a ball, walking up the stairs using alternating feet, riding a tricycle, and hopping. Children will begin to develop body and safety awareness when using the playground and playground equipment. Children will participate in music and movement activities to develop increased physical and spatial awareness and comfort jumping, turning, and dancing.

## CREATIVE EXPRESSION

In the 3s, children will continue to develop creativity through art, song, and movement. In the 3s, children will explore a wide variety of art tools and materials. Children will develop pre-writing skills as they paint and learn the proper pathways of letters (top to bottom). In the 3s, children will be encouraged to develop appreciation and joy for their own personal art and that of their peers. Children will learn that creative expression can be a way to channel emotions and feelings. Children will learn to use art to express themselves and movement to act out feelings and emotions. Children will sing a variety of songs and experiment with a variety of instruments in daily music and movement class.

## COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

In the 3s, children are encouraged to develop their curiosity for the world around them. In the 3s, children will continue developing an understanding of beginning math concepts. Children will learn shapes and sizes and will develop skills in observation and sorting. Children will learn to count to 10 and recognize



numbers to 5. In the classroom, children will develop the ability to stay on task for 5-10 minutes and listen in a group setting for 10-15 minutes. Children will learn to follow a 2-3-part direction. Children will learn to recognize their own name in print and develop a beginning recognition of uppercase letters.

## **LANGUAGE & LITERACY DEVELOPMENT**

In the 3s, children will be immersed in a language-rich environment to stimulate vocabulary growth and develop oral language. Children will develop the ability to ask and answer how, what, when and why questions to their peers and teachers.

Children will learn to express their personal feelings and needs. Children will learn to recognize their own name and first letter in print form. Within a group setting, children will listen to daily read alouds to develop an interest in and respect for books and literature. Children will develop strong listening skills and beginning concepts of print, as they learn how to hold a book and how to turn the pages.

## RCNS 4s

5 Day 4s AM is offered Monday-Friday from 8:45AM-11:15AM

5 Day 4s PM is offered Monday-Friday from 12:15PM-2:45PM

5 Day 4s Extended Day is offered Monday-Friday from 8:45AM-1:15PM

The teacher-child ratio is 1:10

Children must be 4 by December 31st.

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### 4s PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Daily learning and play in your child's classroom
- Daily Music & Movement class
- Daily Outdoor or Indoor Play (weather deciding) on our state-of-the-art playground
- Weekly Chapel
- Weekly Library
- Weekly Spanish lessons
- Monthly music with Mr. Kurt
- Monthly visits from Nature of Things
- Storytelling residencies with Treehouse Shakers
- Visiting artists & performers

At RCNS, we know that children learn best through center-based play in the classroom. Our teachers are facilitators of play in the classroom centers, providing the children with different materials and experiences to foster learning.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

In the 4s, children will develop the ability to play cooperatively with others, taking turns and sharing toys with ease. Children will develop a sense of independence as they master the ability to do tasks on their own and solve problems independently. Children in the 4s will develop increased communication skills and become comfortable using words to express their personal feelings. Children will develop respect for themselves and their peers. Children will participate in dramatic play activities to foster imagination and role play home/life experiences to better understand their own environment. Children will explore the concepts of being respectful, responsible, and safe and how those three behaviors lead to a strong classroom community.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Fine Motor Skills*

In the 4s, children will work with manipulatives and writing tools to continue developing small muscle coordination. Children will practice drawing shapes and cutting straight and curved lines with scissors. Children will engage in sensory activities and develop comfort using a pincer grasp to pick up small objects. Children will use writing materials appropriately to write their name, letters and words. Children will have weekly instruction in Handwriting Without Tears to learn proper uppercase letter pathways. Children will participate in thematic units with their classmates in areas such as outer-space, pets, and maple sugaring. Each unit will incorporate various sensory activities, block play, and art experiences to encourage fine motor development.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

### *Gross Motor Skills*

In the 4s, children will continue to develop large muscle coordination and skills in the classroom and on our outdoor play equipment. Children will become comfortable bouncing, throwing and catching a ball, walking up and down the stairs using alternating feet, pedaling and steering a tricycle, and hopping on one foot. Children will develop body and safety awareness when using the playground and playground equipment. Children will participate in music and movement activities to develop increased physical and spatial awareness and comfort jumping, turning, and dancing.

## CREATIVE EXPRESSION

In the 4s, children will continue to develop creativity through art, song and movement. In the 4s, children will explore a wide variety of art tools and materials. In the 4s, children will develop appreciation and joy for their own personal art and celebrate that of their peers. Children will become comfortable using creative expression to channel emotions and feelings. Children will use art, movement, and drama to express themselves and act out feelings, emotions, and stories. Children will sing a variety of songs and musical melodies, while experimenting with a variety of instruments in daily music and movement class.

## COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

In the 4s, children are encouraged to develop their curiosity for the world around them. In the 4s, children will build on beginning math concepts learned in the 3s as they learn to count to 20, recognize numbers to 10 and learn to count up to 10 objects presented to them. Children will learn to compare and sort shapes. Children will learn to stay on task for 10-15 minutes and be comfortable listening for 10-15 minutes in a group setting. Children will learn to follow a 2-3-part direction. Children will gain confidence recognizing their own name and will learn to recognize the names of their classmates in print. Children will continue learning uppercase letters and develop a beginning recognition of lowercase letters.

## LANGUAGE & LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

In the 4s, children will be immersed in a language and print-rich environment to stimulate vocabulary growth and develop basic pre-reading skills and strategies. Children will learn to ask and answer who, what, when, why and how questions to their peers and teachers. With daily read alouds, children will develop an appreciation and interest in literature, while also being exposed to beginning reading strategies as they develop beginning phonemic awareness. Children will participate in wordplay and rhyming activities and develop a strong understanding of letters and words, how to hold a book, and how to turn the pages. With weekly instruction in Handwriting Without Tears, children will learn letter sounds and discover words that begin with the weeks letter. In the 4s, children will practice oral storytelling as they dictate stories to their teachers and beginning writing strategies by using drawing, letters, and dictation in monthly journals.