

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.
Early Childhood Center
Shainela Curriculum

Below is an outline of the key elements included in the curriculum designed to meet goals, introduce concepts and practice skills in the following areas of development:

- I. Socialization
- II. Emotional
- III. Cognitive
- IV. Physical

I. **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

- *Engaging in free play, cooperative play, and dramatic play
- *Building a sense of community
- *Becoming responsible for materials
- *Sharing and taking turns
- *Initiating activities with other children
- * Developing appropriate conflict resolution skills and self-help skills
- *Participating in circle activities
- *Expressing self creativity

II. **EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- *Identifying and appropriately expressing feelings
- *Developing self-control and self-awareness
- *Increasing attention span
- *Taking responsibility for actions
- *Transitioning smoothly
- *Building independence in daily care (washing hands, using bathroom, cleaning up)

III. **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**

A. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *Engaging in songs, poems, and rhymes
- *Developing appropriate conflict resolution skills
- * Answers questions – What? Why? Who?
- *Describing objects and their purpose
- *Refers to self by first and last name
- * Identifying gender, age, address, and phone number
- *Recognizing opposites and sequences
- *Becoming familiar with print, letter names and sound relationship

B. MATH

- *Counting to 20 or higher and counting objects
- *Recognizing numerals(1,2) and number words(one, two)
- *Classifying objects by size, shape, color
- *Identifying shapes & naming patterns
- *Measuring using standard and non-standard units
- *Developing visual discrimination and spatial conceptualization
- *Sequencing a series of pictures to form a story

C. SCIENCE

- *Using five senses to observe, explore, and experiment with scientific phenomena
- *Collecting data and representing findings
- *Observing scientific phenomena such as metamorphosis
- *Developing an appreciation for nature
- *Conducting science experiments to learn about principles of science(i.e. solid/liquid, floating/sinking, hard/soft)
- *Measuring using standard and non-standard units

D. SOCIAL STUDIES

- *Exploring social roles in family and community
- *Participating in classroom community
- *Developing positive identity & sense of self and others
- *Learning about community and characteristics of local environment
- *Building understanding of diversity

E. HEALTH/SAFETY

- *Learning about and engaging in good nutrition and hygiene practices
- *Becoming aware of safe rules in classroom, home, and community
- *Practicing safety procedures

F. CREATIVE EXPRESSION AND THE ARTS

- *Gaining an appreciation of and expressing self freely/creatively through art, music, drama, and dance

IV. PHYSICAL

A. GROSS MOTOR

- *Participating in dance, swim and gym class
- *Playing on indoor and outdoor playgrounds
- *Walking around local community
- *Engaging in creative movement, stretches & exercise
- *Developing body awareness, hand-eye coordination, foot-eye coordination and self-help skills

B. FINE MOTOR

- *Writing letters, names and simple words
- *Painting and drawing
- *Cooking – adding ingredients, mixing, and stirring
- *Cutting and gluing
- *Engaging in sensory experiences- water, sand, play dough, shaving cream, oobleck, clay,
- *Using manipulatives – building with wood blocks and legos, stringing beads, placing pegs in pegboard