

# Mighty Sprouts

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## **Language Development and Communication**

Children are just beginning to use their words to communicate their needs on a regular basis with little sign language. We do many finger plays and flannel board stories along with songs to engage children into developing the skills to listen and understand. Children learn to respond to simple requests asked of them throughout the day such as, clean up the toys or go wash your hands. Among many other skills mastered by the time children become a Half-Pints they are able to use three word sentences and phrases and understand multiple step tasks.

## **Social and Emotional Development**

By the time a child is two years old they are starting to play well with others and engage in regular activities after mastering parallel play. In Mighty Sprouts, children will learn to describe how they are feeling through language skills and demonstrate an awareness of their emotions. They will also be able to describe the emotions of others and associate those emotions with words. Children will gain independence and show a willingness to try things on their own along with showing pride in an accomplishment. Transitions are difficult but children will begin to understand unfamiliar settings and transition into them more easily with adult assistance. With many other friendship skills formed, children will also be able to solve simple conflicts amongst each other.

## **Health and Physical Development**

Learning to use the toilet is a big skill we try and master in the two-year-old room. Many children show interest but don't always have success. We help make the transition to underwear during the day more achievable. Many children will be able to fall asleep easily with little to no adult assistance. Self-help skills are hard to learn but in the Mighty Sprouts we help teach children how to put on their own pants and shirts when outfit changes are needed along with dressing themselves for outside. Children will master the skill of using silverware and handle cups during meal time. We will teach children to ask for simple hygiene needs, such as a nose wipe, hand washing, or to simply point out that they have a messy diaper. Children will also learn to use the steps alternating feet while holding on to the handrail. Fine motor tasks will be learned by using complex strength and control to master an activity. Children will learn to use their bodies in a purposeful and intentional manner and have control over those movements. We really strive to give children the independence that they need and teach them how to go about doing that through their physical development.

## **Approaches to Learning**

Children learn in many different ways and we help them to learn in the best way for them. All children are encouraged to participate in longer activities and experiences to lengthen their attention span, but not all children are capable so they are encouraged to do something of interest. We strive to better every child by changing the skill level of activities for each child according to their personal goal. Dramatic play is a big part of our day and children will learn to use real life experiences and bring them into pretend play. Children will learn to express themselves through music and movement during both free play and constructive curriculum. Routine is important to children and they will begin to be able to identify the schedule and ask questions when they are curious. When children want to feel more challenged they will learn to take an activity and broaden it in a new way. Overall children will use a variety of learning styles and meet all their needs with adult assistance.

## **Cognition and General Knowledge**

Curiosity is a normal thing for two year olds, they will learn how to acquire, organize, and use the information they are learning. Children will learn to use their senses to investigate information and apply the skills from prior learning. Many children will learn to recall past events and apply it to a current event. In order for children to engage in their curiosity they will need to ask questions and we will help them learn to do so. Children will begin to recognize shapes, colors, and numbers when in print, as well as, knowing if an object has one more or one less of an item. Along with many other simple math skills children will learn to compare sizes and be able to categorize those objects. Lastly children will learn to take what they are learning and apply it to their daily life routines.

## **What is special about Mighty Sprouts?**

In the Mighty Sprouts we like to have fun and learn through play. We get really excited for children when they master a simple goal such as stacking 6 blocks or a bigger achievement such as using the potty. Children need encouragement to know they are doing the right things, so we work hard to make sure they are getting that. Aside from all the learning and play, children are loved like they are our own. Each child is an individual and we treat them just that way. You will be able to leave your child knowing that they are being well cared for and given lots of love and attention during the day.