

What is it like to explore in Seedlings for a day?

Discovery Centers: The first 15 – 20 minutes of class is free play time at the discovery centers and outside. The discovery tables offer different activities that utilize the multiple intelligences we all possess. There may be a math activity, sorting, exploring real objects from a plant or animal, creating structures from play dough or arts that allow you and your preschooler to explore the theme we are studying that week in various ways. You can also go into our backyard and water our plants, stir the compost, check on our tortoises, or dig in the dirt. We invite you to come 5-10 minutes early before class starts to enjoy these centers longer if you wish.

Circle: 10 minutes

A bell is rung to signal that it is time to stop our work, clean up, and come to circle to find a spot on the carpet. At circle we will sing our welcome song (*Good Morning/Afternoon Seedlings Friends*), talk about the weather (*sing What's the Weather?*), and introduce the theme we are learning about for the day through a mystery item in a box.

Nature Walk: 15-20 minutes

After circle we go on a nature walk through the garden to discover, explore, record what we find and ask questions about what we see.

Snack: 10 minutes

We provide basic snacks for the children but if your child has dietary restrictions, please bring a snack for them.

Arts: 15 minutes

Children have the opportunity to create something to take home that relates to what we've learned that day.

Outside/Free Time: 10 minutes

We freely flow into this free time after arts because everyone works at different paces. Children are welcome to go outside to water plants, dig or play in the water/sand table while others continue their work on their arts. Your preschooler may decide to use this time to continue to work on their artistic creation!

Story and Closing: 15-20 minutes

The bell is rung again to signal that it's time to stop our work, clean up, and come find a spot in circle on the carpet. We often read a story, review what we learned that day, and sing our closing song (*Adios Amigos*).

This is typically how our routine goes; there may be a day that we tweak the schedule minimally when appropriate. For example, we may read a story at the opening circle instead of the closing circle.

***Please Note:** This is a special time for you and your preschooler to play and learn together. We encourage the adult to interact and be a partner in the learning process with their preschooler throughout all of these activities. Here are some ways we invite you to interact with your seedling during class:

- Sit in circle with them
- Sing songs together
- During our nature walk, actively participate in making discoveries together
- Ask questions about what you see
- Make predictions together
- Assist with their arts (if they need it)
- Sit with them during story time.

It is a fun time for all of us to learn and play together!