



Daily Schedules



Helping Hands Tip Sheets

Using learning centers as the core of your learning program or curriculum may mean that your daily schedule looks different than an activity focused daily schedule.

When thinking about creating a center-based activity schedule, think about using blocks of time for groups of activities.



Remember, each learning center needs to be carefully prepared and arranged so that the learning concepts are clearly defined as children use the materials you have placed in each center.

If your program uses themes, you might think about adding some theme materials to some of the centers.

Activity Based Daily Schedule

7:00 Arrival, Free Play	4:15 Story time
8:00 Clean up	4:45 Clean up
8:15 Diapering, toileting	5:00 Free Play
8:30 Hand washing	6:00 Closing
8:45 Breakfast	
9:15 Circle time	
9:45 Writing Activity	
10:00 Outside time	
10:30: Diaper, toileting, hand washing	
11:00 Art Activity	
11:30 Math Activity	
11:45 Clean up, wash hands	
12:00 Lunch	
12:30 Diaper, toileting, hand washing	
12:45 Nap	
2:45 Wake up, diaper, toileting, hand washing	
3:00 Snack	
3:15 Music Time	
3:45 Diaper/toileting/hand washing	
4:00 Science Activity	

Center Based Daily Schedule

7:00	Arrival, table toys, book area
8:00	Breakfast
8:45	Circle time, introduce activities in each center
9:15	Center time, all centers open, snack time
10:30	Outside time (may be earlier depending on the weather)
11:30	Story Time, prepare for lunch
12:00	Lunch, prepare for rest time
12:30	Rest time
2:30	Wake up, snack time
3:00	Outside time or inside gross motor activities
4:00	Circle time
4:15	Center time
5:30	Clean up, prepare to go home
6:00	Closing

Note to staff: Personal care, such as diapering, toileting, hand washing and teeth brushing occur as needed. Staff members spend center time engaging with children and guiding activities as children move from center to center. This might be a good time to collect observational notes or anecdotal records regarding children's abilities. When activities that require staff nearby such as when carving a pumpkin, you may want one teacher to be stationed in that area as long as the pumpkin activity is occurring. In single staff classrooms, you may want to simplify center activities so that children can explore independently or with minimal teacher assistance.