

The Power of Play

"So when someone asks me 'Is this daycare or preschool?' I want to shout out -- we are neither! We are another animal all together. We don't take care of days; we take care of children. We don't provide preschool; we provide a wonderful place to spend one's childhood with talented teachers who listen to children."

- Kathy Reticker, Executive Director, Concord Children's Center 1992-2004



"Play is freely chosen, a self-selected and self-directed expression of freedom. Play is doing what is desired rather than doing what is required."
(Daly & Belogvsky)



"Play is active. Our senses, physical skills, and intellectual capacities are engaged when we play." (Daly & Belogvsky)

Why is Play Important for Children?

Play builds imagination and creativity

Builds skills that children need for future learning and problem solving

Play is essential to healthy brain development

Through play children learn how to navigate the world in a way they can understand and process

Play improves literacy

Allows children to practice the language skills they have learned and build on their expanding vocabulary

Play encourages independence

In the world of play they have the opportunity to set the rules and be the one with power

Play promotes physical development

Children have a strong need for physical play. It's part of how they learn to use their bodies and strengthens connections in the brain



"Play is fun, enjoyable and engaging for the participants."
(Daly & Belogvsky)