

Y.M. & Y.W.H.A. of Williamsburg, Inc. Head Start

THE FIRST SIX WEEKS OF PRESCHOOL

Presenters:

Dianne Decker Lyons – Education Coach

Jeanne Rooney – Mental Health Consultant

October 12, 2023



AGENDA

- Why and how we chose this topic
- Fill you in on what is happening here day to day
- Talk about long term goals – where we hope to be in June
- Talk about Workshops over the year
- Provide further information on the ASQs
 - What is it?
 - When should it be completed and returned?

HOW THE TOPIC CAME ABOUT

- End of August and early September Information Pattern
 - Eager to welcome you to our Pre-School
 - Provide you with practical information
 - Explain how we will educate your child
 - Provide tips for you and your child's adjustment to school routines
 - The importance in setting up routines for coming to school
 - Tips to make the transition from home to school more comfortable
- School begins
 - Less information is going home
 - Maybe some quick conversations with the teacher
 - Class Dojo
- Parents may be wondering what is happening
 - What are they doing in school all day?
 - Maybe still feel anxious about separating from your child
- So, what is happening during the first six weeks?
 - Lets find out

WEEKS 1- 5

- Leaving home
 - Transitioning from home to school – learning a different routine
 - Learning to trust that other adults will take care of them
- Learning routines
 - Greeting teachers and friends
 - Washing their hands
 - Choosing a table toy
 - Eating breakfast
 - Brushing their teeth
 - Using the bathroom
 - Sitting in a circle
 - Learning about new toys
 - Choosing a toy, area- playing with it, putting it away, selecting another toy putting it away
 - Learning about the playground/ the indoor gym



A DAY AT WILLIAMSBURG Y

- Arrival/ Departure Routines
- Family Style Meals- Breakfast, Lunch, Snack
- Choice Time-Child Initiated
- Large Group Meetings (circle time, read-aloud, music & movement)
- Outdoor Play
- Small Group Activities
- Additional Activities: Soccer, Yoga, Sensory Gym
- *Transitions



CREATIVE CURRICULUM

- Builds children's confidence, creativity and critical thinking skills through hands on project based investigations
- Improves Kindergarten Readiness
- Supports the whole child
- Research based
- Objectives aligned to early learning standards
- Developmentally appropriate-ensures children are being prepared for school.

THE FIRST SIX WEEKS: BUILDING THE CLASSROOM COMMUNITY

- Focuses on questions known to be typical of preschool children
- Addresses some of the concerns most children have as they begin a new school year
- Starting points for teachers to structure their classroom conversations & learning experiences
- Ex: What names do we need to know at school? How can we be part of a group?

HOME-SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

- What to expect
- Not the traditional “Homework”
- Reinforcing skills and/or concepts learned in the classroom
- Based on needs of the individual child



GENERAL GOALS FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS

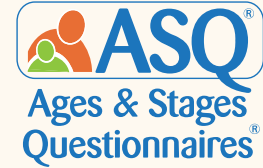
Our threes:

- To know the day's routines
- To know all of the children in their class
- To participate in group activities
- Listen to the teacher and classmates; answer questions; ask questions
- To play/work independently and cooperatively
- Becoming social; learning to share; learning to get their own needs met appropriately,
- Learning to recognize and manage their emerging emotions (a huge endeavor)
- All the while, sitting longer, playing longer,

Our Fours:

- All of the above
- Academics - ready for Kindergarten

AGES AND STAGES QUESTIONNAIRE (ASQs)



- What is important to know about this questionnaire?
- What is a survey or questionnaire?
- Why are we asking you about your child?
- Why is age specific?
- What information will this questionnaire give us?

WORKSHOP TOPICS

- First 6 Weeks
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Using Storybooks to Teach Emotions
- Getting Ready for Kindergarten
- Transition to K 4 (UPK)



EDUCATION AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WORKSHOP TOPICS

Dianne

- Supporting early literacy
- The importance of play and how we can support children through play.
- Parent Resources: Marco Polo, Early Learning Outcomes Framework (ELOF), Monthly Book suggestions

Jeanne

- Formal parent training (Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning – CSEFEL)
- Temper tantrums
- Adult Relationships – Understanding loving relationships - the strengths/bonuses and stresses of committed relationships
- Child Abuse

**ANY QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS?**

**THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US THIS
MORNING!**

