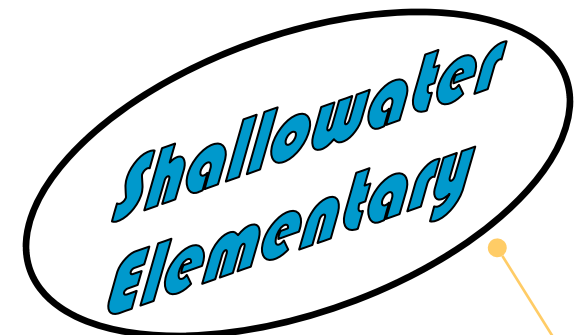


OUR MISSION

Shallowater Elementary will provide quality pre-school experiences, in a collaborative team effort with families, to ensure every child is on track by the end of first grade.



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AGE
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**GET READY FOR
KINDERGARTEN**

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SKILL SET BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Now that you've identified the specific School Readiness Skills you would like to work on with your child, below are examples of some activities you can do to ensure that he or she is ready for school. For more skill set building activities check our web site: www.tcy4kids.org/accc.

Large and Small Muscle Coordination

Skill Set builder: Running, jumping, throwing, catching, climbing	2 year old activities: - Aim a ball at large bucket to throw baskets - Play tag with child "I'm going to get you!"
Holding and manipulating clothing, small play objects, books, and painting, drawing, and writing tools	- Build towers with blocks - Child turns pages of board book - Paint outside with water - Peg puzzle, draw with crayons
Exhibiting age-related coordination, balance, flexibility, and physical endurance	- Encourage child to kick a small ball - Play a game where child touches toes, nose, ears...

Self-Care

Skill Set builder: Self-dressing	2 year old activities: - Assist child in removing articles of clothing - Begin to dress child encourage him/her to complete the task i.e., pulling up pants...
Toileting	- Get child potty chair to explore - Child sits on chair clothed - Child sits without diaper at strategic times with book
Hand-washing and personal cleanliness	- Provide child a stool and teach child to wash after eating and diapering - Teach child to brush teeth & hair
Self-feeding	- Finger foods - Child uses cup - Encourage use of spoon/fork
Responsibility for personal belongings	- Caregiver and child clean up together, playing or singing

Self-Confidence

Skill Set builder: Interacting with playmates	2 year old activities: - Play dates with other children - Model appropriate words/actions during conflicts - Provide duplicate toy choices
Self-selecting activities	- Appropriate choices of day's activities, clothes - Variety of toys on child's level - Provide specific praise when child makes appropriate choices
Initiating an idea or activity	- Reinforce child positively with words and play when he/she brings a toy/activity to caregiver
Engaging in new or challenging activities	- Provide activities child can succeed at - Talk to child, reassure and guide him/her through each step
Seeking adult assistance	- Positively respond to child when he/she seeks your assistance - Model words or gestures to use

Emotional And Social Resilience

Skill Set builder: Positive self-regard	2 year old activities: - Specifically & positively express your feelings for child and his/her accomplishments - Verbal & physical recognition
Pride in accomplishments	- Specifically & positively express your feelings for child and his/her accomplishments
A "try-again" attitude with difficult or challenging tasks	- Offer activities child can master - Reinforce successes
Increasing awareness of own special abilities and interests	- Offer toys, activities, and clothes that reinforce child's interests and talents

Emotional Maturity

Skill Set builder: Using language to express feelings and needs to resolve conflicts	2 year old activities: - Label emotions child expresses - Model acceptable words or actions ("No", ...) - Redirect unacceptable expressions
Demonstrating age-appropriate self-control	- Monitor child's needs and mood - Label feelings & teach how to channel them constructively - Set limits and follow through
Seeking and/or accepting comfort, assistance, and guidance	- Positively respond to child when he/she seeks your assistance - Model words or gestures to use
Employing age-appropriate self-comforting strategies	- Provide a "lovey" to soothe child (bear, blanket) - Allow child ample time/place to soothe self - Stay calm & supportive

Math, Social Studies and Art

Skill Set builder: Reciting numbers in sequence	2 year old activities: - Count blocks added to a tower before it falls - Provide stacking cups and use "largest" & "smallest" in play - Explore counting books together
Understanding other mathematics related words	- Use mathematic terms when talking to child: "Do you want more crackers?" "This bucket is heavy!" "Oh, now the bucket is light with no blocks in it"
Exhibiting beginning awareness of the importance of rules in family and school	- When rules and boundaries are set explain to child the purpose of them - Offer child alternatives - Set boundaries and follow through
Asking questions about objects, events, and organisms in the environment	- Ask child questions about events or things - Model questioning things i.e., "I wonder what frogs eat?" Discuss
Employing art, music, dance, drama, and pretend play as means of self-expression, creativity, and fantasy	- Make objects with peanut butter dough or cookie dough, graduate to play dough when child is ready

Uses Language Effectively

Skill Set builder: Communicate needs and interests	2 year old activities: - Encourage child to use words for his/her desires - Provide the words when necessary and encourage child
Listen and engage in conversation	- Listen to child and respond - Ask child questions about things of interest
Communicate play and pretend	- Encourage child to use words for his/her desires - Provide the words when needed
Share ideas and convey meaning	- Listen to child - Share ideas with child - Clarify child's ideas
Share stories and events	- Listen to child - Share stories with child - Clarify events in child's story

Curiosity, Creativity and Inventiveness

Skill Set builder: Asking questions; seeking information	2 year old activities: - Be open and available - Answer specific question child asks (not too much information) - Ask child questions
Exploring learning materials	- Create safe environment for exploration - Offer a variety of new learning materials (routinely rotate toys)
Using play equipment and learning materials for a variety of pretend purposes	- Model and provide a variety of ways to use materials - Reinforce creative uses
Participating in a variety of experiences	- Use child's interests and abilities to encourage play in a different area of the room or with a new toy or activity
Imaginative play alone and/or with others	- Provide props to extend child's play (clothes or toys) - Try to relate props to life experiences (zoo animals after trip to zoo)

Exhibits Increasing Awareness of Print

Skill Set builder: Associating story-telling and books with both pleasure and information	2 year old activities: - Let your child see you reading - Read a variety of genre to child - Attend story time at library
Recognizing and beginning to print name	- Show the child his/her name in print - Make & label first letter in name out of blocks or cheerios in play
Print conveys meaning	- Read to child
Demonstrating an awareness of sounds in spoken words (e.g., rhymes and alliterations)	- Read poems and rhymes to child - Sing rhyming songs with child (Open, Shut Them; Pat-a-Cake)
Knowledge of (front/back; top/bottom; left/right; beginning/end; title, and characters)	- Lap read to the child - Turn a book right side up or from back to front making verbal note of what you are doing "Oops this book is upside down"