

Red Bank Borough Public Schools

Preschool: Learning Through Play



A typical day in a preschool classroom is full of excitement, learning, and growth! For young children, it's a time to develop friendships, practice self-regulation, and engage in hands-on learning. In our classrooms, the Tools of the Mind Curriculum combines with the Positive Behavior Support framework to create a balanced, engaging environment where children thrive emotionally, socially, and cognitively. Together, these approaches create a dynamic environment where children not only learn but also grow into compassionate, self-regulated individuals who are ready to take on new challenges!



To schedule a Registration Appointment



Make-Believe Play

A cornerstone of a student's daily schedule is time spent immersed in make-believe play. This type of play invites them to step into roles such as: a parent, doctor, or chef. As they take on these roles, children naturally learn to "follow the rules of the role," aligning their actions to that role.

Play Planning

Play planning is a powerful tool for fostering self-regulation in young children. Students are scaffolded to create a written and verbal plan that is then carried out in their play. Taking a moment to anticipate what comes next and create a plan for action is a vital self-regulation skill. As a bonus, children practice early writing skills as their plans transition from scribbles to pictures and then into writing!

Small Group Activities

Small groups provide the optimum setting to develop foundational reading, writing, and math skills. During this time, children participate in hands-on activities that are designed to practice self-regulation as they engage in the activity. Children also partner with peers, leading to the development of important social skills.

Social and Emotional Skills

An essential aspect of school readiness is teaching children how to solve common social problems with their peers. With guidance from their teachers, students are introduced to a "solution kit" designed to help them navigate challenges like turn-taking and sharing. These strategies foster self-confidence and empower students to advocate for themselves. Additionally, children learn to recognize and express their feelings through activities such as reading books, participating in feelings check-ins, and engaging with hands-on materials.