

**THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING**

Dear Family:

As part of our program’s policy, we are pleased to offer a standardized developmental screening and referral process with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) to all families enrolled in our program. We provide this service because your child’s first five years of life are so important and we want to help provide the best start for your child.

Why Screen?

Have you ever wondered if your child is learning and growing to the best of his or her ability? It can be hard for you or your early childhood program to know these things just by looking at your child. By completing the ASQ-3, we can obtain very important information about how your child is learning and growing in the areas of communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, and personal-social skills. This information will help your early childhood program know if your child is developing as he or she should be.

All children are unique, learning, and growing at different rates. Sometimes, kids need a boost to help them be the best they can be. A lower than expected score doesn’t mean anything is wrong with your child or your parenting, it simply means that more information is needed. It is common for children to need some help periodically, and the earlier we can all work together to make sure they get this help, the better.

Screening allows us to monitor and provide all children with developmental activities customized to encourage his or her optimal development. Also, screening results can be easily shared with other healthcare and early childhood professionals who care about and help support your child’s development.

ASQ-3 screening can help your child:

* Be ready for school
* Learn to love learning
* Have higher self-esteem
* Succeed!

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding the ASQ-3.