

# Little Friends

FRIENDS ACADEMY CHILDCARE CENTER  
AGES 6 WEEKS TO 36+ MONTHS



## PROGRAM GOALS

In small groups, teachers focus on helping children interact and explore the sights, sounds and textures around them. Children are encouraged to learn at their own pace in a place they can feel secure.

Age appropriate toys and equipment make discovery fun. Play is the work of children. Our program offers developmentally appropriate activities designed to stimulate the interests and wonder of each child. Each activity is designed to be fun and engaging while having an educational value.



270 DUCK POND ROAD, LOCUST VALLEY, NY 11560

PHONE: 516-465-1715 | WEBSITE: [WWW.FA.ORG](http://WWW.FA.ORG)

STRONG MINDS.  
KIND HEARTS.

# Little Friends

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## INFANT PROGRAM & CURRICULUM (6 WEEKS TO 18 MONTHS)



Our infant program offers a warm, secure, environment in which your baby will flourish during their first year of life. At Friends Academy, we realize how important this time is in your child's development, and make sure that all your child's physical and nutritional needs are met.

Each baby is given individualized care, and great respect is given to each child's temperament and routine. Our staff is experienced and will help your baby meet their milestones at their own pace and in a positive manner.

We have an open door policy and welcome you to visit your child or call the class throughout the day. Naps, feedings, diaper changes and fun activities will be recorded and sent home at the end of each day to keep you informed of your baby's progress.

Our infant curriculum inspires each baby with sound, color, and texture. The daily schedule offers opportunities to experience each domain of development including language development, tactile stimulation, and motor development.



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## INFANT PROGRAM & CURRICULUM (6 WEEKS TO 18 MONTHS)



### **MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**

Music is enjoyed throughout the day. Our class is equipped with musical instruments, toys that sing and encourage children to interact. Our teachers dance, sing and inspire your children to join in the fun!

### **STORY TIME: A MAGICAL EXPERIENCE**

Your child will enjoy being read to often by their teacher. Story time is often enhanced with puppets and props to bring the story to life. Many board books and vinyl books are available for your baby to explore on their own or with the caregivers.



### **GROSS MOTOR: TUMMY TIME IS FUN TIME!**

Babies are encouraged to reach for toys, and roll to increase their core muscle strength. Soft balls and toys are used to encourage crawling. Your baby will have many opportunities to learn to walk.

### **FINE MOTOR**

The children are encouraged to grasp rattles, scoop up food, hold a bottle, and rake their hands through sand to improve their fine motor skills.

### **OUTDOOR PLAY**

Friends Academy has a beautiful campus, and your child will enjoy walks in our covered buggy every-day as well as a quick stop at our playground for some fun on the swings!



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## TODDLER PROGRAM & CURRICULUM (18 MONTHS TO 2 YEARS OLD)

### STORY TIME –

#### LOVE AND APPRECIATE READING

Through finger puppets, big books, stories and rhymes, the children learn to love and develop and appreciation of reading while developing their language skills.

### ART TIME

Children love to explore and create. The process is our main focus for young children. Art provides a wide range of sensory experiences and promotes eye hand coordination, while allowing the children freedom to express their individuality and creativity!

### MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Through instruments, movement and dance the children are exposed to different genres of music and cultures, as well as the traditional nursery rhymes and songs. Music and movement strengthens children's listening and gross motor skills while allowing them to express their creativity!

### PLAY

Play is the work of young children! Multiple toys are available for children to explore and help foster their newfound independence.

For many there is nothing more exciting than dressing up and pushing a stroller around – just like mommy and daddy.

For others, building a tower, then knocking it down, to only build it up again, is more their speed.

We offer each child the opportunities to explore



their interests as they are learning what the world around them is all about!

### OUTDOOR PLAY TIME

Outdoor play is essential for the young toddler! The children will enjoy long nature walks around our beautiful campus as well as regular visits to our new age-appropriate Early Childhood playground, where they will run climb and swing!





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## PRE-NURSERY PROGRAM & CURRICULUM: (2.5+ YEARS OLD)

### **MYSTERY BAG – BE A DETECTIVE!**

Our mystery bag project is similar to show and tell but with a twist! The children will take turns choosing an item from home to place in the bag and send it back with three clues as to what it is. The child then presents the bag and the clues to the class at gathering and his/her classmates have to guess the item. This activity builds self esteem verbal skills and problem solving.

### **GATHERED MEETING – YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A STAR TO SHINE**

Each start of the day, the children will have time to share a sentiment with their group, which can be as simple as sharing a Happy Thought. This meeting cultivates a sense of community and respect for one another as well as working to develop language skills and self confidence.

### **STORY TIME – NURTURES LOVE FOR READING**

Children will enjoy group story time each day. This group activity helps develop language and social skills. Children will also be encouraged to enjoy our classroom library where they can find lots of age appropriate books.

### **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

The following activities foster a sense of well-being and environmental awareness.

**YOGA:** A simple introduction to yoga is done in our indoor play area. Yoga's benefits are improved strength, flexibility, concentration, body awareness,



relaxation, self control and a feeling of well being- and best of all it's fun!

**NATURE HIKES:** Children will explore our Wooded Campus; learn about animals and plants native to our beautiful grounds. Nature projects will incorporate their explorations.

**GARDENING:** Spring brings wonderful opportunity to introduce children to gardening. The children will nurture seeds and seedlings and harvest herbs that appeal to the senses. The process is rewarding and they will gain respect for the origins of their food.

**COOKING:** Little children love to help, especially in the kitchen. In our kitchen the children will take pride in helping to create healthy snacks. When we cook we also learn how to follow directions, measure and mix ingredients.



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## PRE-NURSERY PROGRAM & CURRICULUM: (2.5+ YEARS OLD)

### GROSS MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

These activities promote physical movement and development.

**MUSIC & MOVEMENT:** Children love music and can't help moving to a song when they hear it! Music & Movement provides opportunities to explore feelings and relationships while developing listening skills, motor skills and creativity.



### OUTDOOR PLAY TIME:

Children will climb, play and swing on our playground. Playground time is part of our daily ritual. In warmer weather children will also enjoy our newly installed playground, featuring all new climbing and equipment designed for child-like discovery.



### FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

These activities help develop smaller movement and intricate abilities.

**ART TIME:** At this age art is all about process, the product is secondary. Art provides children with a wide range of sensory experiences and promotes eye hand coordination and of course creativity.

**BLOCKS/PUZZLES/MANIPULATIVE:** Children will build, touch and experiment while developing eye hand coordination and problem solving skills.

**DRAMATIC PLAY:** Our dramatic play corner encourages children to imagine and imitate the world around them. Children can play independently or share their playful side together.

### WEEKLY SPECIALS

**LIBRARY:** Story time at the Library focuses on early literacy as it helps children develop a joy for learning language and enjoying books. We will visit the Lower School Library once a week where stories and activities will enhance our monthly thematic units.

**MUSIC:** Music, rhythm and dance help young children to build memory skills, listening and vocabulary skills, social skills and teaches them a variety of concepts as they sing about different topics. An introduction to basic instruments will help the children keep the beat. Our weekly music lessons with a specialized teacher will not only build skills but it will bring enjoyment and smiles to all!

**GYM:** Toddlers have a natural desire to get moving and keep going and the gym is the perfect place for them to do it! The children enjoy gross motor skill activities in an area where they can explore with few restrictions. Activities include running, jumping throwing, catching balls, hoola hoops, frisbees and group activities.



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## OUR STAFF

**W**e have a warm, caring staff sensitive to the unique abilities of each child. Each year the staff is engaged in extensive professional development workshops designed to help them be the best for the children in their care. The children are happy and excited to return each day, which is a true testament of our staff's dedication and abilities.

## PARENTS AS PARTNERS

**W**e value the special relationship between parents and our school. We maintain an Open Door Policy for our children's families every day. Parent communication is of the utmost importance to us and you will always know all the details of your child's day. There will be plenty of planned opportunities for you to be involved in our classroom activities throughout the year. Parents are encouraged to drop by at any time. We will be happy to see you and welcome you into our day.



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### RATES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2017-18 (SEPTEMBER TO JUNE)

	<u>MONTHLY</u>	<u>ANNUALLY</u>
<b>INFANT (6 WEEKS TO 18 MONTHS)</b>		
<b>FULL-DAY SESSION: 7:30 AM TO 5:00 PM</b>		
[3] Days Full-Day Session	\$930	\$9,300
[5] Days Full-Day Session	\$1,465	\$14,650
<b>TODDLER (18 MOS. TO 36 MONTHS)</b>		
<b>FULL-DAY: 8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM</b>		
[3] Days Full-Day Session	\$905	\$9,050
[5] Days Full-Day Session	\$1,450	\$14,500
<b>PRE-NURSERY (18 MOS. TO 36 MONTHS)</b>		
<b>MORNING SESSION: 8:00 AM TO 11:30 AM</b>		
[3] Days Morning Session	\$508	\$5,080
[5] Days Morning Session	\$810	\$8,100

Upon submission of the enrollment form, a 10% deposit (of annual tuition) is required to hold your child's place in the program. The deposit will offset your last monthly bill for the school year in June. Your deposit will be forfeited if you pull your child from the program or reduce their enrollment schedule during the year.

\*Fee includes snacks only, breakfast and lunch are not provided.

\*\*Billing is done monthly in advance based on the selected enrollment schedule.



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