



The Comprehensive Curriculum of Humpty Dumpty crèche and Kindergarten

Kindergarten is a place for children to explore their interests and develop new skills. By participating in various activities, they learn about the world around them and start developing important academic and social skills.

Our learning framework

Our learning framework:

- ✚ nurtures the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of children
- ✚ is based on the latest research in the fields of neuroscience, child psychology, child development and learning
- ✚ lays strong emphasis on building values, emotional regulation, resilience, and effective social skills in children
- ✚ is developmentally sequenced, based on the learning trajectories of children
- ✚ is theme-based and interwoven across 8 areas of learning

Learning areas of our curriculum

1. Physical Development

This is the development of Locomotor Skills; that is movement of arms and legs, fine motor skills, or use of hands and fingers, Balance and Co-ordination involving playing outside and doing physical activities as a class, and Physical awareness. Puzzles, drawing and other in-class activities address the latter.

Physical development:

- ✚ focusses on overall wellbeing and holistic development
- ✚ ensures physical activity becomes a part of the school routine
- ✚ filled with highly engaging, fun activities and thrilling games
- ✚ provides plenty of opportunities for gross and fine motor development
- ✚ improves focus and allows children to take risks and overcome challenges
- ✚ yoga and balance and coordination activities form an important part of the program
- ✚ creates synergy within the peer group and fosters effective group dynamics
- ✚ discover own strength and ability

2. Social and Emotional Development

This is how a child interacts with others, helping children to understand and manage their own feelings. Teachers help children recognize, talk about, and express their emotions and show concern for others. They also support children's development of self-regulation, and self-management. Social and Emotional development program help children to learn to work cooperatively, make friends, resolve disputes, promote values, etc.

Social and emotional development focusses on:

- ✚ helping each child feel safe, secure, and ready to learn
- ✚ helping the child focus and engage in activities in the classroom
- ✚ making children aware of their feelings, emotions, thoughts, and behaviour
- ✚ enabling the child to manage their emotions and behaviours in different situations
- ✚ building self-acceptance, confidence, resilience, and growth in mindset
- ✚ equipping children with the ability to learn from mistakes and grow
- ✚ values such as respect, honesty, kindness, and empathy
- ✚ developing essential social skills to build and maintain healthy relationships
- ✚ encouraging problem solving, collaboration, teamwork, and leadership skills
- ✚ mindfulness activities to keep the mind calm and focussed

3. My World and I

This is a lesson where kids learn about the world around them. They learn about the basic building blocks of the universe, including plants and animals. They also learn about the Earth's resources and how to conserve them. In general, children learn about different cultures and how people live and work together. Instruction is very hands-on. Children learn through exploration and discovery. Strands of my world and myself program include: theme-related concepts, science and social studies concepts, curiosity about the world, investigation of the world, and discoveries of the World.

Here are some of its highlights:

- ✚ structured program that triggers curiosity and enables discovery of the world
- ✚ introduces engaging theme-related concepts in an age-appropriate manner
- ✚ filled with a vast variety of hands-on explorations and experiences
- ✚ fosters environmental awareness and consciousness in each child
- ✚ develops cognitive skills and scientific thinking skills that enable higher order thinking
- ✚ enhances sensory development which makes learning stimulating and meaningful
- ✚ provides a strong foundation in the early years in the areas of science and social studies

4. Language and Communication

Language and communications skills is developed through reading, writing, talking and listening. Some of its learning strands include: listening skills, stories and rhymes, communication skills, comprehension, listening and understanding, vocabulary building, language acquisition, and speaking.

Highlights include:

- ✚ original stories and rhymes that are rooted in the child's socio-cultural context
- ✚ exposes the children to a plethora of theme-related concepts through stories and discussions
- ✚ builds active listening and communication skills
- ✚ aids articulation and expression of thoughts in all areas of learning
- ✚ helps children develop an impressive vocabulary
- ✚ role play and drama are seamlessly interwoven into everyday sessions
- ✚ carefully curated for a bilingual classroom with an emphasis on English and Kiswahili language Acquisition as well as communication in the mother tongue
- ✚ uses the tried and tested method of Total Physical Response to facilitate language acquisition in the early years

5. Thinking and Cognitive Skills

This encourages children to investigate, make observations, ask questions and solve problems. Teachers help children plan what they're going to do, encourage children to discuss and think more deeply about ideas, and include children when making decisions through skill Building. Drawing, colouring, painting modelling, crafting cutting, and pasting addresses the latter. Other strands include: using age-appropriate art tools safely, art exploration and appreciation, understanding the 7 elements of art, and creation and expression

Thinking and cognitive skills:

- ✚ promotes creativity, imagination, and free expression
- ✚ calms the mind and improves concentration
- ✚ builds fine motor skills and nurtures sensory development
- ✚ provides opportunities for children to experiment with different forms of art - from drawing, colouring and painting, to cutting and pasting, to modelling and crafting
- ✚ exposes children to different kinds of artwork, including folk art
- ✚ builds art appreciation and evaluation skills

6. Numeracy and Math

Children begin understanding mathematical concepts such as addition, subtraction, and shapes in kindergarten. Instruction takes a hands-on approach. Children are encouraged to explore and discover mathematical concepts for themselves. They might use manipulative objects such as blocks or beads to help them understand what they're learning.

Some topics that are covered in literacy and math instruction include: recognizing and counting numbers up to 20, identifying basic shapes (e.g., circles, squares, and triangles), spatial relationships, adding and subtracting numbers up to 10, measuring length, weight, and capacity, identifying, extending and creating simple patterns, simple mapping and Positional words, and sorting and Simple graphing.

Some of its highlights include:

- ✚ sequenced based on the learning trajectories of children
- ✚ builds a strong conceptual foundation in maths
- ✚ hands-on and activity-based approach to learning concepts
- ✚ activities targeting the different Multiple Intelligence strengths of children
- ✚ age-appropriate worksheets
- ✚ builds logical thinking and problem-solving skills
- ✚ nurtures a love of maths
- ✚ learning Levels

7. Literacy and Phonics

This is a critical skill they will use for the rest of their lives. Teachers use a phonics-based approach to teach reading. This means that children learn to identify the individual sounds (or phonemes) that make up words. Once they know the sounds, they can start to put them together to form words. Some teachers also include reading games and activities in their instruction.

Some essential topics that are typically covered in reading instruction include: learning the names of the letters of the alphabet and a comprehensive introduction to the most common letter sounds, blending individual sounds to form words, recognizing common sight words, reading simple sentences and stories, writing letters and little words, phonological awareness,

letter stories and songs, segmenting and blending sounds, CVC words, 4 and 5 letter words, and pre-writing skills.

The highlights of Literacy and Phonics include:

- ✚ a strong focus on building phonological and phonemic awareness skills, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary
- ✚ a unique approach to explicit and systematic phonics instruction
- ✚ enables children to apply their knowledge of letter-sound patterns to build their reading and spelling skills
- ✚ a set of decodable readers that encourages children to apply their decoding skills at every step
- ✚ pre-writing and writing program

8. Health and Safety

Our health and safety program emphasises the health, hygiene, and physical safety of every child. It Educates children about important health and safety protocols in different situations and environments. We empower the child to stay safe and healthy, by engaging him/her in interactive activities and discussions, without adding to their fears. Health and safety education encourages independence and autonomy, promotes sound decision-making, and allows children to make healthy choices.

Here are the most essential topics covered in health and safety education:

- ✚ personal Hygiene (physical hygiene and hygiene around food)
- ✚ healthy Habits (good nutrition and food choices, physical activity rest and sleep)
- ✚ keeping Safe (awareness of safety protocols in different situations, personal space and safety, and getting help when needed)

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities (ECA) are any activities children perform beyond the school's standard curriculum. They are voluntary, social and involve interaction with the same age group. These activities are based on children's personal interests, that can help them develop essential social and emotional skills. Extracurricular activities: improve physical health, instil social skills, boost self-esteem, promote elevated mental health, develop positive habits (e.g., time management skills, community development, compassion towards others, self-efficient, etc.), and help with academics.

Some of the activities include:

- ✚ Art (Drawing, painting, and sculpting are just a few of the art projects that kids do)
- ✚ Music (children learn to play simple instruments such as the recorder or xylophone. They also sing songs and learn about different musical genres)
- ✚ Drama (kids act out skits and plays to develop their imagination and communication skills)
- ✚ Sports: (there are sports teams that children can join. This is an excellent way for them to exercise and learn about teamwork)