

## PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Y is committed to nurturing individual differences and the growth of the whole child - Physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively. We make every effort to keep parents/guardians informed about daily activities concerning your child at the Y Child Care. Our goal is to strengthen the family unit, assist children in developing to their fullest and provide a safe and positive environment. We will instill in each child the Y's 4 core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Our staff are well trained and provide a safe and exceptional environment so you may have peace of mind while your child is in our care. It is our desire to partner with parents/guardians to insure that children grow-up healthy, happy and strong.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Y is the nation's largest provider of childcare offering over 9,000 sites and serving over 500,000 children every year. The Y is dedicated to providing high-quality, and affordable childcare. At the Y our FOCUS is YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, HEALTHY LIVING and SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and it is our goal to nurture the potential of every child, youth and teen.

## COMMITTMENT

The Y is committed to meeting the needs of the family unit and welcome those who cannot afford our services to apply for financial assistance or ask for assistance in finding or learning about additional payment options.

We are committed to excellence and are very proud to be a Parent Aware Rated Program.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



### Early Learning Center - Willmar

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# LEARNING TOGETHER, PLAYING TOGETHER!



## YMCA EARLY LEARNING CENTER WILLMAR | SPICER

# LEARN...GROW...THRIVE.

## THE VALUE YOU CAN EXPECT!



### INFANT

(6 WEEKS TO 16 MONTHS)

I am going to learn through age-appropriate activities that encourage my curiosity and the use of my five senses. I am going to be exposed to activities that will support social and emotional development and explore the classroom in physical activities that support large and small muscle development. My teachers are alert, well trained, extremely caring and are going to teach me infant sign language and care for me as much as my family does.



### TODDLER CLASS

(16 MONTHS TO 33-36 MONTHS)

It's time to really begin learning. I am going to begin to show my emotions. I will begin showing empathy, affection and dislikes. I will begin to influence and persuade as well as imitate and explore with my friends. In this classroom I will learn to climb steps, march, roll and kick a ball and put on my shoes, socks and jacket. I will begin my fine motor skills like using crayons and paintbrushes. I will begin potty training, learn how to wash and dry my hands, drink from a cup, use a spoon and I will show pride in my new accomplishments.



### PRESCHOOL

(36 MONTHS TO 48 MONTHS/KINDERGARTEN)

My learning environment is designed to meet my overall needs as a preschooler and my teachers facilitate my development through age-appropriate experiences. Because I am unique my expectations and accomplishments will vary. I will be challenged but not hurried and I will develop a sense of security, self-confidence, a positive attitude and I will begin to show a desire to learn. I will learn to follow directions, become respectful and not disruptive. I will begin to exhibit self control and be able to focus on the desired task. By now I should be able to get dressed, take care of toileting needs, clean-up after myself and try to solve problems independently. I will learn to play cooperatively, help others, interact with my peers and resolve conflict peacefully. I will learn to speak clearly, tell stories and follow direction. I will develop large motor skills like pedaling a tricycle, and building with blocks. I will learn fine motor skills like pouring my own milk, holding a pencil and cutting with scissors. I will learn my colors, shapes, numbers and letters.



### PRE-K

(48 MONTHS TO KINDERGARTEN)

By now, I am just about ready for my transition to kindergarten. My last year here at Child Care will test my skills in the classroom. We will use the building blocks I have learned in Preschool and refine them in preparation of Kindergarten. I am going to learn pre-math, pre-writing and the language skills to succeed in Kindergarten.