

Early Childhood Education @OCYL

OCYL, the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Learning, offers year-round educational opportunities.

OCYL's unique early childhood classes are joyful, dynamic, skills-based and developmentally appropriate with play as a key ingredient for learning. The curriculum, which is aligned with RI Early Learning & Development Standards, provides practice and measures children's progress of specific learning goals. The classes also help develop language, cognition, social/emotional & motor skills.



OCYL's Literacy and Number Sense classes are taught by experienced teachers and assistants. Class includes circle time, learning centers (where children explore and play) and teacher led activities in a 2-hour preschool setting. Students are assigned to a Level A or B class.

Literacy Classes

Children learn literacy skills through a targeted curriculum that includes songs, poems, circle time, literacy centers, small and whole group activities, and read-alouds. Children engage in play and activities that are related to phonological awareness, alphabet knowledge, print knowledge, comprehension, reading and writing.

Number Sense Classes

Children learn math concepts through games, circle time, songs, learning centers, whole group activities and everyday math related experiences and problem solving. Children engage in play and activities that are related to number recognition, counting, and using numbers and language to compare quantities. Sorting, patterning, shapes, measurement, graphing, and number formation are included in the curriculum.

Seasonal Afternoon Options

Level B students may extend their days by registering for Afternoon Lunch/Class Combos, including: Preschool Science, Preschool Music & Movement, Preschool Process Art, and Little STEAMers.

See the Seasonal Classes panel. ↴

Call for a tour! Visit www.ocyl.org for details and to register.

Some Financial Assistance is available for qualifying Cumberland Residents. Apply online.

Choosing an Early Childhood Setting

Choosing a program in a school, or community based setting, is an important decision for families. OCYL may be your child's first experience in a formal learning environment. Children are assigned classrooms (levels) based on age and former learning experience to provide an appropriate learning environment for each child. An OCYL informational tour is strongly recommended.

OCYL's Literacy and Number Sense classes offer:

- A low teacher to student ratio of 1:6-7
- Small class sizes at 12-14
- Aligned with RIELDS
- Child Outreach Screenings
- Fall and Spring Assessments
- Parent-teacher Conferences
- A secure facility
- A nut-free snack
- An authorized pick-up procedure
- Opportunity to speak directly with teachers
- Caring and passionate teachers and staff



School Year Days

Literacy classes meet twice per week on Mon/Wed, **or** Tues/Thu. Number Sense class meets once per week on Fridays.

Requirements

In order to participate in drop-off classes, children must:

- Be able to use the bathroom independently
- Separate easily from parent/guardian
- Be 3 years old on September 1st



SEASONAL Early Childhood Classes

MORNING ADULT/CHILD CLASSES

Music and Movement, Ages 0-3

Wednesday or Thursday

9:00-9:45 AM or 10:15-11:00 AM

Come sing, dance, and play with instruments in an upbeat class. Miss Ashli fosters creativity and self-confidence within a caring environment. Join in the fun!

Process Art, Ages 2-3

Tuesday, 10:00-10:45 AM

Come create! Miss Anna fosters expression and experimentation in these process-oriented art classes. Let's get messy!

AFTERNOON LUNCH/CLASS COMBOS

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS, 11:35-1:15 PM

Options for Level B students to extend their days by registering for lunch/class combos that provide cafeteria style lunchtime segueing into afternoon classes. Seasonal sessions are offered during fall, winter and spring. Great way to prepare for full-day K!

Lunch/Preschool Science

Science topics change with each session. Come explore, experiment and have fun!

Lunch/Preschool Music & Movement

Explore music through dramatic play, dancing, and story time. Develop rhythm and tonal patterns using instruments and movement. Sing classic children's songs & learn new songs!

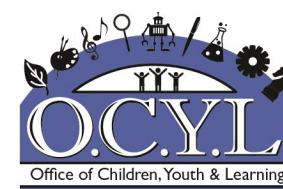
Lunch/Preschool Process Art

Express yourself through art! The creative process & experimentation is the focus of this class. Use new materials and tools each week!

Lunch/Little STEAMers

Develop creative & critical thinking and problem solving skills by participating in a process that is prompted by open-ended questions and challenges. Learn to use new tools and create!

**Class offerings change from session to session (fall, winter and spring).*



The Mayor's Office of Children, Youth & Learning

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Register online: www.ocyl.org

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Where children engage in essential early learning experiences



OCYL

School Year 2025-2026