



## Bright Eagle Daycare

### TYPICAL CURRICULUM FOR OUR INFANTS (Ages 5 – 12 months)

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#### 1. Our definition of Montessori principles for Infants:

- ✓ **Prepared Environment:** Safe, simple, and calm spaces designed for movement and exploration.
- ✓ **Respect for the Child:** Care routines (feeding, diapering, napping) are done with calm attention and verbal guidance, communicating with the child while implementing a routine.
- ✓ **Freedom of Movement:** No restrictive gear (swings, bouncers, walkers). Infants explore on the floor with soft mats and low furniture.
- ✓ **Hands-on Learning:** Real objects, natural materials (wood, cotton, metal), and sensory-rich activities.
- ✓ **Observation:** We watch for readiness cues to introduce new activities.

#### 2. Developmental Stages and Curriculum

##### ❖ 5–6 Months: Awakening Senses & Movement

**Focus:** Tummy time, reaching, grasping, rolling, visual tracking.

**Transitions:** From lying on back to rolling and sitting with support.

##### **Activities:**

- ✓ **Movement:** Floor time on soft mat, encourage rolling with a toy just out of reach.
- ✓ **Sensorial:** Simple rattles, fabric squares with different textures, black-and-white or high-contrast images.
- ✓ **Practical Life:** We talk through diapering, feeding, and routines (“Now I am wiping your hands”).
- ✓ **Language:** Gentle songs, naming body parts during care.
- ✓ **Fine Motor:** Soft grasping toys (wooden rings, silicone teethingers).



### ❖ 7–8 Months: Sitting & Exploring

**Focus:** Sitting independently, early crawling, stronger grasp.

**Transitions:** Sitting → pivoting → scooting.

**Activities:**

- ✓ **Movement:** Low obstacle course (pillows, tunnel).
- ✓ **Sensorial:** Treasure basket with safe household items (wooden spoon, metal cup, cloth napkin).
- ✓ **Practical Life:** Allow child to hold spoon while feeding.
- ✓ **Language:** Picture cards of familiar objects, naming caregivers.
- ✓ **Fine Motor:** Large stacking rings, cloth books with crinkle sounds.

### ❖ 9–10 Months: Mobility & Intentional Play

**Focus:** Crawling, pulling to stand, pincer grasp emerging.

**Transitions:** Floor mobility → pulling to stand → cruising along furniture.

**Activities:**

- ✓ **Movement:** Low push cart, pull-up bar (low, safe railing), climbing soft steps.
- ✓ **Sensorial:** Sound cylinders, shape-sorters with large pieces.
- ✓ **Practical Life:** Wiping tray with a small cloth, exploring self-feeding with finger foods.
- ✓ **Language:** Peek-a-boo with names, object permanence box, naming familiar items repeatedly.
- ✓ **Fine Motor:** Posting toys (dropping pegs into a container), nesting cups.

### ❖ 11–12 Months: Independence & First Steps

**Focus:** Cruising, first steps, refined pincer grasp.

**Transitions:** Cruising → walking → first attempts at carrying objects.

**Activities:**

- ✓ **Movement:** Walking while holding a push toy, carrying lightweight objects (small basket).



- ✓ **Sensorial:** Matching identical objects (two wooden balls, two cloths).
- ✓ **Practical Life:** Pouring dry rice (with supervision), practicing drinking from an open cup.
- ✓ **Language:** Naming emotions, using gestures (“wave bye-bye,” “clap hands”), simple picture books.
- ✓ **Fine Motor:** Large knobbed puzzles, turning thick pages in a book, placing items in/out of baskets.

### Typical Daily Routine to help implement and maintain this curriculum (8:30 am – 4:30 pm)

- ✓ **Arrival & Greeting:** Gentle transition, child chooses a familiar toy.
- ✓ **Morning Movement (9:00):** Floor exploration, rolling, crawling, walking practice.
- ✓ **Snack (9:30):** Finger foods, practice self-feeding.
- ✓ **Morning Activity (10:00):** Sensorial basket / object permanence / stacking toys.
- ✓ **Nap (10:30–12:00):** Individual sleep needs respected.
- ✓ **Lunch (12:00):** Encourage self-feeding with spoon or finger foods.
- ✓ **Outdoor Time (12:30):** Blanket on grass, safe crawling/walking exploration.
- ✓ **Afternoon Activity (1:30):** Language focus (songs, stories, naming objects).
- ✓ **Nap (2:00–3:30):** Quiet rest time.
- ✓ **Snack (3:30):** Open cup practice, fruit/soft finger food.
- ✓ **Closing Activity (4:00):** Free exploration, stacking, crawling/walking practice.
- ✓ **Pickup (4:30):** Gentle transition to parents.