



Dear Family,

We are very excited to welcome you and your kiddo to our Toddler Program. This Letter provides an outline of your child's new classroom, Mt. Kilimanjaro – a major climbing destination in Africa and our Center! The Supply List below includes a very important list of items needed at the Center on the first day of class. Please be sure to read this letter thoroughly as you'll learn more about the classroom and your kiddos teachers.

Our goal is to provide an all-around learning experience specifically designed for every developmental stage of education. The Toddler Program at The Academy embraces a number of educational philosophies from Montessori to STEM. We offer theme-based units, learning activities, enrichment lessons and fun, engaging lesson plans that include core academic subjects from math, reading, writing, foreign languages, to other academic components such as arts and crafts, music, dramatic play, and physical activities.

In this Program, children learn through a balance of play, teacher / child-facilitated activities, and repetition. A fully balanced day, reassuring routine, and stimulating activities provide toddlers with a sense of security. It is the optimum environment for learning at this level of development! Our Program allows children to work at a challenging level, yet at their pace while enjoying stories, toys, music, games, costumes, building blocks and more, all designed to develop language and fine / gross motor skills.

The unit lesson plans will be posted monthly on the Parent Board located in the classroom. Additional Parent Resources are included in our monthly newsletters and [Instagram](#) / [FaceBook](#) Below is a list of supplies needed for a successful learning environment. Please have these ready on your child's first day **labeled with your child's name / initials.**

Supply List

Diapers / Pull-Ups

Wipes

2 Sets of extra clothes

Sippy Cup (for water)

Blanket and Sheet (24" x 48")

Sunscreen/Diaper Rash Cream

About this Classroom:

In our toddler classroom, curricular lesson plans / circle time begins at 9:00 am so please be sure to drop-off by 9:00 am. Dropping off by 9:00 am will help minimize class disruptions and encourage classroom learning for your little one.

- **Sweet Treats Permission Form** - For special occasions or lessons, sweet treats may be offered in the classroom. All sweets will be nut-free and store bought to eliminate cross contamination. If you would like your child to participate, please sign the [Sweet Treats Permission Form](#).
- **Shoes** – Now that your kiddo is on-the-move, please bring walking shoes.

- **Mats** - Children will transition to mats in this class and generally transition pretty smoothly. Please see the supplies needed above including a kid-size fitted bed sheet and a blanket. Mats provided are 24" x 48".
- **Schedule** – Children will eat twice a day. They will be served lunch at 11:00 am and we will provide a TSA snack between 2:00-2:30 following nap time. Snack consists of a wholesome diet and can include: fruit, veggies, cheese, crackers, etc. (no refined sugars).
- **Meals** - Food planning and prepping for children can be a daily challenge for parents of young kiddos.
 - To help and inspire your child's lunches with all five food groups (protein, dairy, grain, vegetable, and fruit), please check out [My Plate](#) to learn more about building your child a healthy plate. Per Health / Licensing requirements, TSA is responsible for ensuring all lunches for children in our care meet the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) food pattern requirements. Check out these [5 Nut Free Recipes](#) and [Crock Pot Inspiration](#) for further inspiration.
 - **Schedule** - Children will eat twice a day. They will be served lunch at 11:00am accompanied by milk, and we will provide a TSA snack between 2:30pm-3:00pm following nap time. Snack consists of a wholesome diet and can include fruit, veggies, cheese, crackers, etc. (no refined sugars).
 - **Ice Pack** - All student lunches are required to have an ice pack included in their lunchbox. This is to ensure all lunches remain the correct temperature prior to serving at 11:00 am.
 - As a reminder, we are unable to heat lunches so we encourage all families to use a thermos if you'd like to keep your lunch items warm.
- **Potty Training** – Our potty-training program can begin as early as 18 months of age and we're here to help with this transition when you and your little one are ready. Please let us know when you, kiddo, and family are ready to begin the process and be sure to check out our Potty Training blog for additional guidance.
- **Yoga** - Yoga is a great way for children to learn positive and calming ways to exercise their bodies. Bi-weekly yoga sessions will be held on Fridays in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign the [Yoga Permission Slip](#) if you wish to participate.

Get to Know Your Teachers:

Be sure to check out your Teacher bio and get to know them a little bit before your first day on our [Welcome Page](#).

We look forward to your first day in your new classroom! Please let us know if you have any further questions and thank you in advance for your help in making this a smooth transition.

Raising a child takes a village and we're proud to be part of the tribe,

TSA Team

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