

2. Children are active learners who construct knowledge through hands-on experiences.

What We Believe

Children learn best by doing. They actively make sense of their world by exploring, experimenting, and engaging with materials, people, and ideas. Learning should be active and guided by inquiry and exploration. Children need ample time and space to construct knowledge and foster optimal whole-child development.

Why This is Important

Hands-on experiences deepen understanding, build critical thinking, and support long-term learning. Active engagement promotes curiosity, motivation, and the development of complex cognitive skills.

✓ What it looks like when we get it right.	✗ What it feels like when we get it wrong.
Children engage in experiments, building projects, and real-world problem solving. This makes learning authentic and engaging.	Children are often expected to be passive learners, leading many to become bored, to disengage, and to exhibit challenging behaviors.
“Designing spaces for multiple ways to gain knowledge. Adequate time for children to soak up new relevant information, so children can make connections with their lives and draw parallels”. Suzanne Axelsson	Children’s ideas are often overlooked, and the focus is on transmitting standards and imparting content. Educators often fail to take the time to get to know children or see them as a valuable source of knowledge.
Educators encourage exploration by asking open-ended questions and facilitating hands-on discovery.	Learning is often viewed as a task to complete rather than a meaningful experience. Children have to wait until recess to participate in hands-on, engaging activities.