Play is a critical part of a young child’s life. At the turn of 21st century, the idea of play in an educational setting came under attack. Although the role of play is debated heavily, the Family Education and Early Childhood Department at MSD believes in learning through play and strives to support that relationship to other domain areas such as literacy, mathematics, science and social studies/multicultural studies. When we talk about learning through play, this means playing with intention and language. Leaving the child on his/her own with toys is not meaningful. It does not promote learning through play.

Thanks to gains in scientific research, how young children develop and learn has never become any clearer than before. Starting earlier with play, evidence showed, is not only beneficial to young children’s development but to their literacy skills. Learning through play leads to higher level of critical thinking and sophisticated language use in later years. If you want information on how to make learning through play more meaningful at home, please contact our office or your child’s teacher for resources.

Classes at Family Education and Early Childhood Department

**Toddler:** 9:00am to 12noon from Monday through Friday.

**Preschool:** 8:00 am to 2:50pm from Monday through Friday.

**Pre-Kindergarten:** 8:00am to 2:50pm from Monday through Friday

**Parent Infant Program (From Birth to 18 months old):** 9:00am to 11:30am on Mondays and Fridays.

**Parent Sessions:** Mondays from 9:45 to 10:30am.

**ASL Class:** Fridays, 9:45 to 10:30am.