Everyday life in the nursery

The City of Copenhagen Children and Youth Administration

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Everyday life in a nursery

There are many good reasons for having one's child in a nursery. The nursery provides your child with an opportunity to learn many new words and play with other children.

Research shows that children who have been in nursery do well in school.

The adults working in a nursery are trained in working with children. They posses great knowledge of the devel-opment and well-being of children. They are also able to assess whether a child needs special considerations.

Your child can start in nursery at 6 months. Most children start at the age of I year. When the child is about three years old it will start in kindergarten. The child will attend school from age 6.

In nursery, the child will learn to:



I. Your child will become part of a group

When your child is in nursery, he or she will meet other children of the same age.

They can play, laugh and be silly together. When your child is with other children, he or she will learn to be considerate, share things and be a good friend. In other words, it is with other children that your child learns to establish good relations with both children and adults and to be part of a group.

The children learn to take care of one another. Such as seeing an older child learning to dress will make your child want to do the same.

2. Security and safety in the nursery

When your child starts is in nursery, it will change life in your family.

Maybe it will be the first time that you and your child are apart. That is why it is important that the nursery is a safe place for both you and your child.

In the nursery, the children are divided into two groups. Each group has fixed adults. Your child will be with these children and adults every day.

All nurseries are designed so that the children are safe—both inside and outside.





3. Activities in the nursery

Everything that's going on in the nursery is aimed at the children thriving. They can play, develop and have a good time.

That happens through daily repetitions that the children quickly feel confident about.

It also happens through activities that are aimed at the age of the child. For instance singing games, painting, rhythmics, book reading, playing in puddles or visiting playground nearby.

In the nursery, there is plenty of toys and books that the children can play with.

4. Your child's language

In nursery, your child will learn many new words.

Both adults and children play with the language, such rhymes, jingles, singing games and by putting into words what the children are doing or saying.

In this way, the child will feel like using his or her language. That goes for both Danish as well as whatever language you speak at home.

A daily life that small children can cope with



5. The children eat together

6. Sleep

In the nursery, the children eat together. They eat together in their fixed group.

The older children practise eating by themselves, and the adults help the younger children.

Adults and children talk about the food they are eating. Your child may try different kinds of food.

Your child gets fed several times during the day. The adults in the nursery know a lot about children and food. They will also take into consideration if there's something you child cannot eat for this or that reason. Most children in the nursery still sleep once or several times during the day.

Your child will have his or her own ma-dras or baby carriage for sleeping. You and the staff can plan the best sleeping routine for your child in the nursery. Whatever your child is used to from home will be taken into consideration.

In many nurseries, the children sleep outside. The adults watch over the children while they sleep. They will sleep in warm clothes when it's cold. In some nurseries, they children sleep outside for most of the year.





7. Your child starting in nursery

Before your child starts nursery, you will be invited to a meeting with the staff.

Here, you will make a plan for your child starting nursery. Perhaps there will also be a health visitor present.

It's a good idea to have at least a week for starting nursery. In the beginning, you and your child will be there for a few hours. And slowly your child will practise being alone with the staff and the other children a few hours at a time until he or she can be in the nursery for longer periods.

8. Parents and staff

When a child starts nursery, parents and staff talk a lot.

When you talk and work well together concerning your child, it helps the child to be safe and thrive.

As parents you must feel confident about the nursery. This way the children will have a good day. That is why it is impor-tant to ask the staff if you have doubts about something or questions about daily life in the nursery. The staff will gladly provide answers.

9. How to register your child

You can put your child on a waiting list for a place in a nursery when it's two months old.

You have to put down when you'd like your child to start.

At the earliest, your child can get a place when it's 6 months old.

Most children are about 1 year old when they get a place.

More information on: www.kk.dk/vuggestueogdagpleje

10. Financial support

Parents will have to pay for a nursery place but they can apply for a state grant.

You may be entitled to his, depending on your total household income.

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