



# K'Ton Ton

Early Childhood Programs

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# Hello!

I want to extend your family a very warm welcome to K'Ton Ton. We are excited to share our nurturing, child-centered, extraordinary school with you! K'Ton Ton is, at its heart, a family. I have always told people that what I love about K'Ton Ton, from my days here as a student teacher, to my time as a parent, and now as the director, is the family that K'Ton Ton is. We are not just a "school", but a community at its best. I am thankful every day to be part of such an amazing community.

Beginning preschool is an exciting time for your child! It often brings a mixture of anticipation and anxiety - both for your child and for you! Please know that it is my priority to make your child's preschool experience enjoyable; a time filled with excitement, growth, and opportunity - both academically and socially. The skills we play with each day help build the foundation for your child's success in school and life. We will show them that school is a consistent, safe place to learn and explore. We look forward to caring for, supporting, and encouraging your child daily as we embark on the wonderful adventure of learning.

The only way to truly experience the magic that is K'Ton Ton is to visit and see us in action. You will feel the warmth the moment you walk through our doors. I urge you to talk with the teachers, bring your child and observe the interactions, and make yourself at home. I am certain you will experience our mission in action and see a home away from home where children thrive.

Best,

*Ms. Erin*

Director



## Philosophy

Between the ages of two and five, children are learning many basic social skills and attitudes. Each child is unique, and they develop at their own rate. K'Ton Ton provides a developmentally appropriate environment where the child learns while having fun.

Play is one of the most important experiences of childhood. Through play, children develop physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially. At K'Ton Ton, children learn and play in a warm, respectful environment and have many different activities from which to choose.

Jewish values and traditions are woven naturally through all of our disciplines so that they become both a meaningful and treasured part of each child's experience. Some examples are: respect for others, kindness, being a constructive member of a community, and tzedakah.

## Mission

It is the mission of K'Ton Ton to contribute to the development of children by providing an enriched play experience and guidance in social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development. Our approach is guided by our recognition and respect for the unique qualities of each child. We recognize that each child has individual needs, interests and passions. We aim to encourage each child's natural sense of wonder about the world and to promote respect and care for others. Each child is a treasured member of our K'Ton Ton family.

### We believe:

- Families are the primary teachers of their children.
- Children learn best through play.
- Children learn through active involvement with their environment.
- Children need daily indoor and outdoor unstructured play.
- Social/emotional readiness is critical to children's success in school and in life and should therefore be a main focus of our program.
- The process, not the product, is the lifelong lesson.
- Children need encouragement; consistency; clear, positive expectations; and healthy boundaries.

## New Moms Village

(New for the Fall of 2019!)

New Moms Village is for newborns (0-6 months) and their moms. Our weekly meetups are designed to include guest experts on topics like sleep, feeding, car seat safety, self-care, mom health, as well as unique bonding experiences like baby's first music class, sensory art, or mom-and-baby yoga - all in a friendly, relaxed setting where moms can be themselves and connect with others.

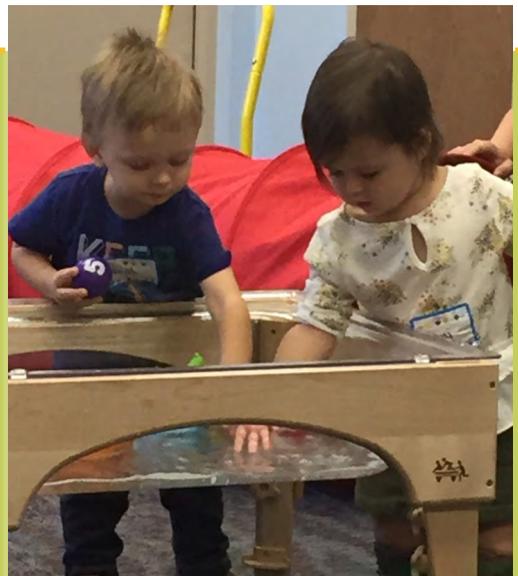
We all know it too well - the sleepless nights, the crazy feeding schedule, not knowing the last time you took a shower... all for that sweet little squishy bundle of love that you're just getting to know. We've been there in that wild and wonderful time, and we know it truly takes a Village.



## Playgroup

Designed for children who are 12-24 months old (with a parent/caregiver), Playgroup is a mixed-age group setting that feels like a family. Together you will experience circle time, fingerplays, songs, arts, sensory play, science, cooking, stories, singing, dancing, and more.

Facilitated by a K'Ton Ton early childhood educator, Playgroup is a warm, welcoming environment for children and adults alike. Wear comfortable, washable clothes because we will be moving and getting messy!



## Me, Two

Me, Two is our drop-off program for two-year olds. Me, Two focuses on separation and socialization.

Me, Two is full of singing, dancing, snack, circle time, sensory play and art, and of course, lots of playing. It is what we like to call "unstructured structure". The daily routine is always the same, and children are invited and encouraged to join in, but can still choose to do what they feel most comfortable doing on any given day.

In Me, Two, we do all of the messy fun you feel like you should be doing but don't want to have to clean up after.

Our Me, Two teachers are masters of creating a safe, warm, and welcoming home away from home. Me, Two truly is the perfect first experience at K'Ton Ton.

Me, Two is here Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30-11:30. You have a choice of one, two, or three days a week.



# Preschool

Our Preschool program is designed for children three and four years old. With a heavy focus on learning through play, children are guided at their own pace to grow, develop, and master skills.

Preschoolers are active. Their brains and bodies are designed for moving, exploring, creating.

Our preschool curriculum focuses heavily on social/emotional development: managing feelings, making friends, taking turns, developing empathy, solving problems. We work on being part of a group, following requests, cleaning up our things, and more. Our curriculum also includes fine and gross motor development, language and literacy development, scientific thinking, cognitive reasoning, math, and logic.

Each of our preschool classrooms has a teacher and at least one assistant.

While we encourage toilet learning prior to starting school, we understand that like other skills it is developmental and has to happen when the child is ready.

With our preschool program, you have a choice of three or four days. Preschoolers are here Tuesday-Friday from 9:15-11:45.



## Pre-Kindergarten



Building on their growth and development, our Pre-K program puts a strong emphasis on providing children with the experiences and skills necessary to have success in Kindergarten (and beyond!) while still encouraging their natural sense of wonder.

The key to Kindergarten readiness lies in social/emotional skills. We continue to place a strong focus on helping children develop those crucial skills. We work on helping children learn to solve problems and make simple decisions.

They learn to trust themselves - that they don't always need us to provide them an answer. These are the skills which build the strongest foundation possible for success.



Our Pre-K curriculum includes increased fine and gross motor development, literacy and language skills, cognitive thinking skills, math, and logic; ensuring our graduates are ready for the next step.



Our Pre-K kids are with us Monday-Friday from 9:15-1:00.

Our Pre-Kindergarten classes have a teacher and an assistant.



## After School Activities

Tuesday through Friday bring the opportunity for extended day enrichment activities. Programs include: Cooking, Creative Movement, Young Explorers, and Music.



We offer two sessions of each program; one for our Preschoolers and one for our Pre-Kindergarteners. Each runs after the end of the school day. Preschool after school sessions are from 11:45-12:30. Pre-K sessions are from 1:00-1:45.



## Stay and Play

Tuesdays and Thursdays are time for Stay and Play!

Preschoolers bring lunch, eat together and play from 11:45-2:00 with two of our assistants.

Pre-Kindergarteners can join the fun from 1:00-2:00.

## Early Drop-Off

We offer Early Drop-Off each day beginning at 8:30.

Early Drop-Off is available Mon-Fri.

# Camp K'Ton Ton

The magic happens every summer.

There's a certain alchemy of water, wind and fields of grass, warmed by the sun and laughter.

We add plenty of bashfulness and bravado. Creativity and curiosity. Smiles and songs.

Our early childhood educators engage your child's imagination through hands on experiences in music, water-play, exploration and art. There is plenty of time for discovery both indoors and out.

Camp runs for six weeks; Tuesday-Friday from 9:15-11:45.

Camp K'Ton Ton is a loving, positive, and exciting experience.



## Preschool Daily Routines

Class time  
*playing, working with teachers*

Circle time  
*singing, dancing, sharing, story*

Snack time

Free Choice time

Class time  
*singing, dancing, story*

Outside play

## Pre-K Daily Routines

Class time  
*working with teachers, playing*

Circle time  
*interactive writing, sharing, story*

Snack time

Free Choice time

Class time  
*singing, dancing, story*

Outside play

Lunch

Focused activities

## Free Choice Time



Free Choice time is the favorite time in our day. Unique to K'Ton Ton, our classrooms have connecting interior doors which we open during Free Choice time. Our Preschool and Pre-K children have the choice to move between all of

our classrooms, choosing activities and experiences in each room. A teacher is in each room, interacting and guiding activities. Free Choice time is filled with art, sensory experiences, dramatic play, construction, science, cooking, and more.



## Family Involvement

Your involvement is important to us! You are always welcome to spend all or part of a morning with us. We welcome your help – especially during Free Choice Time! Your children love having you here to help.



We have a number of family functions throughout the school year. They include our Back to School Play Date and Potluck, V.I.P. (Very Important People) Day, Family Day, Tea for Two, Graduation, and our Family Picnic. We try to balance morning, daytime, and evening events so all can attend throughout the year.



## Communication

Communication between home and school is an important piece for a successful, positive preschool experience. We use a variety of methods for communication.

**Email**–You will receive regular emails from us about what is going on at school, as well as relevant child development information.

**Facebook**–We use a secret Facebook group to share photos and information daily.

**Remind**–We use the Remind app to send out text message alerts and reminders. The app also allows for two-way texting.

**Open Door Policy**–We are always available to talk in person. We welcome your visits and phone calls!



# Conscious Discipline

**K'Ton Ton is a Conscious Discipline school.**

## What is Conscious Discipline?

Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive, research based emotional intelligence program which strives to develop self-discipline within the child instead of seeing discipline as something we must do to the child. Developed by Dr. Becky Bailey, an internationally renowned expert in child psychology, it is based on current brain research, child development information, and developmentally appropriate practices.

## What does that really mean?

It means that we view discipline as learning. Behavior “problems” aren’t really problems. They are skills that children are lacking, and as teachers, it is our job to help them learn those skills. It’s about looking deeper than the behavior to understand the “why” behind it.

Teachers work to establish a sense of emotional safety; to help every child feel safe and connected so they are ready to learn.

One of the most important aspects of Conscious Discipline is the School Family. The purpose of the School Family is to build connections between teachers, families, and children. These connections create an environment where every person is an important contributor. We work to create the School Family through routines, rituals, and structures.

Through Conscious Discipline, children learn self-regulation. We practice different breathing techniques to help them find and use their calm when solving problems.



## Our Staff

Our dedicated, caring staff is an integral part of what makes K'Ton Ton the incredible place it is. Each and every member of our staff values and understands children in a way that is inspiring.

Our classroom teachers all have degrees in either Early Childhood or Elementary Education. Our assistants all have years of experience working with young children - both as staff and as parents.

Each year, the entire staff goes through ongoing professional development to stay current with what we know is best for young children as well as current brain research and child development. All staff are CPR/First Aid certified.



## Testimonials

"We are always thrilled when we learn a child has come from K'Ton Ton. We know they are going to be more than ready for Kindergarten." – A Munster Elementary Principal

**"We are so grateful for all you do everyday – for the positive environment which you provide where Maja thrives every day she is there."**

"Thank you for putting together such a wonderful program at K'Ton Ton. We love everything about it. A feels so comfortable and thoroughly enjoys his time there!"

**"Thank you for providing a place for my sweet Evelyn that she loves."**

"Thank you for a wonderful three years. K'Ton Ton really prepped Mia and she is uber prepared for Kindergarten... she even came home and said, "Mrs. Lanman already taught me this." She is so so so happy in Kindergarten. I love you all. You are all such quality people."

*"Thank you for your kindness and warmth. We absolutely love being a part of the K'Ton Ton family and that is truly what you have created – a family environment."*

"The teachers are warm and educated. The staff turnover is extremely low. They take the time to get to know you and your children. They know your child through his entire spectrums of development: social, emotional, cognitive, motor, etc. They educate holistically. Leaving my children there, I have never felt 'guilty' or doubted for a second that they were in very capable and loving hands."



# K'Ton Ton

Early Childhood Programs

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