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Child Study Lab

Established by the the Department of Psychology in 1972, the Child Study Lab (CSL) is a preschool community where children and families explore, create, learn and grow. Staff from other early education programs throughout Maricopa County also visit the CSL to study quality practices in early childhood education. We serve children ages 15 months to 5 years.

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Philosophy

Our educational philosophy is based on the concept that children's natural curiosity prompts learning. Our emphasis is providing ample opportunity for exploration and discovery through which learning takes place. The CSL's physical setting and time blocks are arranged to stimulate open-ended creativity and experiences which provide a natural venue that facilitates the development of your child.

We provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum that is based on the premise that play is the primary medium through which young children develop intellectual, social, and perceptual motor competence. In addition, curriculum activities and adult-child interactions are tailored to meet the individual needs, interests, and abilities of each child. By using the Arizona Early Learning Standards in conjunction with an Emergent curriculum, your child will not only be ready for school but have a toolkit of life skills for their future.

A Place for Parents. Providing for the needs of parents is an important part of our program. We welcome and encourage parent involvement. Observation facilities are open daily and parents are always invited to visit or join their child for snack. Parent conferences are offered twice a year. We also provide a variety of social events and educational programs for families. Recent topics include discipline, kindergarten readiness, peer relationships, and the development of children's thinking.

A Part of ASU. As part of ASU's Department of Psychology, the CSL plays an integral role in the university's three-fold mission of teaching, research, and service. We provide carefully supervised training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing various careers serving young children and families. CSL children and families have a unique opportunity to voluntarily participate in various research studies. We provide a model of high quality education and care for young children and offer training opportunities and technical assistance for state and local early childhood professionals.

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