



Magic Garden Children's Center was founded on the principle that children learn best by engaging in a diverse curriculum of hands-on activities. In our warm and nurturing environment, children find friendship and support as they broaden their understanding of themselves, others, and the world around them. We empower children to be confident in their individual identities, respectful of different perspectives, and aware of the rich diversity of their community and world. Magic Garden seeks to cultivate children's natural curiosity and promote a lifetime love of learning.



Educational Philosophy

At the core of our program is the philosophy that the early years are an optimal time of social development for young children. We combine the creativity of flexible, child-centered classrooms with the structure of a challenging curriculum. We allow children's natural interests to shape areas of focus while incorporating proven practices in early childhood education. Our children learn social skills through daily routines that help them achieve success as individuals and as members of a classroom. Children at Magic Garden learn through music, art, movement (dance, tumbling, fitness), and through daily exposure to literacy, math, and science. Children also explore the beautiful wooded campus and play on our three playgrounds. Our graduates enter kindergarten with confidence and a solid academic foundation on which to grow.

Programs

Rainbow

Toddlers

The Rainbow program provides a gentle introduction to the school experience. We promote exploration, expression and movement, and create an environment where learning and friendships can thrive. Exposure to a wide variety of developmentally appropriate materials and activities builds problem-solving abilities, fine motor skills, and encourages sharing and self-regulation. Children explore their interests as individuals, develop an awareness of their peers, and begin to seek out opportunities to join in cooperative play.

Moonbeam

Young Preschoolers

The Moonbeam program focuses on social awareness and exploration as children develop peer relationships. Classroom materials support this development as children work cooperatively with interactive toys and dramatic play scenarios. Circle Time is a core activity that encourages the sharing of ideas. Children review the date, weather, classroom schedule and other information vital to the day. They learn to listen to other children's ideas and contribute their own.

Full Day With Extended Hours

As a 12-month, full-day children's center, Magic Garden is a resource for families seeking flexibility. Believing that a quality educational experience cannot be rushed, Magic Garden's core program runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a 7:30 a.m. early drop-off option and extended hours until 5 p.m.

Enrichment Activities

A variety of enrichment opportunities are woven into our daily curriculum. Our classrooms are visited by local dentists, police officers, astronomers, wildlife experts and other familiar community helpers. We walk to both the library and Codman Farm, visit Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm, and explore the nearby deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum. Other opportunities include:

- Spanish lessons
- Story time with the Lincoln librarians
- Nature walks through the wooded trails of Lincoln
- Tumbling, Yoga, and Sports classes
- Swimming lessons
- Music classes
- Classroom visits with the wildlife from Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm

Educators

We believe an excellent early childhood program is built on a foundation of superb teachers. Our team of motivated, energetic professionals have degrees in Early Childhood Education, Special Education, and Elementary Education. Many of our teachers have advanced degrees and have received specialized training in areas such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), American Sign Language (ASL), and the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program (DECA). In order to uphold the high standards of our program, staff development is ongoing throughout the year, ensuring that our teachers are up to date with current research. Many of our teachers have been at Magic Garden for more than 10 years, each bringing a unique area of expertise to the classroom.

Community

Since its founding in 1982, Magic Garden has fostered a climate of cooperation and shared responsibility. Parents are encouraged to visit the classrooms, enriching the curriculum with their talents and passions. Located on the sprawling Lincoln Public School campus, we have unique access to a broad range of facilities and resources. Magic Garden is an integral part of the Lincoln educational community.

Sunshine and Starburst

Pre-K

The Sunshine and Starburst programs reflect growing intellectual, social and motor abilities. The children's increased use of language and emerging self-reliance are encouraged. They participate in science experiments and cooking projects, and are excited to be given classroom responsibilities. The children thrive learning the consistent classroom routines and structure while continuing to be encouraged to explore their own interests and creativity. Math and literacy skills are integrated into almost every aspect of the day's curriculum, which supports each child's entry into kindergarten.

Starlight and Twilight

All ages. Starts at 3 p.m. with hourly pickup times at 4 or 5 p.m.

In Starlight, our younger students gather for an afternoon of games, arts and crafts, and quiet stories. In Twilight, our Pre-K students enjoy a variety of age-appropriate activities in the areas of science, math, literacy, geography, and nature. Collaborative art projects and creative movement classes are also incorporated into the afternoon program. Children have ample time to unwind and engage in free play.

The background of the entire page is a collage of children's artwork. On the left, there are two large, abstract paintings on white paper, one with yellow, green, and red splatters, and another with pink, red, and black strokes. To the right, there are several smaller, colorful drawings, including one with a red heart and green stem, and another with a blue and red abstract shape. The overall theme is creative and artistic.

LEARN CREATE EXPLORE

How to Enroll

Magic Garden welcomes children 18 months to 6 years old. Parents interested in enrolling their children are encouraged to make an appointment to visit the school.

Magic Garden admits children without regard to race, religion, cultural heritage, disability, marital status of family, political beliefs, family structure or national origin.

To schedule a tour or for more information, please contact us at: office@magic-garden.org

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