

National Association for
the Education of Young
Children (NAEYC)
Accreditation,
Teachers,
& Curriculum



NAEYC Accreditation

Licensing

As an entity of Laramie County Community College, the Children's Discovery Center voluntarily goes through the licensing process with the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS).

Being licensed is a measure of professionalism, and because our goal is to model professionalism and best practices for the college students we teach, we follow the licensing guidelines established through the Wyoming Department of Family Services while adhering to the NAEYC standards and criteria which go above and beyond the state licensing standards.

Wyoming Department of Family Services licensing guidelines can be found at [Licensing Rules - Wyoming Department of Family Services](#)



Creating the Environment

The CDC staff work together collaboratively to plan, implement, and maintain a learning environment that supports the philosophy and goals of the program and helps children manage their behavior and transitions. Their choices reflect an understanding of children's developmental characteristics and individual needs and interests, the environment is safe, stimulating, predictable, and organized. Children's work is regularly displayed (at child's eye level when possible) and used to revisit and extend their learning.

Respect for each person's (children, staff, and families) needs, abilities, and interests is of utmost priority. Teachers work to create and maintain a setting in which children of differing abilities, home and community contexts, and values are respected and integrated to form a cohesive community of learners. Teachers work to create, offer and scaffold opportunities for children to

Daily Schedules & Routines

Teachers develop a daily schedule for each class group that allows for a balance of indoor/outdoor, quiet/active, small-group/large-group/individual, and child-initiated/teacher-directed activities.

Daily schedules are tweaked as needed to fit the uniqueness of the individual children in the classroom. Each classroom is scheduled for time on the playground each morning and afternoon. Children spend time outside each day weather permitting, as long as the wind chill is 20° or higher. If it is too cold to go outside, we have access to the gym in the mornings.

Teachers use routines to create a sense of security, predictability, and to promote social interaction. A daily schedule and weekly lesson plan are posted in each classroom. Schedules are flexible and adapted to respond to unanticipated or spontaneous learning opportunities. Teachers use classroom routines, transitions, rules and expectations to provide children opportunities to participate and develop responsibility



Creative Curriculum

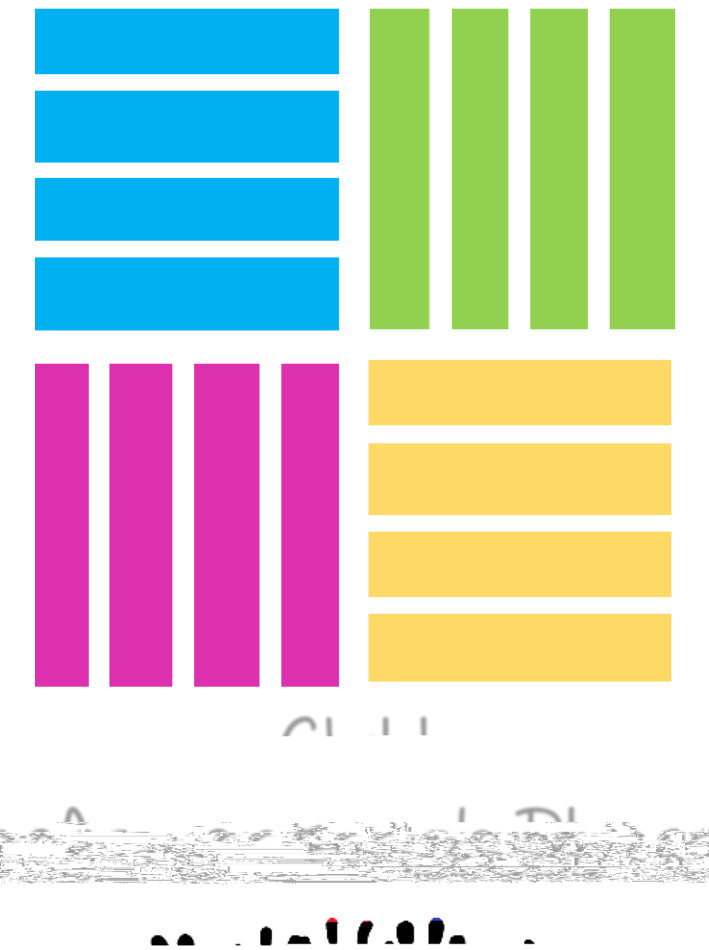
The Creative Curriculum is the lead curriculum at the Children's Discovery Center. This is a nationally

Ages & Stages Screening/Assessment Tool

Within 45 days of enrollment, and each year in September, every child's developmental growth is assessed by the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ). Parents are asked to complete the ASQ-SE to assess their child social emotional development at the same times. Teachers complete the ASQ, screening the child's communication skills, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, problem solving skills, and personal-social skills. Based on these screening tools, the teachers set a goal to work on with the child from the area of the screening that their results were the weakest. The teachers utilize these goals when creating activities in their lesson plans to help the children strengthen these areas.

Classroom teachers interact with children both individually and in groups to assess each child's strengths and needs, then use that knowledge to develop curriculum objectives and individualized teaching methods. The Wyoming Early Learning Standards are used and completed by the classroom teachers to paint a picture of each child's growth and development in the following areas; Emotional Development; Social Development; Culture, Family, and Community; Communication; Literacy; Approaches to Learning; Mathematics; Scientific Reasoning; Physical Development; and Daily Living Skills. Twice each year, the teaching teams meet with the family for a Family Conference. These occur in November and May, and a written family conference form will be provided to the family at each of these conferences. Additional conferences can be requested at any time by the family or the teaching team.

If there are any concerns or questions about the assessment and screening tools mentioned above, please feel free to speak with your child's teaching team or the CDC Administrators.



Transitioning to a New Classroom

Children are transitioned to a new classroom when it is developmentally appropriate for them to be engaged in activities with children who are in an older developmental class, and when space is available. It is not uncommon for a child to be in a classroom past the chronological age of the classroom in the

