

Bathroom Procedures

Daily Bathroom Visits

Children are free to use the bathroom at any time. Taking small groups of children at once is also acceptable. There are designated group times when children are reminded to use the bathroom as well. Bathrooms are supervised **at all times**; while children may be alone in the room, an adult will be aware of his or her needs when necessary.

Bathroom rules will be taught and reinforced. **Every** child will wash their hands after using the bathroom. Soap and warm water will be used every time. They will dry their hands with disposable paper towels.

Children will never be punished for soiling their clothes; every child will be required to bring a change of clothes for accidents, spills, etc.

If a child does have an accident, a teacher will clean up the child using latex gloves, help the child change his/her clothes and place the soiled garments in a plastic bag to be taken home. Both the child and teacher will wash their hands with warm water and sanitizing soap.

Potty Training

It is important that both the parent and the caregiver watch for signs of readiness in a child who is to be potty trained. Before the child should begin training, he or she should:

- Often stay dry for several hours
- Have fully mastered walking
- Be able to sit down and get up with ease
- Be able to communicate by sign, sound or words his or her need
- Acknowledge the need for a diaper change
- Be cooperative most of the time

Children of 2-3 years of age alternate between periods of cooperation and negativism. Choosing the right time usually makes the process easier.

Children learn to use the toilet through consistent, positive encouragement by adults. Both the caregiver and parents should be in agreement about the timing. The child should feel confident enough to sit on the potty and know that the adult will positively reinforce their behavior, regardless of the outcome.

Children will be provided a step stool or the chance to use our child-size toilet. Children will be taken to the bathroom often and **NEVER** scolded or shamed about diapers or pull-ups.