

**Manipulative Lab**-Contains a variety of materials to help children learn math skills such as shapes, colors and numbers.

**Sand/Water**-Provides the opportunity to pour and measure while using sand and water, to notice the difference between a liquid and a solid...

**Library/Listening Lab**- Provides the opportunity to look at and explore books and music

**Writing Lab**-Consists of materials and activities that promote letter awareness and fosters beginning writing.

Based on  
Creative Curriculum, Success For All  
Curiosity Corner & the National Association for the  
Education of Young Children

### Play Today

You say you love your children. And are concerned they learn today? So am I; that's why I'm providing a variety of kinds of play. You're asking me the value of blocks and other such play? Your children are solving problems. They will use that skill everyday. You're asking what's the value of having your children play? Your daughter's creating a tower, she may be a builder someday. You're saying your don't want your son to play in the "sissy" way? He's learning to cuddle a doll; he may be a father someday.

You're questioning the learning centers; they just look like useless play? Your children are making choices; they'll be on their own someday.

You're worried your children aren't learning, and later they'll pay? They're learning a pattern for learning, for they will be learners always.

Leila P Fagg

Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.

Fiscal Lead Agency:

305 Essex St.

Lawrence, MA 01840



As parents you have the opportunity to participate in our home education program. We have parent educators who will meet with you once a month at your convenience. While with you they will demonstrate the dialogic reading technique using questions to enhance your child's language and learning skills. The book will be left with you to read for the next month along with some activities you can do with your child. Children will also receive Leap-frog's educational games for use with parents at home.

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Early Reading First Grant**

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## Early Reading First Centers of Excellence

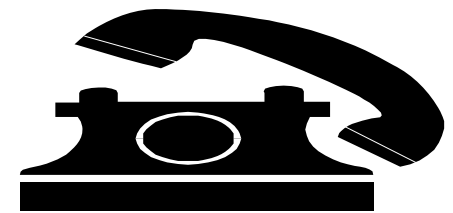
YMCA Lawrence St  
YWCA Lawrence St  
YMCA Haverhill St



RETRELLA



### A Parent's Guide for Best Practices in Preschool



For more information, call  
978-681-4996  
X4727 or x4728

## Parents Ask.....Why is it important for my child to go to preschool?

As a parent you are your child's first teacher. You teach your child as they grow from birth. With you they learn to walk, to talk, eat, listen, love and so much more. Now it is time to build on your child's experiences. By sending your child to preschool he or she will learn to be a part of a community and interact with others of the same age. Children build a positive self-esteem by engaging in an environment that offers new tasks and challenging experiences through an instructional practice that looks like play. This will help them to see themselves as respectable and capable individuals.

They will learn to follow a schedule that allows them to make decisions/choices. Your child will be provided opportunities for creative expression, and through the support of the teacher, will learn to work independently and learn to value other's ideas.

The preschool classrooms promote problem solving and appropriate risk taking. The curriculum reinforces early positive growth.

It opens the door to a love for reading and lifelong learning.

Early Reading First (ERF)  
September 2008  
to  
August 2012



GLCAC INC, Early Steps Towards Reading, Education, Language and Literacy Acquisition (EStRELLA) program is an Early Reading First Program. The Lawrence and Methuen YMCAs and the Lawrence YWCA are the three centers that have been involved in this grant for three years. We have received a fourth year to continue strengthening literacy.

### **The preschool schedule:**

**Greetings and Readings**-Children are encouraged to put away their belongings and sign their name.

**Clues and Questions**-Children are encouraged to ask questions and think creatively.

**Rhyme Time**-Children dance and sing while learning basic rhyming skills.

**Snack**-children develop their self-help skills, manners and hygiene while enjoying snacks.

**Outdoor Play**- Children use their physical abilities/motor skills while engaging in social interactions.

**Lunch**- Children converse with one another and the teacher, eat, clean up utilize self help skills, hand washing...

**Rest Time**-Children rest or engage in quiet activities.

**Story Tree**-Promotes a love of books and reading while building a child's language skills.

### **Art/Music/Movement**

**Closing Circle**- Children review, summarize & celebrate the day and predict tomorrow's activities