

# The Calgary Jewish Academy



## Kinderarts 2009-2010

**Teacher:** Miss Katharine Ross  
**Teaching Assistant:** Mrs. Noyana Stoyanov

Special and Gifted Services	Ms. F. Bowden
Technology Support	Mr. Y. Suissa
Library Support	Ms. T. Belanger
Remedial English/Hebrew & English as a Second Language	Ms. T. Freidman
Guidance Councillor	Mrs. S. Gaon-Kazdan

*“Early childhood is the best time to lay the foundation for a lifetime of enjoyment of the arts.”*

Kinderarts is an extension of the main Kindergarten educational program. It is designed as an inquiry and creative –based curricula designed to allow children to develop their own themes and concepts within the program. Each of the modules will utilize key aspects of the Fine Arts including music, drama, visual arts and expressive dance. Children will use their own creative talents to explore each of these areas and this in turn will promote development in a wide range of areas --- self expression, social-emotional, psychomotor and intellectual.

The program is designed for the children to explore and express their inner selves as well as learning of the inner beauty of the world and arts around us.

The Kinderarts program will be based on three broad themes:

- Myself and Friendships
- The World I Live In
- Fantasy and Imagination

Within these themes, different units will be presented. Examples of these could be:

- A village of Kinderfriends (Myself and Friendship)
- Under the Sea (The World I live In)
- Shipwrecked! -- Pirate theme (Fantasy and Imagination)

Each of these themes will allow development by the children both as individuals and as a group, utilizing Fine Arts concepts in a way that is meaningful to them and that reflects their own individual personalities and creative talents.

## **Visual Arts**

Children will be involved in three types of activities which comprise the visual arts:

1. Two dimensional crafts (i.e. pasting onto a piece of paper)  
This promotes development of sense of form, shape, composition and awareness of texture and color. It also develops fine-motor control through the use of glue, scissors, paint, yarn, paper, etc.
2. Picture Making  
This will involve painting, drawing and printmaking on paper, and will help in developing fine-motor control and hand-eye coordination.
3. Modeling  
The use of a variety of materials (clay, papier-mâché) to create three dimensional objects. Children will develop spatial sense, and an understanding of balance and structure.

## **Music and Movement**

Music experiences will include singing, action songs, investigating musical instruments, dance and movement. Music and movement are an important and integral part of our program as they help children develop in many areas, from sense of self and spatial awareness to grammatical patterns of spoken language. Students will be introduced to a variety of different composers throughout the year. The children will learn about the composer and their music and provide their own personal interpretation of the meaning of the music to them.

## **Informal Drama**

Based upon the child's natural way of learning about other people and the world around them, drama experiences develop imagination, language and self-image, and increase confidence and social skills.

There will be several plays produced by the students throughout the year that relate to the different themes. Within these plays students will learn about the process of putting on a play, including stage-setting, rehearsing and theatrical techniques.

## **Daily Routine**

Kinderarts children eat lunch at school from 11:35 - 12:30. This time also includes outdoor play - weather permitting. Following lunch, the children are escorted to the Kinderarts classroom where the afternoon will include the following types of activities:

1. Circle Time  
Song and movements activity; Discussion of theme; introduction of new activities; directions for afternoon
2. Small Group Activities.  
Some children will participate in teacher-directed music, movement or drama activities, while others will complete art projects.
3. Centres/Free Play  
This will comprise the better part of the afternoon. Many different activities and centres will be available for exploration. This is predominately a self-directed time but teacher-directed activities are also included.
4. Snack  
Children provide their own snack from home.
5. Group Activity  
Games, Gym, Dances, outside play (depending on day)
6. Closing Circle  
Group activities, Songs, Story time and dismissal.

**Appropriate Dress**

Creative play can be very active and messy work! Please make sure your child is dressed in comfortable clothing that he or she will not be afraid to get dirty, and that they can move in freely.

**Field Trips**

From time to time, Kinderarts may go on field trips that will enhance our units and knowledge about the arts. Information about trips will be sent out in advance.

**Reporting**

Children will receive a separate Kinderarts report that will be included with each of the three regular report cards. Reports and records will be anecdotal, and a portfolio of work will be kept for each child. Parents will have the opportunity to schedule Parent/Teacher Interviews for Kinderarts, but should feel free to contact the teacher at any time at school should they have questions or concerns.