



# Somerville Public Schools Preschool Program for 4-Year-Olds

**T**he Somerville Public School district's Preschool Program is open to Somerville residents with children who will turn four (4) years old on or before October 1st of each school year. The program is offered five days a week in either a morning (8:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.) or an afternoon (11:45 a.m.-2:15 p.m.) session.

The program's thematic-based curriculum follows guidelines set by the New Jersey Department of Education's Early Childhood Education Program Standards of Quality. To meet these standards, the program uses the High/Scope® Model for early childhood education.



## THE HIGH/SCOPE® MODEL

**H**igh/Scope® is an active learning approach employing a "Plan-Do-Review" process. This unique method allows children to learn about their world through a variety of creative and structured play activities.

A child states a plan of action in gestures or words (Plan), carries out the plan working and/or playing alone or cooperatively (Do), and reflects on, shares, and discusses their experience (Review).

### *The Five High/Scope® Principles*

Five basic principles form the framework of the High/Scope® approach. These include active learning, positive adult-child interactions, a child-friendly learning environment, a consistent daily routine, and daily team-based child assessment.

### *Key Experiences*

Through the use of the High/Scope® Model, a child's active learning focuses on a variety of "key experiences." These key experiences involve children in activities such as pretending and role playing, having fun with language, building relationships with other children and adults, expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting and matching, counting objects, fitting together and taking apart objects, learning routines, and anticipating events.

### *A Thematic Curriculum*

A variety of thematic activities serve as the vehicles to

develop the preschoolers' emerging academic skills. With themes such as "All About Me," "The Five Senses," and "Kindness," different readiness skills are integrated using one common theme.

These active learning opportunities in the areas of language arts literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, world languages, physical education, and health and social/emotional development are provided in ways to address each child's individual learning style. These objectives in academic areas form the basis of the *New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards*.

### *The Wonderful Start*

The Somerville Preschool Program offers a print-rich environment with pre-reading skills such as rhyming, repetition, and storytelling all woven into the child's day. Alphabet letters are introduced using an interactive program called "Let's Begin with the Letter People."

In addition to these pre-reading skills, children are also exposed to mathematics concepts such as sequence, size, shape and patterns; science concepts such as problem solving, observations and discovery; and social studies concepts such as self, family, diversity, and multicultural celebrations.

### *Student-to-Teacher Ratio*

The program features a low student-to-teacher ratio plus an instructional assistant in every

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# Program Requirements

*To qualify for the program the child must meet the age, residency, and immunization requirements.*

*The following materials are required:*

- *birth certificate (original with a raised seal from the State);*
- *proof of residency (current lease, which complies with Borough of Somerville Ordinance #2004 and #2005 or property tax bill or deed );*
- *Preschool Medical Record Form (medical examination is to be completed after January 1, 2009);*
- *certification of immunizations;*
- *a Mantoux tuberculin test if the child is entering from another country;*
- *completed school forms (Health History Form, Emergency Form, and Child Information Form);*
- *proof of guardianship, if applicable.*

**Extended day care is not available.**

**Transportation is not provided.**

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## SOMERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



### PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR 4-YEAR-OLDS

**Somerville Public  
Schools Preschool  
Program for  
4-Year-Olds**

**For further  
information, please  
contact the  
Preschool Office:  
(908) 218-4106**



*Somerville Public Schools  
51 West Cliff Street  
Somerville, New Jersey 08876*

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