



Early Learning Program: A Day in the Life

8:00 a.m. Arrival and Center Exploration

Students arrive on campus between 8:00 and 8:25 a.m. Guided by our expert teachers, our youngest students use play to explore and make sense of their world, examine language, articulate their thinking, practice handwriting, gain basic math skills, learn to navigate the social world, develop strong spatial skills and begin to experiment with creative problem-solving.

8:45 a.m. Learning and Doing

Our youngest learners focus on pre-literacy skills through storytelling, listening, and dramatization. Teachers use immersive project-based learning (I-PBL) to actively engage our youngest learners in real-world and personally meaningful projects. You may see a parent dressed in a beekeeper suit teaching a group of Early Learners about beekeeping after the students notice the insects pollinating flowers around campus!

10:00 a.m. Fruit/Break Recess

All of TCS takes a break for a nutritional snack and some fresh air. You may see our Early Learning students playing on any one of our four playgrounds around campus, exploring their physical surroundings and creating imaginary worlds, or walking across the street to Piedmont Park to work out their wiggles!

11:00 a.m. Specialists

Early Learning students take Chinese (Mandarin) art, music and movement classes and visit the library every week. Early Learners take Chinese (Mandarin) three times per week. Teaching Chinese as a core competency helps students attain a higher level of language fluency while developing the cultural and global awareness we value so deeply at TCS. You might see our youngest students stretching and doing yoga before heading over to the library to listen to the librarians read a Mo Willems story featuring Elephant and Piggie.

12:00 p.m. Lunch and Rest Time

After lunch, our youngest learners relax during rest time. After a busy morning, many students need the break!

2:00 p.m. Snack and Big Buddy/Little Buddy

Early Learning students are paired with an older student mentor through our Big/Little Buddy program. Older students regularly play, mentor, and model good behavior and citizenship for our younger students.

2:45 p.m. Storytime and Closing Circle

Bringing the school day to a close is an important part of the routine for Early Learners. They get to share their ideas and observations and reflect on their eventful day. This is also a great time for a mystery reader to stop by to read a special story to our three-, four-, and five-year-olds!

3:15 p.m. Extracurricular Activities

The school day ends at 3:15 p.m., but the TCS Extended Day program is just getting started! Our Extended Day program offers robust extracurricular activities for our Early Learning students with classes that focus on outside recreation, collaboration, fine and gross motor development, , and small group STEAM activities.