

The **Specialist Department for Early Childhood** is committed to the education, care and upbringing of young children of pre-school age. We ensure a diverse and needs-based range of services for families in the city of Schaffhausen. Our department is dedicated to promote good frame conditions and a high quality of childcare institutions. We inform, coordinate and link people and organizations in the area of Schaffhausen, a city that focuses on children and their families and that is committed to a comprehensive early childhood policy.

WE ARE HAPPY TO BE THERE FOR YOU!

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LEARNING BEGINS IN THE FAMILY



LEARNING FROM A VERY EARLY AGE

Children begin to learn not in school or kindergarten, but already longer before. This flyer gives you ideas, how to make the start of kindergarten easier for your child: by playing, outdoor movement or handicraft works. The family is a perfect place to learn.

Did you know that kids ...

- gain mathematical knowledge by filling up different buckets with sand?
- train their concentration skills by looking at picture books?
- develop fine-motor skills for writing by simple scribbling?

You can find more info and ideas on our website www.ff-stsh.ch. We wish you many great and valuable adventures with your children!

COMMUNICATION

SPEAK, LISTEN, UNDERSTAND

- **Do you talk to your child?**
 - » This way your child learns to understand and speak his native language. This is a good basis for other languages.
- **Do you look at picture books together?**
 - » Your child practices to listen and concentrate this way. Later it will learn to read and write more easily.
- **Do you name objects in your daily life?**
 - » Your child learns by showing and explaining him his surrounding. It helps him to understand things and processes better.



EXPERIENCE

WITNESS, UNDERSTAND, EXPLORE

- **Do you go out into nature with your child?**
 - » Your child is curious and wants to understand the world. In nature it can discover many new things and have adventures.
- **Do you let your child experiment with building bricks?**
 - » While doing your child learns shapes, sizes and quantities. This knowledge will help later by arithmetic.
- **Is your child allowed to touch different materials?**
 - » Your child can also get dirty while exploring. In contact with water and ground it makes new experiences.



CREATIVITY

FORM, TRY, GET TO KNOW

- **Do you let your child work with paper and paint?**
 - » By painting and creating your child has fun. While doing it trains his hand movement skills.
- **Do you let your child use scissors?**
 - » By trying things out, your child learns on his own: Let your child experiment, even if not everything works at the first time.
- **Is your child familiar with different materials?**
 - » Creating with dough, wool, fabric and other materials promotes your child's imagination. It learns with all senses.



INDEPENDENCE

HELP OUT, DETACH ONESELF, SELF-RELIANCE

- **Does your child help you with household chores?**
 - » Your child wants to be involved in the household. It gives kids a sense of belonging and being taken seriously.
- **Does your child sometimes stay away from you for a few hours?**
 - » If your child sometimes stays with friends without you, it learns to separate from you. This makes starting kindergarten easier.
- **Do you let your child do some things all by himself even if it takes longer?**
 - » Your child wants to do many things himself: eating, putting on shoes ... This takes time and patience. But your child will become independent this way.



COMMUNITY

MEET, PLAY, ADAPTABILITY

- **Does your child regularly meet other children?**
 - » Meeting other children teaches your child to argue and get along well with others. It helps to integrate into a new group.
- **Can your child follow the rules?**
 - » By playing with other kids your child learns a lot. It practices being considerate and being assertive.
- **Is your child used to sharing with other?**
 - » Sharing, helping others and being open to new ideas your child learns best through contact with friends.

