

HoneyBees to TatorTots Transition Policy

Change is new and exciting, not only for your little ones but for you, too. We want to make the transition from the HoneyBee's to our TatorTot room as smooth as possible, and hope the following will answer any questions you may have.

Our infant program consists of two classrooms. The HoneyBee's is designed for babies 6 weeks to 12 months old. The TatorTot room is for those who are 12 months up to 24 months. The infant room teachers will assess the readiness of children to move to the next classroom.

WHY DOES MY LITTLE ONE HAVE TO MOVE?

There are many stages of development, especially during the first year of life. The teachers want to support your baby's development as much as possible as she/he moves through these stages. Older infants are developing social/emotional, large and small motor skills. Our TatorTot room provides more stimulation for infants who are exploring their newly emerging skills.

DO THEY GO OUTSIDE DAILY?

Yes. By licensing rules, all children, infants on up are required to go outside every day (weather and air quality permitting). Our playground has 2 play areas for different age groups. The HoneyBee's and TatorTot's play in the grassy area and patio with age appropriate toys and games. Only the older children, ages 2 and up may play in the woodchip area due to safety reasons.

HOW DO THE TEACHERS HELP MY BABY TRANSITION?

There are a number of ways we help children make this transition. Teachers will bring your child to visit the new classroom for a short period of time with gradual increases. Eventually, they'll be visiting on their own. TatorTot teachers also visit the HoneyBee's often so the babies can get to know them.

HOW CAN WE, AS PARENTS, HELP WITH THE TRANSITION?

You're encouraged to visit the TatorTot classroom with your child as often as possible before they make the move. Take time to play in the room with your child, read a book to them, or join the class for snack. This will help your child and you become familiar with the classroom and teachers, and they'll also have the security of being with their parent as they explore.

BOTTLES & NAPS

Now that your child is obtaining most of their nutrients from solid foods, this might be a wonderful time to start weaning them off the bottle to a sippy cup. Since this can be a long process, the teachers will be happy to warm bottles for your child upon request until she/he is ready to use a sippy.

Teachers will allow your child to have their bottle sitting at the table, or at naptime on their rest mat. Due to health code, all food must remain in the designated eating area. Bottles and sippy cups cannot be carried around the room.

As children grow and develop they require fewer naps during the day. This helps develop better sleeping habits such as sleeping through the night. The TatorTots have one scheduled nap after lunch time, from approximately 12:00 to 3:00 pm. If a child is in need of another nap the teachers will allow them to rest as needed.

We know your child will do just fine during this transition, but if you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to speak with the teachers or Director.

