

Playlab Curriculum Overview



At the Playlab, we know that children learn best through play, interaction, exploration, and hands-on discovery. Our curriculum is carefully designed around monthly themes that spark curiosity, creativity, and confidence. Each theme gives children opportunities to explore the world, express themselves, make emotional connections, and build the foundation for lifelong learning.

Our year moves through three big arcs:

Thinking Tools – learning how to ask questions, create, and explore ideas
Exploring Our World – discovering nature, science, communities, and how things work
Expressing My Voice – understanding identity, sharing ideas, and telling stories

Each month has a playful, age-appropriate theme. These themes integrate across all areas of development.

August - Think Like an Artist	Children explore creativity through art and color. They'll ask: What is art? and experiment with different materials, discovering that art is about ideas and expression, not just "making something pretty."
September - Curious Scientists	We nurture natural curiosity by asking questions and experimenting. Children explore light and shadows, magnets, and sink-or-float activities while learning how to wonder, test, and discover.
October - World Builders	From cities to tiny bugs, children build models and explore community helpers, landscapes, and recycling, imagining how towns and nature connect in exciting ways.
November - Nature Explorers	Animals, seasons, and weather come alive! Children play games and craft to discover nature's wonders, asking: What do animals do? and How does weather change?
December - Above and Below	We help children wonder about the hidden worlds beneath our feet, under the ocean, and out in space. Children will explore rocks, fossils, dinosaurs, ocean animals, and the planets while learning how to observe, compare, and imagine what lies beyond what we see.
January - The World in Motion	Children build planes, ramps, and other creations to explore how forces cause motion. They also experiment with vibrations and sound to discover how energy moves in different ways.
February - Nature Explorers II	We revisit the natural world while children learn about animal homes, pond life, and camouflage. Children will craft nests and nature collages, all the while discovering the patterns of nature.



March - Budding Botanists	Children plant seeds and design their own plant projects, discovering how seeds sprout, roots grow, and leaves unfold. Through hands-on exploration, they learn what plants need to thrive and begin to understand the cycles of growth in nature.
April - This is Me	Through movement games and art, children learn about their bodies, families, and ideas, building confidence and self-awareness with activities like dancing, drawing, and exploring senses and nutrition.
May - Storytellers	We end the year by celebrating imagination and voice. Children listen to stories from around the world and create their own, discovering the power of storytelling to connect and inspire.

How Our Curriculum Supports Development

Cognitive Development

- Exploring science concepts like motion, sound, weather, plants, and space
- Building early math skills through patterns, shapes, sorting, and measuring
- Engaging in problem-solving, prediction, and experimenting



Fine Motor Skills

- Strengthening hand muscles through art, building, puzzles, and sensory play
- Pre-writing practice with drawing, painting, cutting, and clay



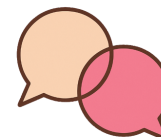
Gross Motor Skills

- Indoor play, climbing, running, and balancing
- Movement games, dance, and large group activities
- Hands-on science activities



Social-Emotional Development

- Practicing cooperation, sharing, and problem-solving in groups
- Learning about feelings, empathy, and friendships
- Gaining confidence in expressing ideas and choices



Creativity & Expression

- Open-ended art projects and building challenges
- Music, rhythm, and dramatic play tied to monthly themes
- Opportunities for self-expression through art and play



Why It Matters

By the end of the preschool year, children will have:

- * Experienced opportunities to build confidence in themselves and their ideas.
- * Engaged in explorations that spark curiosity about the natural and human-made world.
- * Practiced working, playing, and learning alongside others in a supportive community.
- * Been immersed in experiences that encourage curiosity, problem-solving, and using rich language.

Our goal is not just to prepare children for kindergarten — it's to help children see themselves as artists, scientists, explorers, builders, and storytellers and to be confident in who they are.