



Providing the building
blocks of healthy childhood
development for 60 years

Serving Pittsburgh's Families and Children Since 1953

ARSENAL FAMILY & CHILDREN'S CENTER

Exploring. Creating. Learning. Growing.





"Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning."
– Fred Rogers

"A child loves his play, not because it's easy, but because it's hard."
– Dr. Benjamin Spock

Play Programs for Children

Developmental Preschool

Built around a play-as-learning curriculum that focuses on the child as an active participant in the learning process, this program teaches children decision-making skills and self-confidence.

- Ages 3-5 years old
- Half-day and full-day programs available
- Keystone Star 4 facility
- Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Licensed by the Department of Human Services
- Inclusive environment
- Tuition assistance available for qualified families
- Program features speech, hearing and vision screenings, parent/teacher conferences, nutritious snacks, enrichment programs and activities

Toddler Class

Built around a play-as-learning curriculum that focuses on the child as an active participant in the learning process, this program provides a nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment.

- Ages 2-3 years old
- Half-day morning program on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday
- Small groups of six children
- Low teacher to child ratio
- Program features parent/teacher conferences, developmental screenings, nutritious snack

Parenting Programs

Supervised Parenting and Play Program

A supervised visitation program that provides structured parental training to non-custodial parents and their children. Parents gain an understanding of their child's development, learn effective parenting techniques and build a trusting relationship with their child – in a safe and secure environment.

- Professionally supervised visits for parents and children up to age 10
- Secure group setting of up to six families
- Builds trust between parent and child
- Teaches effective parenting techniques
- Improves parental self-confidence
- Uses modeling approach to offer parents hands-on parenting education in the context of a supervised visit

Parent/Child Mentoring Program

Professionally guided, one-on-one parent education sessions facilitating the formation of a strong parent-child relationship focusing on communication and respect.

- Ages birth to 10 years old
- 12 private, 45-minute sessions with parent, child, and staff mentor
- Strengthens parenting skills
- Improves communications
- Teaches appropriate guidance/discipline techniques
- Parent and child learn enjoyable ways to play together

ACT (Adults and Children Together) Raising Safe Kids Parenting Program

A research based program designed to help parents and caregivers gain the knowledge and skills they need to raise children without violence.

- Eight week program
- 1.5 hours per week

This program is offered to any parent or caregiver – custodial, non-custodial, foster, or adoptive



Arsenal: A place for families and children to learn, grow, and thrive

Founded by Dr. Benjamin Spock and a training ground for Fred Rogers, Dr. Margaret McFarland, and a host of renown child development experts, **Arsenal** has been a trusted leader in the field for more than 60 years, building nurturing relationships with children and parents alike.

We specialize in active learning through play and have built our programs on the foundation of research, experience and observation by experts who have been working with children almost since the study of child development began. We invite children to explore, create and manipulate ideas, toys and materials in ways that enable them to learn and grow in personally meaningful ways.

Whether in our pre-school or toddler classes, we strive to develop children's emotional intelligence and impart to them basic human values like compassion, honesty and respect. And our knowledgeable and dedicated teachers provide a caring, safe and patient environment that encourages children to play and learn at their own pace, to make their own discoveries and to try new things.

We also believe strongly in the importance of children's relationship with their parents and offer programs that improve communications, allow parents and children to play together, strengthen parents' skills and provide the additional support some parents may need.

We are proud to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), to be a Keystone 4 Star program and to partner with organizations including the Pittsburgh Public Schools, the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children (PAEYC), PA Keys, ASSET STEM, Allegheny County Department of Human Services Office of Children, Youth, and Families and others.

To contact us: Arsenal Family & Children's Center (AFCC)
336 S. Aiken Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232
+1 412 345 0008
AFCC@arsenalfamily.org
www.arsenalfamily.org

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