Programs & Curriculum
Play & Learn offers a developmentally appropriate, educational curriculum for infants through Kindergarten. We focus on social and emotional development as well as physical movement and creative expression. Our programs integrate hands-on activities, imaginative play and real life experiences which foster learning at each age level. We believe that play is work for young children, allowing them to develop a meaningful understanding of the world around them.

Our staff, experts in early childhood development and education, observe and evaluate each child’s learning, behavior, progress and adjustments. Through encouragement, staff help each child develop his own pattern of interests and talents.

Infants
A baby’s first year is an important time filled with lots of discovery and exploration. During this time, the brain is developing at an amazing rate. Using the Bright Baby™ curriculum, infants will be stimulated throughout the day with individualized activities that arouse their physical, social, emotional and cognitive development. You’ll find us playing peek-a-boo, dancing and playing with musical instruments and reading stories. We also teach our infants simple sign language, such as “more,” “milk” and “all done.”

Toddlers
We utilize the nationally-recognized HighReach© Learning curriculum for toddlers, which inspires children to learn from the world around them through sensory-related, hands-on activities. Themes are used to introduce information and learning takes place as children explore and manipulate real objects and events. Following Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards and Keystone STARS guidelines, we use everything from puppets to play dough and teddy bears to tambourines, to help children learn and practice new skills.

Preschool
Our nationally-recognized preschool Opening the World of Learning (OWL) curriculum is a strong early literacy curriculum that intertwines topics that engage children’s natural interest about the world around them into an activity-based day. The OWL curriculum focuses on the following areas of learning:

- Language and Literacy
- The Arts
- Mathematics
- Physical Development
- Science and Social Studies
- Social and Emotional Development

Children enjoy an active day in a pressure-free environment with preschool activities such as building alphabet knowledge, number concepts and imaginative play. Our teachers will work with your child to teach days of the week, months of the year, and weather conditions.

Pre-K & Kindergarten
Following the nationally-recognized Scott Foresman© curriculum focusing on reading and math readiness as well as science, social studies and creative arts, Pre-Kindergarten children begin to build strong academic skills. Unit concepts are used that focus on a main idea that connects learning with hands-on activities and real life experiences. With the use of mini books, flip charts, alphabet charts, picture cards and song books children are able to develop reading skills and read along with the teacher, build their development of enumeration, arithmetic and measurement and begin handwriting. The Scott Foresman© Kindergarten program builds on the foundation set forth in the pre-kindergarten program. Children develop a higher understanding of phonics, word analysis, syllabication and context to make sense of and understand new words that facilitates independent reading. Individual practice books allow children to expand their skills with place values, geometry shapes and drawings, fractions, time and creative writing. Hands-on activities provide an educationally enriching environment for science exploration. Children will leave the Kindergarten program as confident readers, with the necessary tools to enter first grade.
School-Age Program
The Kindergarten Plus (Before & After Kindergarten) provides enrichment programming for children who attend public or private half-day kindergarten elsewhere. Available at Collegeville, Hatboro, Lansdale and Norristown centers.

The Kindergarten Plus program provides a safe and supervised place for children to enjoy indoor and outdoor sports and games, homework help, arts and crafts, science and nature projects, cooking and more.

Transportation for the before and after school programs is available to and from Arrowhead Elementary, Eagleville Elementary and Worcester Elementary (Collegeville), Crooked Billet Elementary (Hatboro), Inglewood Elementary (Lansdale), and Musselman Learning Center (Norristown).

Curriculum Enhancements
Play & Learn offers several enhancements to the daily routines of our children. The Caterpillars and Butterflies will participate in biweekly music as part of their program. Milestones in Music is an educational music program for young children. The Explorers and Adventurers will participate in biweekly gym and theater as part of their programs. Lil' Sports and JumpBunch, are educational physical fitness programs geared towards young children. Theatre Tots, an early learning acting program, will be part of the Winter and Spring program. Theater Tots helps preschoolers to build self-confidence, creativity and public speaking skills through both imaginative play and performance.

In addition, computers and/or Smart TV’s in every preschool classroom are used daily as a part of Play & Learn’s curriculum to provide a visual, interactive learning environment for children. These programs are paid for through the fundraising efforts of our families and are offered at no extra costs.

Camp Kaleidoscope
Camp Kaleidoscope is a 10-week summer program at Play & Learn that runs from mid-June through August. From arts and crafts to picnics, water play and special events, children will get to experience the wonders of a summer vacation close to home. Camp Kaleidoscope offers flexible scheduling, allowing parents to take advantage of family vacations and time off from work.

You can enroll your child for the entire summer, or just specific weeks or hours.

The Camp Kaleidoscope Play House program is for children ages 2-6 years.

Back-Up Emergency Care Program
Play & Learn also has a Back Up Child Care Program, providing temporary placement for families seeking as-needed drop-in care. The Back Up Child Care Program has a separate enrollment process. This program can be used in a variety of situations which may include a sick caregiver, business travel, doctor’s appointments or any disruption in child care arrangements.

The price for this program is as follows:

- Full Day (8 hours) $75
- Half Day (4 hours) $45

If interested in this unique program, please contact Play & Learn’s Enrollment Office at 215-643-4142 or via e-mail at admin@playandlearn.com. Back-Up Emergency Care not available at the Abington Gerstadt Center.