

RAINBOW ROOM GUIDELINES

Welcome to the Rainbow Room! As you know, the morning Parent/Child Center program at Family Network is a drop-in where families vary from day to day. We have found that these guidelines help us to provide a safe, consistent, and enjoyable experience for you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

ARRIVAL: Please sign in at the front desk, get name tags for yourself and your child, and come into the room with your child. Always be sure that a teacher knows your child has arrived!

Coats: Please hang up coats in the hallway before entering the room.

Shoes: Children must wear shoes in the Rainbow Room.

IN THE ROOM:

Door: Please keep the door completely closed.

Leaving the room: Always tell your child and a teacher when you leave the room. This is a must!

Diapers: A teacher will notify you if your child needs a change while you are in the Parent Room. Please use the changing table in the hall.

Food and Drink: Please do not bring food into the room for yourself and/or your child. If your child needs a snack before we serve it, please give it to him/her in the hallway. You may bring your own coffee into the room, but please be careful to keep it out of reach of the children.

Snack and Song Time:

- Children are encouraged to sit at the table and participate in the singing. If your child has trouble staying at the table, you can sit with your child to help him/her learn the routine.
- If your child gets up from the table, Cheerios and water should stay at the table.
- Please allow the teachers to serve the children; this helps the children to learn to ask the teachers for what they need, and builds a sense of trust. On a very busy day, we'll ask for help when we need it!
- Please keep your voices low during song time

Cleanup: If you see a child putting a toy in his/her mouth, please put it in the "toys to be washed" basket after the child finishes playing with it.

SEPARATION: We hope that, when your child is ready, you will be able to enjoy some time in the Parent Room. Each child and family is different, and we would like to help you achieve your goals in the Rainbow Room. Please share your wishes with us; if needed, we can arrange to talk with you before or after drop-in hours, or on the phone. Terry Beem, Program Coordinator, and Social Worker, Geri Greenberg, are available during drop-in to answer questions and to facilitate a comfortable separation experience. (see our parent handout on Separation).

Transition: As your child approaches the age of 2 ½, you and the teachers will discuss the process for making the transition into the Sunshine Room. We suggest that you observe (without your child) in the Sunshine Room. The staff will help you to make a plan for your child.

IN THE GYM:

Stairs: We teach the children to use the railing or to scoot down the stairs. When you are in the gym, please sit in the middle of the stairs so the railings are free.

Ramp: We teach the children that the bikes and wheeled toys must stay on the gym floor. Balls can be rolled down the ramp.

Slide: Children should go up the steps and down the slide feet first.

Leaving the gym: Please let a teacher know when you take your child out of the gym.

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION!