

# Morning Star Child Care

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Programs 2009-2010

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## Infants

Infants, age 8 weeks to 15 months, will feel comfortable in Morning Star's safe and nurturing environment. Each child will be cared for in a warm and affectionate manner; individualized to his or her particular need and personality. Teachers develop a close bond with the children in their care to help instill a sense of trust and security. Morning Star's teacher to child ratio is lower than the State-licensing requirement insuring that each child receives the best care possible.

Our teachers have previous experience working with infants and participate in training/educational opportunities specific to caring for this young age. Teachers provide opportunities for learning through repetitive games and fun, creative activities geared to stimulate an infant's five senses. Your infant will feel special and know he or she is loved at Morning Star!

## Toddlers

Children 16 months to 32 months of age need consistent and individualized care that encourages healthy growth and secure attachments.

At Morning Star teachers are trained to provide for your young child's emotional and developmental needs.

Your child will enjoy a wide variety of creative activities—all designed for enjoyment and learning. Confidence increases as each new accomplishment is praised!

## Preschool

Morning Star Child Care offers a preschool program specifically designed for children 2.9 to 5 years old. Our curriculum is based on current research—teacher directed yet adaptable to incorporate topics that interest and excite children.

Teachers guide the child's learning process by offering activities that encourage creative thought and expression. Imaginative play, storytelling, art, and music are woven into each day.

The curriculum is educational, encompassing reading and math readiness, science, and language arts. Morning Star's large playground is designed to promote healthy physical growth, balance, and coordination.

Your child will establish close friendships in our home-like, comfortable atmosphere.

## Developmental Kindergarten

The older child (age 4-5) needs a place designed for learning and practicing skills necessary for success in future formal education. The Developmental Kindergarten is a classroom offering a full or part-day program for children currently enrolled in a public school kindergarten, or about to enter kindergarten.

Children enrolled in our Developmental Kindergarten will develop listening, verbal, and auditory skills. They will learn pre-reading and mathematic concepts, practice writing, and explore science in an environment that is appropriate, safe, and fun.

Children are formally evaluated in November. Parent and teacher conferences are held annually or available upon request.

## **Private Kindergarten**

At Morning Star Child Care, the child always comes first, and with our wonderful new Kindergarten Curriculum they will excel. Students engaged in our Kindergarten will prepare for a lifetime of success by strengthening self help skills, practicing motor skills through games and activities, learning how to work with others to solve problems, as well as following the Michigan Curriculum Standards to fine tune the subject areas.

Learning should be fun and relevant and at Morning Star we make sure it is just that. Not only do we follow the Michigan Standards, we also apply them to real life situations. We do this by exposing the children to many new experiences. These may include reading times with special guest, a musical performance from Senegal, or field trips to visit our local places of business. We also provide music, art, religious, and physical education classes every week.

## **School-Age**

Children kindergarten to 12 years of age need a safe place to play before and after school, on those no school days, holidays, and summers. Morning Star offers a program that includes arts and crafts, indoor games, reading time, free play and outside sports.

Teachers plan a wide variety of creative and fun activities to keep your school-age child busy. Your child will appreciate the small group size and individualized attention.

Field trips are often scheduled for those “no school” days. Our Morning Star school bus is used to transport the children safely. Transportation to and from school is provided by Dexter Community Schools.

Summertime is especially fun at Morning Star. The summer campers are taken to swim, play at local parks, create clever art and craft projects, tour museums, and visit the zoo among many other activities. The overnight campout is a favorite annual adventure!

## **Special Classes**

Morning Star parents are offered a variety of special classes to enhance their child’s learning. Available is reading tutoring (age 5-12), piano lessons, and a Bible class.

Each week the children gather for music class to sing new songs, beat a rhythm, learn new finger plays, and dance.

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