



At ScuttleBugs we work with an objective driven Emergent Curriculum inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy for child development. Our curriculum reflects the important fact that infants are active participants in the learning and development process. Our teachers serve as guide, partner, nurturer and researcher.

Our infant/Toddler program, for children six weeks-24 months, is rooted in the principles of Magda Gerber's Resources for Infant Educators (RIE) approach of respectful caregiving and education. The RIE principles of respect include:

- Basic trust in the child to be an initiator, an explorer, and a self-learner
- An environment for the child that is physically safe, cognitively challenging, and emotionally nurturing
- Time for uninterrupted play
- Freedom to explore and interact with other infants
- Involvement of the child in all care activities so that they are an active participant rather than a passive recipient
- Sensitive observation of the child in order to understand his or her needs
- Consistency with clearly defined limits and expectations

These principles guide our teachers in their decisions about each child's care, the design of the spaces, and the materials they choose.

At ScuttleBugs we place emphasis on providing infants with plenty of safe space to explore. Within that safe space, we provide them with developmentally stimulating materials and objects. For the youngest infants, tummy time supports physical development while they examine a variety of novel objects provided by teachers. For those ready to crawl or walk, lots of child-directed activity allows a child to discover his or her own interests.

We track every child's development using age-appropriate benchmarks that are grounded in current evidence-based research on early childhood development.

We document, and parents receive, regular updates on their child's activities, progress and social interactions while at school including news about the many new milestones they will achieve.

