

Why a Hybrid Approach to Our Curriculum?

Here at Squiggle Room, we're excited to announce that we will be offering the High Scope Curriculum with the Reggio Emilia Approach! You may be asking yourself, why one and not the other? To answer that question, we first need to share what each is and how they differ.

HighScope

The HighScope Curriculum is a research-based curriculum. Activities that are planned by teachers around children's own individual interests and builds learning experiences around children's strengths. Children are provided with a routine that they follow and a supportive learning environment. It is believed that children learn best by constructing their own learning and by being actively involved in what materials they use, who they work with, and showcasing their own ideas. Teachers act as guides as they help children work through activities, social interactions with their peers, and include families in the classroom so children's learning can further develop at home. The lessons, activities, and professional milestones that we will be using to track children's development will come from our HighScope Curriculum.

Reggio Emilia

The biggest difference between HighScope and Reggio Emilia is that HS is a curriculum and RE is an approach on how to facilitate said curriculum. The Reggio Emilia approach has seven guiding principles that our educators will follow as they implement the lessons and assess children according to the HighScope standards. These principles are as follows:

1. Children are capable of constructing their own learning.
2. Children are collaborators and learn their interaction within their communities.
3. Children are natural communicators and should be encouraged to express themselves however they feel they can.
4. The classroom environment acts as the third teacher.
5. Teachers are partners, nurturers, and guides who help facilitate the exploration of children's interests as they work on short and long-term projects.
6. Documentation is a critical component of communication.
7. Parents are partners in education.

Why Both?

We truly believe that children learn best by being actively involved in their environment. We want each child to feel respected and valued in their classroom and to learn in the way that is best for them. By utilizing HighScope's curriculum and assessment tools, we can ensure that children are developmentally on track. With the Reggio Emilia Approach, we can take advantage of the HighScope's curriculum and present it to children in a way that suits their individual needs. Both programs require the use of parents as partners so children can thrive in and out of the classroom and be prepared for wherever life takes them.