

Circle of Life Cooperative Preschool Discipline Policy and Agreement

The Circle of Life Cooperative Preschool will provide an environment of instruction and guidance in helping children learn appropriate and inappropriate behavior in the classroom.

I. We attempt to teach acceptable behaviors, and to promote positive self-image in children by:

- a. Preventing problems
- b. Offering positive suggestions
- c. Redirecting to a different behavior or activity
- d. Providing encouragement
- e. Discussing the situation and why the rule is needed
- f. Giving positive attention frequently
- g. Developing rules with the children
- h. Setting up a program that is suitable for the ages and needs of the children
- i. Providing appropriate consequences
- j. Offering choices and interesting activities
- k. Using 'soothing time' when appropriate, to allow for a cool down and a time to think of better ways to handle problems.

Soothing Time: Children who are upset or angry may need to have some time by themselves. This should not be viewed as a "time-out", but as a "soothing time." Children may retreat or may be directed to move to a quiet, cozy corner with a favorite toy or book. When they are ready, they would be encouraged to talk with an adult to determine if they are ready to return to play with a friend or with the group.

II. Children and their parents must accept that the Circle of Life Cooperative Preschool staff have definite expectations for behavior that must be met:

- a. Children are to be respectful to other children and staff. Respect should be mutual.
- b. Children are to listen and follow directions given by the staff
- c. Children are to keep their hands and feet to themselves.

III. Should a child refuse to follow these rules:

- a. The director or teacher will communicate with the parents.
- b. The director or teacher will document the behaviors.
- c. The director or teacher will develop a plan for behavior management.
- d. The director or teacher will review the plan with the parents and request suggestions and support.
- e. Major offenses, such as physical and verbal abuse toward another person, will result in an incident report and possible suspension.

IV. Should satisfactory progress not be made:

- a. The child may be suspended from the program for 1 to 3 days.
- b. A conference with the parents will be required before the child may return.
- c. Parents must agree that if the behavior in question occurs again, they must have someone pick up the child immediately.

I have read the Circle of Life Cooperative Preschool Discipline Policy and agree to all the rules and regulations.

Parent Signature

Date

2/05