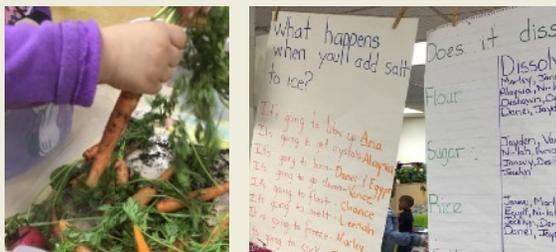


# A Smarter Start

Enrolling your child in SmartStart's preschool program gives him/her a greater chance to succeed in life. Our nature-based focus provides exciting, well-rounded learning experiences. These include: sound academic preparation, personal and social skills, health and nutrition, conversational Spanish, sign language, arts and crafts, music and dance, outdoor trips, and more.

Give your child a smarter start today!



MOHDC SmartStart Nature Academy and Learning Center offers the Universal Pre-K program that gives your child a smarter start to life!



We're social! Search for **MOHDC Smart Start!**



# UPK Program and Learning Center



PRE-K  
FOR ALL

## Our Environment

We provide a nurturing, sanitary, and secure environment for our students. Our classrooms are spacious with lots of natural light.

Our Centers are certified by the Department of Education, Health, Buildings, and Fire & Safety.

We welcome families of all cultures, backgrounds, and languages. We accept and support children who are challenged by physical and/or learning disabilities and cater to children with IEP needs.

We operate according to ECERS protocols and standards for early childhood environments.

## Our Staff

Our centers are supervised by an Executive Director who is responsible for overall program success and a Curriculum Consultant who is responsible for maintaining program quality.

Each center is headed by a highly-trained Education Director holding a minimum of a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education/ Special Education and 5 years experience.

Classroom teachers hold either a Master's Degree or Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education and are bilingual (speaking either Spanish, French, Creole, and other languages).

A nurse and psychologist/counselor are on staff.

## Our Curriculum

We use nature-based learning to excite children's creativity and exploration, bind them emotionally

to the joy of learning, and help them develop transitional skills for school and life.

The Creative Curriculum ensures our nature-based instruction caters to all learning domains, aligns with the Common Core Foundations, and builds multiple intelligences in our learners.

Our children utilize state of the art technology (like smart boards) to explore nature-based discoveries and science wonders of the wider world.

Character development of students is expanded by exposure to plants, animals, and the natural world.

Our daily program includes exciting learning opportunities like Conversational Spanish, Sign Language, Arts and Crafts, Emotional Intelligence, and Dance. Students also explore their musical gifts by exposure to the piano, guitar, steel pan, and other instruments.

## Parent and Family Services

As responsible community partners our centers promote family and community learning and empowerment. Some of our many features include a Parent and Community Council. The chairperson for the council sits on the center's leadership team.

We also host Parent and Family Workshops. These informative sessions teach parenting skills, school transitioning, financial literacy, homeownership, and much more.

And don't forget our Community Fair Days where city and volunteer agencies offer useful services to those in attendance. Find out about dental, health, insurance, immigration, and other pressing topics.

# MOHDC SmartStart Nature Academy and Learning Center offers the Universal Pre-K program that gives your child a smarter start to life!



## Why SmartStart Nature Academy?

Because you want the best for your precious child.

Our program is designed to coax the best from your child by combining sound age-based academic preparation with exciting nature-based thrills.

By focussing on developing the whole child we provide preschoolers with life skills that prepare them for success even before they enter kindergarten.

Our preschool centers are guided by the New York State Foundations for the Common Core. In this way our students are ensured development in every learning domain. Our community partnerships with public and private schools help our preschoolers transition smoothly into kindergarten.

## Our Motto

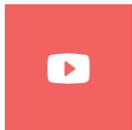
Each child is a Genius waiting to happen!

## Our Watchwords

Embrace, Excite, Inspire!

## Our Mission

We exist to provide a childcare environment that teases out the unique Genius in inner city children and gives them a smarter start for maximizing their life chances.



We're on your favorite social media sites! Just search for, follow, like, and subscribe to **MOHDC Smart Start!**

