NATURE SCHOOL

daily schedule

please note our schedule is flexible and can adjust due to student interest, weather, and teachable moments

9:00-10:00 AM - Choice Time in Outdoor Classroom
Children explore alongside classmates and teachers in the Outdoor Classroom. The Outdoor Classroom provides nature-inspired invitations to explore music, art, science, math, literacy, and dramatic play. Climbing logs, science tools (magnifying lenses, binoculars), working tools (shovels, measuring tapes), hammocks, and a mud kitchen provide endless possibilities to develop both fine and large motor skills. Free time also allows for key social skill practice as children collaborate, negotiate, and problem solve.

10:00-10:20 AM - Circle Time & Snack
Circle Time includes a welcome song and review of the daily schedule. A story will be read while the group enjoys a snack (brought from home).

10:20-11:10 AM - Exploration Hike
Exploration hikes encourage children to use their senses as they gather observations of the world around them. Hiking destinations include the various habitats found throughout the park - forests, wetlands, grassy fields, creeks, the Mississippi River, and Coon Rapids Dam. Teachers will foster the development of curiosity, self-regulation, and risk assessment as the group explores an ever-changing landscape.

11:10-11:30 AM - Nature Journals
Drawing and writing/pre-writing are encouraged through daily journaling as children reflect on their discoveries and experiences of the day. Our custom Nature School journals also provide prompts that allow children to document the habitats visited and weather observed each day.