



PRESCHOOL

3 – 5 years

3 years by 10/1

Full/Part-week

Our preschool classrooms are always filled with new discoveries. Our teachers create meaningful daily routines and experiences that continue to foster each child's social, emotional, physical, cognitive and language development, ensuring that they are ready for Kindergarten.

Teacher/Child Ratio

1:9

Why Families Choose South Mountain Y

- Accredited by Grow NJ Kids
- Weekly social/emotional learning classes for toddlers/preschoolers
- Nut safe facility
- Closed only 14 days throughout the year
- Programs tailored to each child's unique needs and development
- Sensory room to support all aspects of development
- Low teacher-to-child ratios for personalized care
- 13 classrooms, indoor play space & large outdoor playgrounds
- Free Kindergarten Readiness Program each spring
- Preschool camp in the summer
- Financial assistance and third-party payment options available
- Full-day options (3, 4, or 5 days) and half-day programs (8am–12pm) for waddlers, toddlers, and preschoolers
- Strong community involvement and events throughout the year
- Welcoming YMCA community that supports families and builds connections

Current Classes

3 infant classes
2 waddler classes
4 toddler classes
4 preschool classes

Our dedicated staff, who have over 450 years of combined experience, provide nurturing care and support for every child. All staff receive ongoing professional training and are all certified in first aid/CPR.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Jenn at jmacafee@metroymcas.org.



Where Little Minds
Grow, Learn, and
Flourish

SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA Early Childhood Learning Center

10 West Parker Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040
(973) 762-0860
(973) 762-4145

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER

Infant – Preschool Childcare
SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA

We provide a nurturing safe, environment for infants through preschool, focusing on growth, exploration, and discovery. Our "learning through play" philosophy is supported by the Creative Curriculum®, a research-based program tailored to meet the developmental needs of each child.

In every program and classroom, we create meaningful daily routines and experiences that foster social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development. Children gain independence, self-confidence, and self-control in a safe, engaging setting.

Children explore through hands-on experiences in spaces designed for dramatic play, block building, toys and games, art, books, writing, sand and water play, and discovery tables.

Each classroom dives into exciting topics that spark curiosity, with small and large group activities. Daily read-aloud sessions and interest areas offer plenty of opportunities for learning through play. We also encourage parent participation which fosters a strong sense of community and growth.

Tuition Assistance

The Y is committed to making child care more affordable through our Y for All Fund. Eligible families can receive reduced tuition rates. Even if you're unsure if you qualify, we encourage you to apply.



Center Hours
7am – 6pm Hours



INFANTS

6 wks – 12 months
6wks by 10/1 through 1yr by 9/30
Full-week

Each caregiver forms a close relationship with the children and their family. This partnership provides a stable routine which is so important. Staff and families stay together for the first three years of their time with us

Teacher/Child Ratio	1:4
---------------------	-----



WADDLERS

1 – 2 years
1yr by 10/1 through 2yrs by 9/30
Full/Part-week

At this stage of development, children's language and gross motor skills are exploding! Caregivers continue to engage children through hands-on experiences as they explore and understand the world around them.

Teacher/Child Ratio	1:4
---------------------	-----



TODDLERS

2 – 3 years
2yrs by 10/1 through 3yrs by 9/30
Full/Part-week

Toddlers experience significant advancements in self help skills, identifying emotions, taking turns, language and fine motor skills. Staff meet children where they are while helping build their confidence and social skills.

Teacher/Child Ratio	1:7
---------------------	-----

