



Emily Miller
Dir. Youth Programming
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Emily has worked in a variety of childcare capacities. She began at an in-home daycare then at the Old Town-Orono YMCA Preschool and a preschool for children with special needs. She has been in the Y world for 3 years in various roles including Preschool Teacher, Cheer Coach, and now Youth Development Programming Director. Along with this position, she is still active in coaching cheer and tumbling. She graduated from Husson University in 2022 with her MBA. She has been working with children for six years and has loved everyday of it! She is looking forward to using both her business and childcare knowledge in this new role at the MDI YMCA.

Lead Teacher: My name is Eden Conner. I started working with children in a classroom setting as an assistant teacher a year ago at a preschool in Belmont, Massachusetts. This will be my first year working at the MDI YMCA and I'm so excited to be able to help build this program and be a part of such an amazing community.



My name is Cassidy Menziatti. I have always been passionate about learning, and helping others and I'm so excited to be a part of the Bar Harbor YMCA working alongside the young Chickadees as they learn and grow as individuals. In eighth grade, I was given the Principal's Award for the work I accomplished at Camp Starfish, where I was a camp counselor for children with special needs. I have been a private nanny for four years which has given me great experience with one on one work and in caring for children of younger ages. I'm looking forward to bringing fun and education together to make a positive impact in the lives of our learners, and to become more a part of this great community here at the YMCA.



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When is my child ready for preschool?

MDI YMCA preschool is open to any child who has turned 3 and who's potty-trained.

In preschool we work on skills such as sharing, taking turns, playing with peers, how to work successfully in a group setting.

These vary in young children and can be a result of the experiences they have had so far in life.

In order to get a sense of each child, we do a two week trial period to see how our setting works with your child and how the child works in our setting.



Chickadee Preschool Program at the Mount Desert Island YMCA

for learning and growing



Sample Schedule

GROW

LEARN

THRIVE

- 7:00am Drop off begins
- 9:00am Snack Time
- 9:15am Circle Time
- 9:30am Themed Daily Learning
- 9:45am Daily Themed Craft / Fine Motor Activity
- 10:45am Playground/ Gross Motor Play
- 11:30am- Lunch
- 12:00pm- Story Time
- 12:15pm Beginning of Rest Time
- 2:15pm Sensory Play
- 2:30pm Snack
- 2:45pm Playground/ Gross Motor Play
- 4:00-5:30pm Free Play/ Pick Up

Themes can be seasonally inspired, student chosen or developmentally appropriate and are rotated in every two weeks.



The MDI YMCA Chickadee Preschool is a state licensed preschool program housed inside the Y enabling us to take advantage of being a part of the Y community and gives us easy access to the gymnasium, pool, indoor walking track, outdoor playground and surrounding fields, and our wonderful community.

The forward thinking and creative curriculum honors the child's imagination and respects the role that teachers play in making learning exciting for every child.

Weekly Chickadee Preschool Tuition
5- Day/Week \$185
3-Day/Week \$140
Base rates are for 8 hours/day
\$5hr for each additional hour

Financial Assistance is available to those who qualify. State subsidies also accepted.

All preschool attendees need to be current YMCA members.

Payment can be made in full or with bi-weekly auto draft to a card or checking/ savings accounts on file. Auto draft occurs whether the child is in attendance for any given day or not. If you need to change day(s) during any given week or long-term please work with Emily. The Y is happy to take subsidy payments from the state to help make preschool affordable for all.

At the preschool age, learning comes through play and play and fun are the building blocks of success in our program.

Preschoolers take advantage of all the Y campus has to offer!

Weekly scheduled time in the pool, structured and free play in the gym as well as yoga, tumbling, and music classes and weekly guest readers at story time. Weekly trips to the local library for story-time and play there as well as field trips on the Y bus make these youngsters busy.



Our approach to curriculum is to use the YMCA guiding principals as a basis for learning.

- Honesty
- Caring
- Responsibility
- Respect

In keeping with the MDI YMCA mission, we want to nurture and help develop the whole child.

The mission of the Mount Desert Island YMCA is to develop community, character, personal growth in wellness and spirit, mind and body for the greater MDI community.