

**Camas Early Learning Center**

**Our Curriculum Philosophy –**

Our curriculum philosophy is built upon the following ideas.

* Trusting, respectful, nurturing relationships between children and adults are essential.
* The teacher’s role is as a facilitator and guide. Teachers support children by using a variety of teaching strategies, including modeling, providing appropriate learning materials, encouraging children’s independence, and planning teacher-led activities.
* Play-based, hands-on, active learning environment is most appropriate for young learners.
* In their social play, children learn how to be a member of a larger community. They are offered individual, small group, and large group experiences.
* Teachers intentionally plan the classroom environment and experiences and provide materials to inspire learning, discovery, creativity, and problem solving.
* Connections to the natural world are intrinsic to healthy growth and development.
* Our curriculum emerges from children’s interests, teachers’ observations, and events in the lives of the children and their families
* Observation, documentation, and ongoing assessment of individual children and the classroom are used as a basis for curriculum planning.
* Our curriculum reflects, values, and extends the richness of the diversity of the children, staff, and families in a classroom. All staff and children of the CELC spend time each day learning the Salish language of the Kalispel Tribe from a group of four (4) Early Learning Language Specialists we have on staff.