

Early Advantages for Success in Life The Importance of Early Childhood Education

Early childhood Education (ECE) is one of the most important and consequential investments you can make for the future success of your child. ECE is often defined as the time from a child's birth to when they enter kindergarten. These are the foundational years for future growth, when the majority of brain development takes place, when skills and habits are formed, and when a strong base for lifelong learning and learning abilities, including cognitive and social development is established. In summary, this is the time when the essential building blocks are laid for your child's future success.

To be clear, we are not talking about basic daycare services where a child can be kept in the care of an adult while the parents are at work, although these are important and certainly have a place in society, nor are we talking about subjecting a child to hours of screen time and streaming media, until their little brains turn into mush and become numb to external stimuli. Furthermore, we are not talking about focused programs that are designed to emphasize individual aspects of development, such as academics, athleticism or arts/music over others.

Rather, a good Early Childhood Education program provides a structured and well balanced nurturing and learning program, that combines educational material, social skills, character values, and play time in a fun and self-enforcing way to help the child grow mentally, physically and emotionally. Such programs help children build confidence in themselves and empowers them with tools, habits, and successful skills in life to become high achievers like cooperation, self-discipline, can-do attitude, always doing their best, pride in a job well-done, respect and gratitude.

The relationship between ECE and future achievement outcomes, such as higher SAT scores, winning college scholarships, and becoming successful and contributing members of society have been documented extensively. A quick Google search will net you hundreds, if not thousands of results.

As parents, we are very lucky that such programs are available within reach today with excellent options and research-based curriculum that are delivered in state of the art facilities with amazing tools and expansive playgrounds. Given the proven benefits, it should be an easy decision for every parent to invest in the future of your child and give them a head-start in life.