



YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities

[ymcamn.org](http://ymcamn.org)

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# WHY WE PLAY AND WHAT WE LEARN



Many times there are questions about what children learn at school. And there are many myths that when a child is playing that they aren't learning. However, it is just the opposite. Children can learn not only the "school" bits and pieces but also the social and emotional components as well!

### SENSORY AREA

- Observation Skills
- Cause and Effect
- Vocabulary
- Sharing and Taking Turns
- Verbal Expression
- Science Concepts
- Hand and Eye Coordination
- Math and Number Concepts



### SCIENCE AREA

- Observation Skills
- Predicting
- Questioning
- Problem Solving
- Cause and Effect
- Vocabulary
- Science Concepts
- Math and Number Concepts

### CONSTRUCTION/BUILDING

- Measurement
- Size and Shape
- Geometry
- Problem Solving
- Small and Large Muscle Control
- Cause and Effect
- Sharing and Taking Turns
- Hand and Eye Coordination

### LANGUAGE/LITERACY

- Concepts of Print
- Concepts of Books
- Alphabetic Principles
- Phonemic Awareness
- Reading and Writing
- Rhyming
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Risk Taking

### MATH

- One-to-One Correspondence
- Number Concepts
- Counting
- Estimating
- Graphing
- Ordering
- Measuring
- Patterning



### ART

- Creativity
- Problem Solving
- Cause and Effect
- Color Concepts
- Art Techniques
- Emotional Expression
- Self Confidence
- Measurement
- Size and Shape
- Problem Solving
- Small and Large Muscle Control
- Cause and Effect

### DRAMATIC PLAY

- Negotiating
- Problem Solving
- Emotional Regulation
- Sustained Attention
- Idea Representation
- Abstract Thinking
- Self Confidence
- Sharing and Taking Turns

