

# ABOUT A STEP AHEAD!

Created with your child in mind, *A Step Ahead!*

Our Kindergarten Readiness Program for children turning 5 years old in the fall. It is designed for active investigation and child-initiated activities, as well as small group teacher-guided learning. This allows our teacher team to direct and instruct your child in the exploration of the various themed units introduced throughout the school year. Our daily teacher-initiated activities will include: literacy, handwriting, math, science, art, games, songs, and morning meeting. Our child-initiated individual and small group experiences will naturally occur in the art corner, dramatic play area, listening center, math manipulative corner, science center, and block area. Together these experiences will ensure that your child's learning will be tangible, meaningful, and fun all while enjoying a comprehensive Kindergarten readiness experience within our family-oriented caring community.

Each one of us is unique and thereby learns in different ways. Some of us are auditory learners while others are visual learners and our children are no different. Some children learn best in large group settings through observation and listening, while others learn from more intimate small group opportunities with an emphasis on hands-on connections. There are those children who thrive in more structured environments while others prefer a more free-flowing and spontaneous learning experience. Children can and often change their learning preferences and thus benefit from different educational methods and environments while participating in different learning experiences. Our program will provide both large and small group learning opportunities tailored to meet the collective needs of both the individual learner and the community.

**Julie Rabinowitz**  
 In 2006, I joined the ECP and since then have worked with many talented teachers in the 3s, 4s and Pre-K. I have been a Co-Teacher of the ECP's *Step Ahead, Pre-K Program* since its inception in 2011. I also coordinate and lead the ECP's Torah Alive! program. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in U.S. History and Judaic Studies from SUNY Albany and completed Master's work at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at Hebrew University. I received my Child Development Associate certificate in early childhood education from the National Child Care Council in 2013.

**Jen Benalt**  
 I have my undergraduate degree in Early Childhood Development from the University at Buffalo and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Yeshiva University's Wurzwiler School of Social Work. I am a creative educator that will offer your child the ability to challenge themselves in a supportive learning environment. I recognize that each child is an individual, with their own strengths and learning style. In *A Step Ahead!* we will prepare your child for kindergarten, and provide your child with opportunities to develop a greater level of independence, and an enriched sense of self.

**Stacy Brodsky**  
 I received a B.S. from Drew University and I have a Masters of Professional Studies in Elementary and Special Education from Manhattanville College. Before teaching at the ECP School and Greenwich Academy. I have worked with students who possess a wide variety of learning styles and have created educational plans that would best meet their individual needs. As an educator and a parent, I know that a compassionate, structured, organized classroom teacher makes ALL the difference in the world.



## Congregation Kol Ami Early Childhood Program

*building a community of friends one family at a time*

## A Step Ahead!

Kindergarten Readiness Program



*Created for children  
turning 5 years old in the Fall*



# OUR PROGRAM DETAILS

Our double-sized classroom is arranged in centers and includes areas for Literacy, Listening, Math, Science, Blocks, Art, Dramatic Play, and Class Meetings. Our units of study include: All About Family, Lifecycle of a Plant, the Solar System, the Human Body, and Building & Construction.

The children enrolled in **A Step Ahead!** will enjoy a Judaic curriculum woven into their program of study including Havdalah, Shabbat, the Jewish holidays, and a unit focused on Israel.

The program meets on Monday-Thursday from 9:00-2:30 and Fridays from 9:00-12:00.

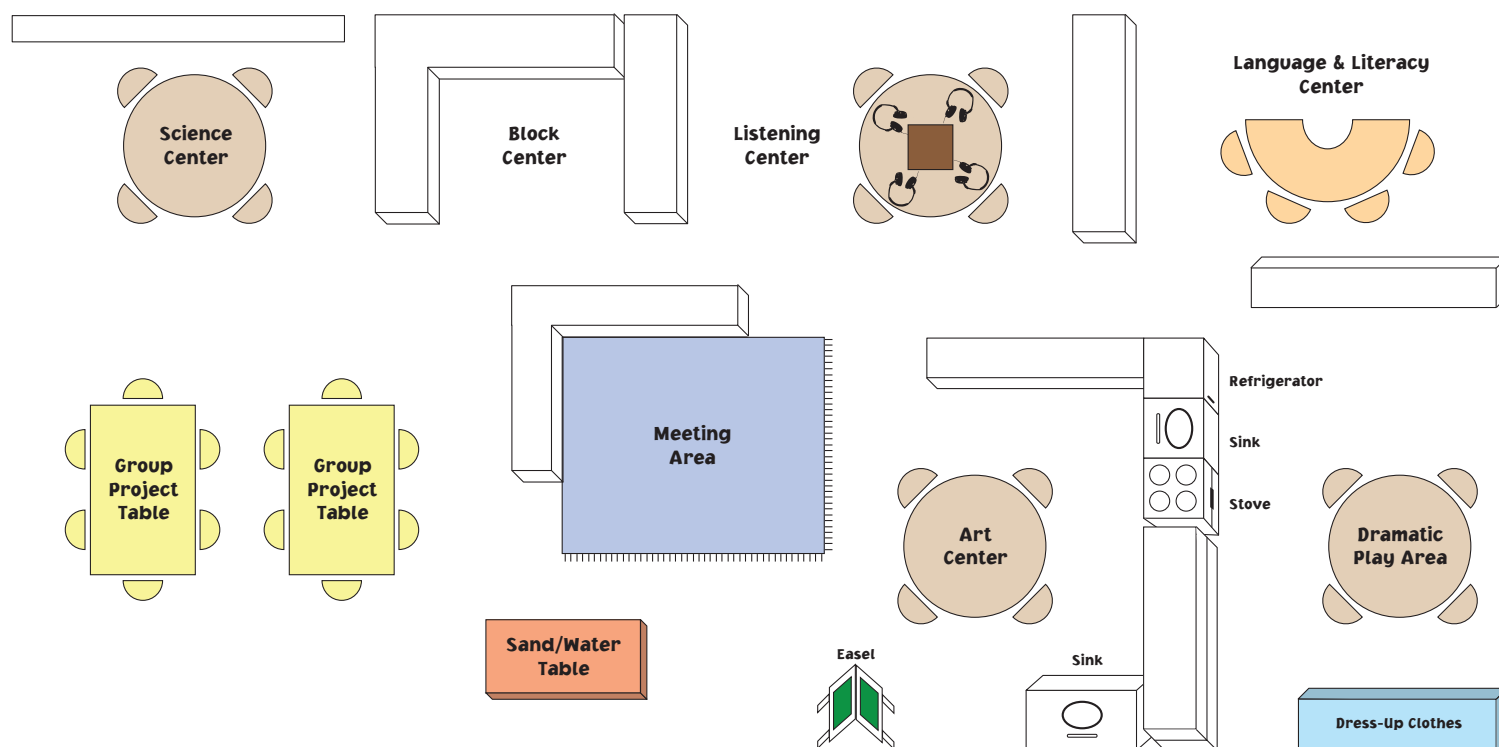
Special instruction included in the curriculum will be Music, Our Garden Project, Teva: A Nature Program, Israeli Dance and Movement, Soccer, and Gym.

**Class Size: 12-14 Children maximum with a 1:7 ratio**  
**Head Teacher with Master's Degree N-6 and Special Education**

Tuition: Available upon request  
 School year: September- June



## OUR CLASSROOM



## OUR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

The Daily Schedule for our **A Step Ahead!** Program looks something like this:

9:00	Arrival	11:30	Recess
9:05	Morning Meeting	12:15	Lunch
9:30	Literacy Block / Centers	12:45	Rest
10:30	Snack	1:00	Social Studies / Science
10:45	Storytime	2:00	Recess
11:15	Math	2:30	Dismissal

For more information on **A Step Ahead!** please call:

Nan Blank, Director at 914-949-4717 x107

