

Early Blocks of Learning

THE EVERYDAY AT BASIS BEGINNERS PRAGUE

Every day at BASIS Beginners Prague has a structured and organized rhythm. Each morning begins with a Morning Welcome, where the students properly greet their classmates and get accustomed with the daily agenda. The developmental blocks of learning at BASIS Beginners Prague are divided into three stages; Emerging, Discovering, and Foundational. These developmental stages represent a strong learning foundation inspired by STREAM learning, which incorporates experiences and discoveries influenced by the world around us. The STREAM Blocks provide students with the knowledge and skills to be successful learners. These skills are designed to spiral so that every day's lessons continue to build on the previous lessons. Students benefit from their daily participation and engage with hands-on activities revolving around themes integrated within the content. Each day includes frequent movement, play, and rest breaks to promote physical activity and maximize student learning and discoveries in the classroom.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN DAILY SCHEDULE (4-5 YEARS-OLD)

SUBJECT	TIME	NOTE
Early Bird (Open Play)	7:30-8:30	Groups are together
Morning Work	8:30-8:45	Recommended latest arrival: 8:45
Morning Welcome	8:45-9:10	
Brain Break	9:10-9:20	
Writing	9:20-9:40	
Snack	9:40-10:10	
STREAM Block (Centers)	10:10-10:30	Groups are together
Music & Movement (Outside Time)	10:30-11:00	
STREAM Block (Centers)	11:00-11:20	Groups are together
Reading	11:20-11:40	
STREAM Block (Centers)	11:40-12:00	Groups are together
Open Play (Outside Time)	12:00-12:30	
Lunch	12:30-13:00	End of Half-Day: 13:00
Nap/Quiet Time/Small Groups	13:00-15:00	Groups are together
Snack	15:00-15:30	Groups are together
STREAM Integrations	15:30-16:00	Groups are together
Open Play (Outside Time)	16:00-16:30	Groups are together
Enrichment	16:30-17:00	Groups are together
Late Bird	17:00-17:30	Groups are together

Please see the Pre-School Daily Schedule on page 2.

PRE-SCHOOL DAILY SCHEDULE (3-4 YEARS-OLD)

SUBJECT	TIME	NOTE
Early Bird (Open Play)	7:30-8:30	Groups are together
Morning Work	8:30-8:45	Recommended latest arrival: 8:45
Morning Welcome	8:45-9:10	
Brain Break	9:10-9:20	
Snack	9:20-9:40	
Music & Movement (Outside Time)	9:40-10:10	
STREAM Block (Centers)	10:10-10:30	Groups are together
Open Play (Outside Time)	10:30-11:00	
STREAM Block (Centers)	11:00-11:20	Groups are together
Reading	11:20-11:40	
STREAM Block (Centers)	11:40-12:00	Groups are together
Lunch	12:00-12:30	End of Half-Day: 12:30
Open Play (Indoor)	12:30-13:00	
Nap/Quiet Time/Small Groups	13:00-15:00	Groups are together
Snack	15:00-15:30	Groups are together
STREAM Integrations	15:30-16:00	Groups are together
Open Play (Outside)	16:00-16:30	Groups are together
Enrichment	16:30-17:00	Groups are together
Late Bird	17:00-17:30	Groups are together

INSTRUCTION TIME ALLOCATION TABLE

SUBJECT	GROUP	TIME (per week)	TIME (daily average)
Math	Emerging	50min	10min
	Discovering	1h 15min	15min
	Foundational	2h 30min	30min
Language, Literacy, and Phonics	Emerging	1h 40min	20min
	Discovering	2h 5min	25min
	Foundational	2h 30min	30min
World Around Us	Emerging	2h 5min	25min
	Discovering	2h 30min	30min
	Foundational	2h 30min	30min
Arts & Technology	Emerging	1h 40min	20min
	Discovering	1h 40min	20min
	Foundational	2h 30min	30min
Physical, Social, and Emotional Development	Emerging	1h 15min	15min
	Discovering	1h 15min	15min
	Foundational	1h 15min	15min
Total Instruction Time	Emerging	7h 30min	1h 30min
	Discovering	8h 45min	1h 45min
	Foundational	11h 15min	2h 15min

NOTE:
Emerging
 (2¼ to 3 years old)
Discovering
 (3 to 4 years old)
Foundational
 (4 to 5 years old)

STREAM BLOCKS

The content in the STREAM Blocks provide students with the skills most important for accruing a strong foundation of knowledge in the areas of: Science, Technology, Reading and Writing, Engineering, Fine Arts, and Math.

1. Science: This subject focuses on the way children learn about and experience the world around them. Students examine the natural world through an introduction to the human body, the environment, the seasons and weather, the Earth and other planets, geography and geology, and plants and animals. Students will further extend their knowledge to understand families, school systems, communities, the global world, holidays, and historical figures.

2. Technology: Students are provided with foundational knowledge about how technology can be used as a tool for learning and documentation.

3. Reading And Writing: This subject focuses on the development of children's personal and interpersonal communication skills. Our English Immersion program prepares students to learn how to actively read and write, as well as how to speak and listen in a way that allows them to communicate effectively. In Reading, students are introduced to storybooks and storytelling, including read-aloud books, poems, and rhymes. Students begin to learn basic phonics rules too. Phonics instruction is essential for reading and writing, as students will learn how to recognize and articulate the sounds of letters and words so they can read and write them. Literature will often be used to introduce themes that are integrated into all of the STREAM Blocks.

4. Engineering: Students learn to investigate and innovate by building structures using natural and synthetic materials. Simultaneously, students explore age-appropriate science, technology, engineering, and math concepts.

5. Fine Arts: This subject focuses on the way students learn to convey ideas and express themselves in the areas of Art, Music, Drama and Movement.

Art: Students are introduced to various art tools and creative works to help them develop critical thinking skills and a relationship with art.

Music: Students are exposed to live and recorded music. They sing common children's songs and listen to different genres and styles of music from around the globe. Additionally, students learn about tempo, rhythm, beat, repetition, sequencing, and musical notations, as well as the different types of instruments and their corresponding sounds.

Drama And Movement: Students are introduced to the basics of performing speaking, singing, dancing, and choreography. In Movement, students actively participate in age appropriate activities that focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, and the development of gross motor skills. Students learn the importance of being physically active, having proper nutrition, hydrating, and taking time to rest and recover.

6. Math: Students learn basic math concepts, including daily calendar skills, recognizing and writing numbers, patterns, shapes, and sorting. Additionally, students explore problemsolving skills by working on problems that include graphing, quantity and counting, money, and measurement.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Early/Late Bird: Open playtime during which students participate in playful learning. Students interact with peers and have fun while choosing what they want to play and how they want to play it.

Morning Welcome: The students begin each day by properly greeting their teachers and classmates, sings songs, and get accustomed with the daily agenda. During this time, students are introduced to new skills and concepts through mini lessons. The skills they learn in these mini lessons are reinforced in the STREAM Blocks.

Brain Break: Serves as a break for the brain in the form of a gross and large motor movements, such as jumps, dancing, stretching and yoga poses. It's important for young learners to take breaks in order to maximize their learning experiences.

Open Play: Students experience playful learning by interacting with their peers and having fun, as well as by choosing what they want to play and how they want to play it.

Nap/Quiet Time: Students have the opportunity to lay down and rest or sleep in their own space. Students who do not wish to sleep are allowed to participate in quiet and calm activities or work on individual skills with the teachers.

STREAM Integrations: Project-based learning, that allows students to make in-depth connections among the STREAM subjects through a common theme.

Enrichment: The classroom is divided into different STREAM centers, which allows students to engage in structured activities. Students have the ability to choose which activity they want to focus on. All activities center on and review skills introduced in the STREAM Blocks.

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

The STREAM Block lessons are organized in units with a common theme (plants, animals, community helpers, etc), lasting up to 5 to 15 days. When appropriate, the school organizes a professional visit from a field related to the theme of the unit to demonstrate the materials and concepts the students are currently learning in a new and exciting way to provide further opportunity for a hands-on experience. Some of the lesson units culminate in a visit to places where the students get to see and experience what they were learning about (Planetarium, ZOO, Karlstejn Castle). Field trips are a vital part of our program and we incorporate at least one every other month. Our school is situated in the beautiful neighborhood of the Landronka Park with well-equipped playgrounds and the opportunity to play outside there. The school has its own garden, so we can hold classes outside anytime the weather allows it. The blending of the inside and outside and overlapping playing and learning is a signature of our program.

MULTI-AGE STRUCTURE

The STREAM Blocks of learning have distinct educational goals based on age groups and developmental learning stages. We consider the multi-age structure of our school to be an excellent tool to practice social and communication skills, as well as the opportunity to expose the students to a variety of learning practices; observation, imitation, demonstration, and guidance. The method utilized for instruction depends on the goals and content of the specific part of the lesson unit. In some cases, it is best to organize the instruction in mixed groups to enable learners of all developmental stages. In a mixed group, students' differentiated knowledge supports daily hands-on experiences. Together, they collaborate and share their discoveries, allowing them to build on each other's success and exposure of varied learning practices.

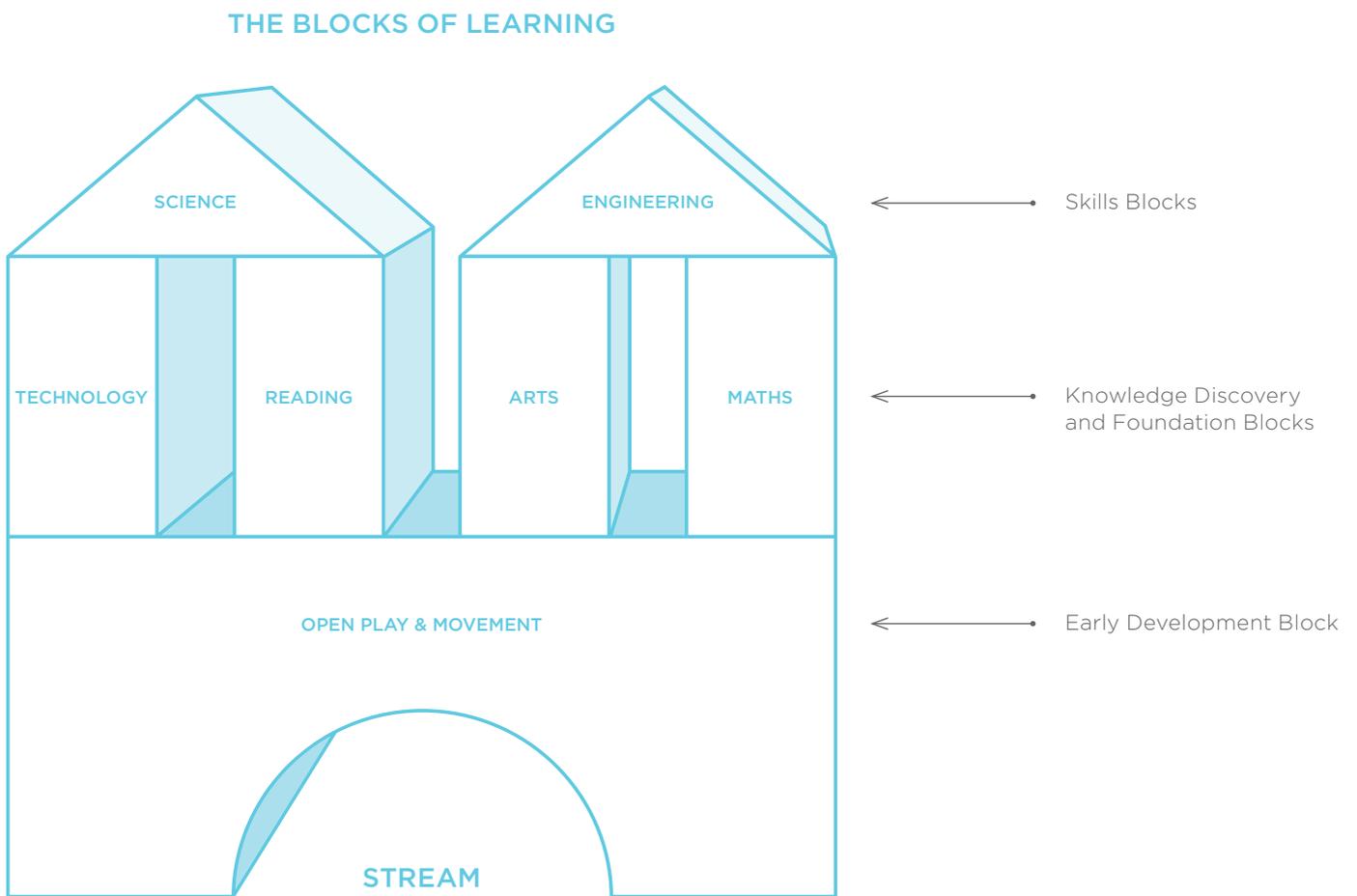
PLAYING IS LEARNING

At BASIS Beginners Prague, our students take part in a range of play-based activities including structured activities that integrate the STREAM Blocks, enrichment, and open play. Play and learning are not mutually exclusive. Through play, students learn to develop problem-solving, physical, and social and emotional skills.

THE BLOCKS OF LEARNING

The developmental blocks of learning at BASIS Beginners Prague are divided into three stages: Emerging, Discovering, and Foundational. These developmental stages represent a strong learning foundation inspired by STREAM learning into experiences and discoveries that are inspired by the world around us. While there are distinct academic and developmental goals in each stage, an important feature of our program is its multiage instruction character. Our multiage structure exposes students to varied learning practices as they engage and collaborate with their peers in the STREAM centers, and learn together through play. The most essential skill is for students to enjoy the acquisition of knowledge and develop a lifelong love for learning.

At BASIS Beginners, we believe it's extremely important to communicate the developmental stages and progress of each individual student to our families, so that together we can celebrate student success and prepare our students for excellent outcomes.



BEYOND THE BLOCKS OF LEARNING

The skills and knowledge in the STREAM blocks are important for succeeding when entering grade zero at a BASIS school. The Blocks of Learning stages include foundational milestones for physical, social, and emotional development. A detailed description of the goals of the BASIS Beginners Prague program can be found in the BASIS Curriculum Early Education Milestones. This material is available to interested parents upon request. Please contact our admissions office for more information.