



First United Methodist
PRESCHOOL

First United Methodist Preschool
512-478-5709
1201 Lavaca Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Responsive CARE

Our philosophy on
caring for infants and
young toddlers

For parents of
children 2-18 months

www.fumcaustin.org/preschool/infants

Routines, not schedules.

How do you meet children's basic needs?

Routines

There are many routines but few schedules. Teachers follow the same procedures for each feeding, diaper change, and rest time to create predictability of care.



Sleeping

We honor their body clock according to their presenting cues. Children are assisted to fall asleep when they show signs of sleepiness and allowed to sleep until they naturally wake.



Eating

We trust children's natural appetites to guide their nourishment. Because children's appetites can fluctuate, we serve and end feedings based on children's responses.



Why "Responsive Care"?

Our babies and young toddlers are a very special part of our program at FUMP. Our primary goal is loving and responsive care for our youngest groups.

Each child's need for comfort, stimulation, nourishment, and sleep are met as they are manifested. We do not follow prescribed schedules in the infant and toddler classroom; we respect and follow children's natural cues of hunger/satiety, sleepiness/wakefulness and respond accordingly to maximize trust and minimize stress for the child.

What is this based upon?

Maslow's research found the first core developmental need of infants and toddlers is to trust their caregivers. If the care a child receives is consistent, predictable and reliable to their needs, they will develop a sense of trust which will carry with them to other relationships, and they will be able to feel secure in a school environment.

Daily records of children's eating, sleeping, diapering and mood are sent home daily so parents are informed about their child's day.