

# Quality Counts

*Our Early Childhood Programs bear these hallmarks of quality:*

- Developmentally appropriate curriculum based on the Massachusetts Early Childhood Program Standards for 3 and 4 Year Olds and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences and the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks (Spring 2003)
- Clear and attainable goals and objectives for children and staff
- NAEYC accredited
- Systematic evaluation and monitoring to improve practices
- Physical activities to build strong bodies
- Nutritious snacks
- Transition to kindergarten support
- Staff ratios below state requirements
- Teachers have a Bachelor's Degree, Associate's Degree or are working toward a degree
- Professional development and training for staff
- All staff are First Aid and CPR certified
- Family participation, support and education Referrals

# Early Childhood Education

MetroWest YMCA Early Childhood Program at Framingham State College provides high quality early education and care to children ages 2 years 9 months through 5 years old.

Activities at the YMCA are designed to put learning in the context of play and to celebrate the joys of growing and discovery. They include gross motor and language activities, sensory experiences, creative expression, learning through hands-on exploration and acquisition of self-help skills. Our curriculum addresses each child's developmental needs and interests and emphasizes the YMCA character values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. This individualized instruction will help your child grow and succeed.

In order to engage and support children throughout the day, our theme-based curriculum is created using knowledge of the interests of the children enrolled. We provide opportunities for the children to learn and explore in all areas of development by providing activities that range in scope and detail for different skill levels. For example, over the course of a week's exploration about bees, a child may create a paper mache beehive, read books and sing songs about bees, count bees, taste honey, dress up as beekeepers, and learn about the social rules of bees and compare them to our classroom. Frequently, activities are offered and discussed for the entire class once with the opportunity for individual or small groups of children to expand on the concepts during other parts of the day.

In this program, children benefit from a mixed age group setting as they use play and learning experiences to improve social interactions and become ready for kindergarten. The younger children have the older children as role models and examples of higher level performance, while the older children reinforce their own knowledge by teaching back and modeling to the younger. The focus of this classroom is on school readiness and social interactions through play and learning experiences. With shared group activities, story time, and play, children are encouraged to cooperate and interact with adults and other children. In addition the schedule includes time for individual exploration as well as opportunities for children to work together to develop age appropriate skills.

**The MetroWest YMCA can help your child prepare for the future.  
Call Kayte Gorski, Early Childhood Director for more information.**

**The MetroWest YMCA Early Childhood Center  
at Framingham State College**  
2 Church Street FSC Campus  
Framingham, MA 01701  
**(508) 626-4084 kgorski@metrowestymca.org**

**2.9 to 5 years old**  
**7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday (2, 3 & 5 full day options)**  
**Year round calendar.**



**Framingham**  
STATE COLLEGE

MetroWest YMCA  
Early Childhood Center



## The Benefits of...

### Early Education & Care

Research shows that children who participate in high-quality early learning programs develop better language skills, score higher on school readiness tests and have better social skills than peers who did not attend a program. They have fewer behavior problems and are 40% less likely to need special education services or be held back a grade. They are more likely to perform well academically, complete high school and become part of a productive workforce and contribute to society and the economy.



The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC), our licensing authority, supports high quality early learning programs because they create a level playing field for children entering school, and minimize potential costs associated with remedial and special education. Nationally, long term benefit studies by several universities and think tanks have propelled a strong movement to provide universal pre-kindergarten education.

### On-site Early Education & Care for FSC faculty, Staff, & Students

*Opportunities for parent participation throughout the day including...*

- Seeing your child smile
- Give a hug when they need a hug, or get a hug when you need one.
- Enjoying lunch with your child or dropping in for a break or special activity
- Shared commute
- Full day programming to minimize your child's transitions during the day
- Highly subsidized by Framingham State College

## Framingham State College wants you to be a part of your child's education and so do we!

The MetroWest YMCA Early Childhood Center at Framingham State College is open year round. Contact Kayte Gorski, FSC/MWY Early Childhood Director for enrollment and space availability. (508) 626-4084 or email Kayte at [kgorski@metrowestymca.org](mailto:kgorski@metrowestymca.org)



**MetroWest YMCA**

We build strong kids,  
strong families, strong communities.

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## MetroWest YMCA Early Childhood Center at Framingham State College



**Cultivating Potential**  
building healthy spirit, mind and body for all



**Framingham**  
STATE COLLEGE

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