



After School Program

The best kinds of afterschool programs offer a balance of academics, recreation, enrichment, and character building activities. Those are the kinds of things we include at Growing Years! Besides focusing on homework assignments and tutoring, we also provide opportunities for unstructured play, activity clubs, snack, and outside time. Obviously, there needs to be a balance in what we do and this balance is based on the ages of the children and the needs of participating families.

Because children who come to our after school program have already been through six hours of schooling, we feel children need to differentiate their afterschool learning time. The tutoring and homework help we provide is more effective because the children work in very small groups, or ideally, one-on-one with the afterschool teachers. Some children might feel lost in the large groups of the school day, and so a single afterschool teacher who will help them with math, reading, or other problem areas can produce some successful outcomes! Our after school program attempts to provide the kind of individual attention all children need and deserve.

Currently we provide transportation and care for children ages 5-10 years old who attend Saginaw Township Public and Parochial Schools and some Saginaw City Schools. Our licensed Growing Years child care bus picks children up from school and brings them back to Growing Years where they may stay until 6:00 if needed. *We do not provide transportation to school in the mornings.*

If school is dismissed early for some reason, we are usually able to pick children up on those days as well. One advantage of enrolling in our after school program is the ability to bring your child whenever there is a snow day, teacher in-service day, vacation days, etc.

Communication:

Teachers may be reached any time during the day by calling the school at 989-792-8670 or by e-mailing us at info@growingyearspreschool.com.



Daily Schedule:

A typical day at Growing Years' Afterschool Program might look like this: (times will vary depending on the needs of children, the weather, and the length of activities planned.)

Time	Activity
3:00pm:	Arrival from school. Children will go out to the playground first to have some after school fun and let off a little steam!
3:30-3:45pm:	Children enjoy snack together and visit with their friends and teachers.
3:45-4:30pm:	Children work on homework assignments, receive tutoring, read, visit the art center, or play computer games.
*4:30-5:30pm:	Club Activities!
5:30-6:00pm:	Independent activities, clean up.

Clubs:

Growing Years will focus on a different activity club each month that children may freely participate in at no extra charge. The club activities include:

Club	Timeframe
<i>Peddlesfoots Good Character Club activities</i>	every month
Spanish Speaking Club activities	every month
All About Me Club	September
Eating well/Cooking Club	October
Young at Art Club	November
Service Learning Club	December
Growing Years Theatre Club	January
Trivia Challenge Club	February
Readers and Writers Club	March
Math Manipulators Club	April
Staying Fit Club	May



2190 Wienke Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-792-8670

Peddlesfoots Good Character Club Activities:

The Peddlesfoots Good Character Club will participate in a character education program featuring a family of rabbits named the *Peddlesfoots*. Through the stories of their many antics and trials, children learn about the importance of becoming children of good character. The stories have been combined with exciting lesson plans and activities for teachers to extend the concepts of *trustworthiness, respect, perseverance, caring, citizenship, fairness, self-discipline, responsibility, and courage*. Besides the stories, children also enjoy the song CD, read-a-long CD, and *Peddlesfoots* puppets.

This series was written by Anita Collins, the owner/director of Growing Years, along with her son, Matthew Hill, and daughter, Lisa Workman, who are also teachers. In 2006, the *Peddlesfoots* curriculum was selected as the centerpiece of a federally funded grant—Partnerships in Character Education—that was awarded to the Saginaw Intermediate School District. After being rigorously researched for 4 years, the *Peddlesfoots* curriculum demonstrated significant increases in children’s pro-social behavior as well as improved academic achievement in literacy. Separate levels of curriculum were developed for preschool, kindergarten, and first grades.

If you would like more information about our character education program, we have a website at www.peddlesfoots.com or visit www.truesaginaw.org.