CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Special Start

2020-2021

Who we are

- Special Start is a preschool program of the Cambridge Public Schools, where students with disabilities and their non-disabled peers learn alongside one another.
- Special Start provides high-quality play-based classroom experiences to three- and four-year olds, with integrated supports and specially designed instruction so that all children can learn together.

Our classrooms and teachers are

Engaging

Play-based

Meet every child where they are

Supportive

Best Practices

Child-Centered

Classrooms are located

Baldwin

Graham & Parks

Tobin

Peabody

Morse

Kennedy Longfellow

Cambridgeport

By the numbers:

16 classrooms

213 students

16 Classroom Teachers

39 paraprofessionals

Related services teams
(OT, PT, Speech & Language)

2 Lead Teachers

4 Psychologists

1 Coordinator

1 Behavior Specialist

1 Clerk Specialist

What Our Day Looks Like

We might transform the house area into

- A store
- A fire station
- An airplane
- A train station
- Under the sea
- A campsite
- A restaurant
- The T
- An animal hospital

We Might Play with

- Blocks
- Legos
- Water table
- Kinetic sand
- Play dough
- Magna-tiles
- Shaving cream
- Letter blocks
- Puzzles
- Trains
- Cars
- Farms
- Babies
- Stuffed animals
- Pots and pans
- Paint
- Musical instruments

We might investigate

Leaves, sticks, and rocks we find outside

How long does it take for a pumpkin to rot

How long does it take for snow and ice to melt

How do shadows work

How to make slime

Read and Write

Stories and poetry

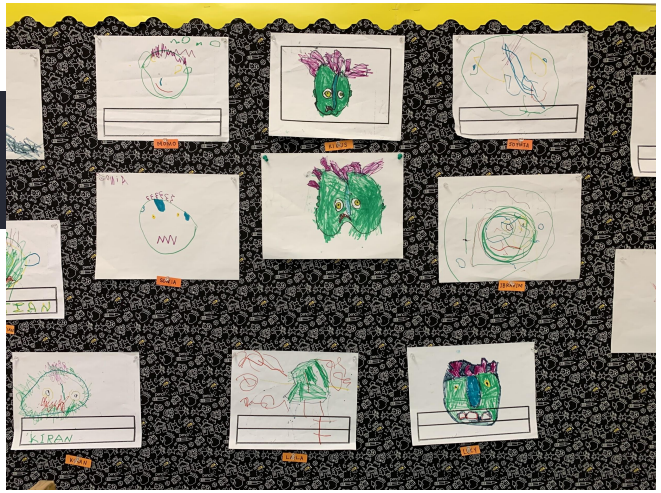
Create our own books

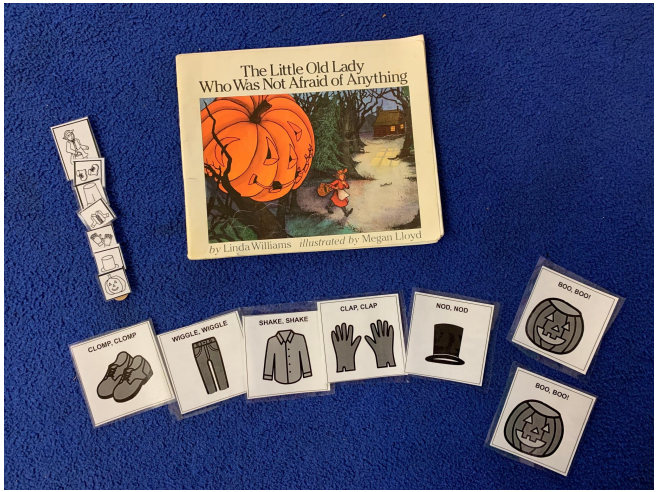
Environmental print like signs and labels

Our Names!

Weekend journals

Morning message





Together

Eat snacks

Play outside

Have a dance party

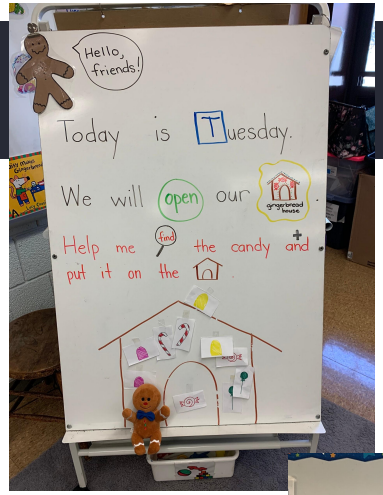
Ask a friend to play

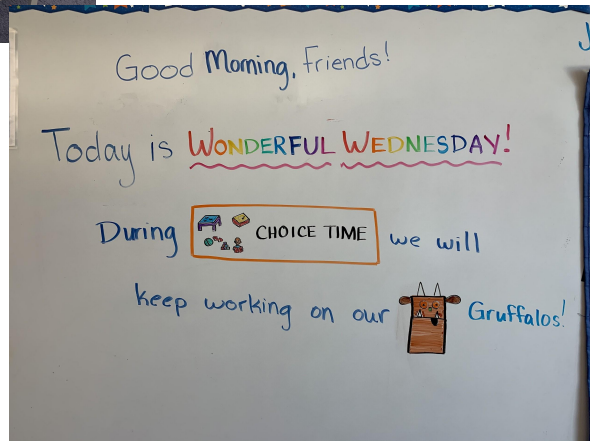
Cooperate and share

Take a walk in the neighborhood

Solve a problem with a friend

Make a plan to play a game





Thank you & Welcome to Special Start

Any questions?

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For more information, please visit us at bit.ly/cps_specialstart