

Ameeraland < a Child Care Village

Personal Statement

Ameeraland is a child care village where kids are highly encouraged to express their intelligence and creativity in academics and physical education. As a child care village, children learn to respect themselves and others. *Ameeraland* kids develop positive, appropriate social behavior in a supportive, caring environment. Inclusion is cultivated and kids quickly learn to value diverse approaches and styles of learning and expressing knowledge.

Training, Certificates & Memberships

- * Numerous early childhood development courses and workshops at Portland State University, Portland Community College, State of Oregon, Child Care Improvement Project, among others
- * Registered child care provider, State of Oregon
- * Mentor, Child Care Resource and Referral
- * Member, Rose Community Development Child Care Provider Network
- * Member, AFSCME union

Curriculum

As a village, children learn many life skills to become happy and successful at home, in school and in the world. Kids value the importance of self-respect and respecting others. Our specialty is *shared-wisdom learning* through exploration and experience, and by co-creating and peer teaching < matching same-age children or teaming older children with younger children. This method engages children to acquire knowledge and skills from our teachers and from one another. **Result:** Your child will become school-ready academically, socially, behaviorally and physically. And, their transition from pre-school to elementary school is happier and easier.

Children explore a diversity of curriculum < art, language, math, science and physical education. Our *kid art studio* is unrivaled, offering the largest existing canvas of its kind and an array of art supplies, easels and encouragement for creativity. **NEW:** Ameeraland's garden is funded by a grant to introduce children to natural sciences. Kids plan, grow, chart and harvest a garden of fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants. Kids learn that science is fun, rewarding and edible!

Experience

Ameera Saahir owns and operates Ameeraland, a Child Care Village. Ameera holds a Masters degree in Public Administration in the Political Science Department and a discipline in Sociology. She has developed and directed programs for early childhood development, higher education and cultural competence and diversity for organizations including Portland State University and Urban League of Portland, among others.