

**marlene
meyerson jcc**

manhattan THE BERT AND SANDRA WASSERMAN CENTER FOR FAMILY LIFE

Turning 2s



Program Philosophy

Turning 2s is a play-based, values-driven program that encourages exploration, growth, and discovery. We believe that children are competent and capable individuals, each with their own learning styles and interests. Through our child-centered curriculum, we aim to foster the creativity of each child.

We believe that children thrive in nurturing, warm environments designed with them in mind. We see our teachers as facilitators of positive, engaging experiences that support the needs of the children in their care.



Program Information

Turning 2s is held in our pre-nursery classrooms. Classrooms are designed with the children in mind and are equipped with developmentally appropriate furniture and materials.

Class sizes for Turning 2s range from 10-13 children; each class is led by a team of three teachers. In addition, we have a curriculum coordinator and a floating teacher who will fill in as needed.

Each class begins with a welcome routine and review of the day's schedule. Children then have the opportunity for explorations within the classroom, typically followed by circle time and snack. We also take advantage of the JCC facilities each day: climbing on the rooftop playground or going to the third floor gym for structured activities with our coaches. There is flexibility and choice within the classroom and schedule structure so that the children can explore and grow based on their interests. The daily schedule allows for and encourage independence, social connections, and physical and emotional development.

The overall goals of Turning 2s are to give children the opportunity to:

- Become part of a community
- Form new connections through social interactions with their peers and teachers and develop independent relationships
- Gently acclimate to a classroom setting
- Gain confidence in themselves and their abilities





Classroom + Family Connection

A partnership between our program and your family cultivates each child's curiosity, joy, compassion, and independence, laying the foundation for a lifelong love of learning. With the goal of fostering this partnership, teachers share weekly reflections with families as a window into the program day. This communication includes photos, song lyrics, titles of books read, and details about materials used in explorations. Families are encouraged to share these classroom reflections with their children to reinforce the home-classroom connection. We value close communication and are always available to speak with families about their children.



Toilet Training

We are aware that most 2-year-olds are not toilet trained, and our teachers change diapers as needed. Families provide and replenish necessary supplies. Teachers extend any toilet training efforts happening at home in partnership with families.

Separation

We have extensive experience with classroom welcome plans and will work with each family to ensure everyone is comfortable with the plan. Flexibility and trust are key, and priority is placed on readiness rather than a swift separation.





Registration Information

Turning 2s is a registration-based program; no application is required.

The program is held two mornings a week, and families can choose a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday section. There is also an option to add a third day by separately registering for our Friday class, Shabbat Together.

The program is designed for children who turn two between September and December.

Turning 2s is a year-long program that runs from September-June.

For more information, please contact Yael Kahn Pinto at ykahn Pinto@mmjccm.org or visit mmjccm.org/turning-2s.

