

Rodef Shalom Congregation, a welcoming and inclusive liberal Jewish synagogue in Oakland/Shadyside, is seeking an early childhood educator for its preschool program. A center in operation for over two decades, we provide a warm, nurturing, developmentally appropriate environment for children 18 months to five years, where play is at the core of the curriculum. Small groups and low teacher/child ratios help build supportive relationships with children, families, and staff. A sense of community is highly valued.

The Rodef Shalom Family Center is currently hiring motivated, inquisitive, and play driven early childhood educators with a passion for child-led methodology.

At the Rodef Shalom Family Center, we believe that play is a child's work. We understand that learning is a process where activities stimulate all areas of development simultaneously. Learning by doing- recognizing a beginning, middle, and end to activities, discovering the connections between action and effect, symbol and substance – is fundamental to our philosophy of learning.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop lessons and play plans suitable for children ages 18 months-5years
- Employ a variety of educational techniques (storytelling, educational play, media etc.) to enhance children's thoughts
- Observe children's play and develop and implement strategies to enhance their social competencies and build self-esteem
- Encourage children to interact with each other and resolve occasional arguments
- Guide children to develop their artistic and practical capabilities through a carefully constructed curriculum (identify shapes, numbers or colors, do crafts etc.)
- Organize nap and snack hours and supervise children to ensure they are safe at all times
- Track children's progress and report to parents
- Communicate with parents regularly to understand the children's background and psyche
- Collaborate with other educators
- Maintain a clean and tidy classroom consistent with health and safety standards

Skills

- Excellent understanding of the principles of child development and early childhood educational methods
- Familiarity with safety and sanitation guidelines for classrooms
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to act as mediator between children
- Cool-tempered, friendly and reliable
- Balance between a creative mind and a practical acumen
- Experience with play based methodology preferred.

CPR, Pennsylvania State Police Clearance, FBI Fingerprinting, NSOR, and Child Abuse Clearance Required.

The center operates every weekday morning and this position is a guaranteed 20 hours a week with a starting hourly pay rate of \$15 an hour. Teachers are compensated for planning time and professional development.

Applicants need not be Jewish, but must be comfortable working with diverse families. Candidates should have strong interpersonal and communication skills and a willingness to work as part of a team.

To Apply: Send resume and cover letter to human-resources@rodefshalom.org. Only email submissions will be acknowledged.