

he mission of the Ben Samuels Children's Center at Montclair State University is to provide a model of excellence in inclusive early care and education for children from birth through five years. To do this, the Center continuously examines and implements best practices of teaching and learning in a nurturing environment where all children learn, play, and grow together. The center is accredited by NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young children).

In support of the mission, we have created a community where:

- Children of differing abilities, needs, cultures, ethnicities, means, and family structures benefit from developmentally appropriate activities and services, and families, staff, and University students understand and embrace the value of diversity as an essential component of high quality education.
- Future generations of professionals are educated through research, observation, and hands-on experience of best practice in early education.
- Faculty and students observe, reflect, and continually learn about child development, early education, inclusive learning, and other areas.
- Families of lusive

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