



Why is this program important?

All of our babies have a specific potential to become happy, well-adjusted, caring, achieving and productive grown-ups. And the beautiful thing is that YOU play a role in influencing that potential.

Shortly after birth, a baby's brain contains more nerve cell connections (or synapses) than it will ever use. By the age of 2, a child's brain can contain twice as many synapses as the brain of a normal adult. Over time, the brain eliminates synapses that are seldom or never used. By providing stimulation through various experiences, caregivers can help their children retain as much brain power as possible. Reading is one of the most important experiences you share with your child; it provides love and security while your child experiences the language and world around them.

The most pivotal time for the retention of these synapses is between birth and 3 years of age (the most important year being the first). Ironically, this is the age when parents are "on their own", armed only with the knowledge they pursue themselves and the training that has been passed on to them from friends and family.

Babygarten provides you with some tools to help you entertain, comfort, observe and perhaps understand your child in these volatile months. The hour you spend each week at Babygarten will provide an environment that nurtures and stimulates with a wide variety of experiences and lays the groundwork for important skills your child will acquire.

However, this is not a "My Child Will Be the Smartest Kid in Kindergarten" program; babies are pre-wired for learning and the way they learn is through living – not "teaching." Singing a beloved nursery rhyme teaches an infant more about language than flashcards or drills.

Each time a babies tries to touch a tantalizing object or gaze intently at a face or listens to a nursery rhyme, tiny burst of electricity shoot through the brain, knitting neurons into well-defined circuits. When you discover what they are learning through their ordinary "baby ways", you'll view each new skill as a minor miracle. Babygarten will show you how to appreciate and maximize these natural behaviors.

Basically, the environment you provide for your young child determines the number and quality of experiences your child has. The number and the quality of experiences your child has influences his or her intellectual, emotional and physical make-up thus creating a unique individual. Babygarten's mission is to alert caregivers to this awesome responsibility and show them the joy this responsibility can bring.

Most importantly, Babygarten is a place you and your child can come to have fun together which is the MOST IMPORTANT key to your child's healthy development. Thank you for the opportunity to spread this important message. We hope your experience with Babygarten is one you'll remember fondly for a very long time.