
Day in the Life at Distance Learning Care

AM Care—6:30-9:40 During this time, students begin to arrive. We keep the space quiet and chill—allowing students more time to wake up and settle. The mornings can be so jarring, especially with the youngest students, so we try to keep things calm. For the first hour, staff checks in with students, provides coloring sheets, encourages creativity through drawing, coloring, etc. If students have school work, some like to get a page or two done right away, so staff is there to answer questions. We see lots of paper airplanes, megalodons (yep—one of the students makes elaborate prehistoric sharks every day), and staff is watching the clock for the 20 minute readers. At 8:00 we have a snack and the toy cart comes out. Students play legos, build card towers, cup stack, play cars, magna-tiles and much more. Any middle schoolers with us start logging on for their school day around 8:00. We often have music playing and by 8:30 most of our morning care students have arrived. Staff buzzes from table to table, the cafeteria is filled with voices and laughter, the tables are busy with projects, toys, and coloring.

Mid-Day Care—9:40-3:25 Promptly at 9:40 mid-day care begins. At this time, all students head to their classrooms. Students are separated by school, so we're looking at the classic 'one room schoolhouse' approach. 12-15 kindergarteners-4th graders are together in the same room, so many see friendly faces from their school—even if they are in different grades. Breakfast is served at 9:40 by the awesome middle school kitchen staff, and Kids' Campus leaders start the morning with their 'morning meeting' check in. Students can make their lunch choice (hot lunch or home lunch) during this time, check in with friends, and settle in for the day. At 10:00, schoolwork time begins. Students get out their folders at this point and pull out their to-do list. Staff walks around and checks what the students bring out, and encourages them to start with something they know how to do. This might be a math sheet they are confident with, their reading assignment, or writing. Some students bring no school work, so staff provides a choice of books to read, blank paper to write on, or an age-appropriate worksheet. Everyone during school work time is quiet and seated for learning. Playing with toys is not an option at this point in the day. From 11:00-12:20, students are able to get outside for walks and time at the Middle School playground (the Middle School generously shares the playground with us at different times in the day), play games, enjoy computer lab time, and have free play. At 12:30 students go through the lunch line or tuck in to their cold lunches. This is a joyful, relaxed time where students chat with one

another and their leaders. Each classroom takes at least 15 minutes for quiet time after lunch, remembering the age range in each class, and appreciating that we all need a little quiet. From 1:00-2:00, school work time is back. Anything that wasn't finished in the morning is worked on in the afternoon. Staff spot checks work and encourages students to double check, fix mistakes, and work hard. At 2:00 we start rotations of outside time, activity time, and additional school work time, for those who need it. Activities are theme-based and might be a painted bumble bee, self portrait, build your own story, science experiment—lots of variety there. At 3:00 we tidy up our spaces—they get so messy after a day of play, work, eating and snacking. Staff may read a story during this, play music, and pull out favorite quiet toys and games. Sometimes, we get together in the cafeteria, still separated by groups, and play BINGO. At 3:25 mid-day care ends, and families registered for mid-day only, pick up students.



PM Care—From 3:25-6:00 PM care is all about movement, outdoor play, and helping the students who have had a long day feel safe and calm. Students have an afternoon snack and those who have homework or reading time yet to do, are encouraged to do so. Staff is available for questions and homework support. Our group gets smaller as the evening progresses, and students head outside with sidewalk chalk, hula hoops, and more. The long fall evenings are full of leaves and running in the sunshine.