

## **BRINGING SIBLINGS TO THE CO-OP**

Being able to bring your younger child to the school is a privilege. It is something that makes the co-op environment unique and we want to make it a positive experience for the enrolled students, the parents, and the siblings.

Please remember that the younger sibling is ultimately the responsibility of the parent who brings them. The teachers are there for the enrolled students and will do their best to provide guidance and conflict resolution as needed.

We like to integrate the younger siblings as much as possible but there may be times (such as at circle or with more advanced materials) where we will need to ask that they be entertained elsewhere.

Each classroom day has a different dynamic and these interactions will likely develop naturally. Please remember that we are hoping to create a comfortable environment, one which parents can feel free to communicate their needs as well. In considering siblings of enrolled students, each parent should feel comfortable enough to ask for help, and comfortable enough to say “no, that would be too much for me.” (Or yes, of course, I finally get to have my baby fix!)

### **HELPFUL TIPS**

- Find another parent with a sibling and use the “buddy system” to help share care for both sibling children.
- Ask parents who do not have a sibling in the class if they could help if you are involved in a project and need assistance.
- When you arrive on your work day, look over the room for potential hazards for your little one.