#### S.M.A.R.T. PRE-K HELPS DEVELOP:

- ★ GROSS MOTOR SKILLS
- ★ SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ★ SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SKILLS
- \* AUDITORY READINESS
- ★ VISUAL EFFICIENCY SKILLS
- ★ FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT
- ★ PRE LITERACY
- ★ SPATIAL RELATIONS SKILLS
- ★ VOCABULARY
- ★ VESTIBULAR & PROPRIOCEPTIVE
- ★ NUMERACY
- ★ EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING & SELF REGULATION
- ★ VISUAL MOTOR SKILLS
- ★ SELF HELP SKILLS
- ★ INDEPENDENCE
- ★ LATERALITY & DIRECTIONALITY
- ★ MIDLINE CROSSING

# S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K Availability

Our S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K program is available to select preschools who have partnered with us in order to ensure appropriate stimulation and development of their students over the course of a school year.

We also offer spaces in our S.M.A.R.T. After School Program as continued support for preschool participants.





Cedar House - Ground Floor 41 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton HM12 T: 295-6909

E: <u>bsmartbermuda@gmail.com</u> www.bsmartfoundation.org



Registered Charity #911



S.M.A.R.T. PRE-K & K PROGRAM

SMART

**Solidifying Early Foundations for Learning!** 

(3-5 YEAR OLDS)

#### S.M.A.R.T. PRE-K

# Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training

Our S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K neurodevelopmental programming helps to maximize the critical periods of brain & nervous system development by providing a stimulating environment and experiences that promote optimal development.

S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K engages children in a comprehensive program that provides them with the readiness skills and the foundational development they need to excel in learning and beyond.

### Why S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K?

For decades, it has been falsely assumed that all children are physiologically and neurologically prepared for education the moment they step foot into a Kindergarten/ Primary One classroom. No thoughtful consideration has been given to each child's unique individual development, which is determined by genetic makeup, quality of life, and exposure to stimuli—not necessarily chronological age. This is a fundamental problem with our early educational philosophy. The future of too many young students is jeopardized because they are expected to learn prior to being physiologically and neurologically ready; not all young minds and bodies are prepared for the stress of school at age four or five.

### S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K Background

Although S.M.A.R.T. was initially developed for early elementary years, it eventually became apparent that it was as, or more, important for the pre-school years.

Evidence is mounting regarding the long-term academic and social benefits of early childhood education.

And, applying the S.M.A.R.T. program to an even younger age group makes sense, since brain development and plasticity at younger ages should make the earlier intervention even more effective as a way to proactively help prepare a child to learn, rather than to remediate once in school.

S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K helps children's brains and bodies get ready to learn. It provides the foundation for the required basic readiness skills, so critical for successful learners.

The program consists of fun physical activities for developing and/or enhancing large and fine motor skills, balance and coordination, visual efficiency, eye-hand coordination, attention and so much more. Once these skills are in place, children have the necessary tools to be able to attend and learn, making them ready for school and become life-long learners.

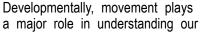
Movement

Anchors

Learning!

# S.M.A.R.T. Movement and Learning

Movement influences the ability to concentrate in a classroom and to learn to read and write.



bodies. S.M.A.R.T. aims to mature Reflexes, Balance, Vestibular, Gross and Fine Motor, Proprioception, Bilateral Coordination, Vision and Auditory Systems.

When children engage in purposeful movements of the S.M.A.R.T. Pre-K program, they mature their bodies and brains.

Children with mature bodies and brains are more capable of sitting still and remaining seated in their chairs. They also have an understanding of how much or how little force should be used when turning pages in a book or using writing utensils.

These skills do not happen automatically, or mature as the pages of the calendar turns.

Immature development can look like children who have to move around a lot, or those who use too much force or appear not to be paying attention.

Additionally, it takes great endurance by these same body systems to be able to sit still at a desk and do work quietly.

#### How it works

S.M.A.R.T. is based off of three principles: Frequency, Intensity and Duration.

**FREQUENCY:** the repetition of multi-sensory input of material or information through different activities

**INTENSITY:** the high quality of participation and active involvement of the students

**DURATION:** the consistent amount of time spent in our program produces change in the body and brain.

Our body systems work in cooperation with one another, not in isolation. By engaging children in a comprehensive program, we are able to address all of their underlying difficulties in a social and fun setting. The children interact in a large motor workout with organized movement that increases foundational skills such as balance, coordination, reflex integration (primary movements), kinesthetic awareness, visual skills and auditory skills. When this foundation is strengthened, children find it easier to be successful in school, their social lives and in everyday functions.

### Why it works

S.M.A.R.T. works because certain kinds of exercises can produce chemical alterations that give us stronger, healthier and happier brains, equipping us to think, remember and learn.

Due to the comprehensive and intensive programming of S.M.A.R.T., children's bodies and brains make quick permanent neurological changes that make learning and overall functioning easier.

This program is unique because it works from the bottom up to solidify foundational readiness for higher-order tasks.

S.M.A.R.T. strengthens neurological and physiological functioning to promote richer connections among neural pathways so that attention, acquisition, retention and production abilities are increased.