

The Baldwin County Child and Development Center, aka The Early Learning Center (ELC), was built and opened in the Fall of 2004. It is one of three schools in Georgia that was originally designed to house early learners.

The center currently houses the following programs:

- GA Pre K (4 year olds)
- Head Start (3 & 4 year olds)
- Preschool Program for Exceptional Children (Preschool age children with disabilities)
- The Montessori Academy (6 week-5 year olds)

The GA Pre K and Head Start programs currently use the Frog Street curriculum. This curriculum is a dual language program (English and Spanish) that meets the needs of diverse learners while supporting the 10 learning domains:

- Physical Development and Motor Skills
- Social and Emotional Development
- Approaches to Play and Learning
- Communication, Language, and Literacy
- Cognitive Development: Mathematics
- Cognitive Development; Social Studies
- Cognitive Development: Science
- Cognitive Development: Creative Development
- Cognitive Development: Cognitive Processes
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)

Frog Street prepares children for Kindergarten with ongoing assessment of research-based success predictors and playful, purposeful, and personalized instruction. OWL is based upon the belief that immersion in a learning-rich, pre-K environment is critical but not sufficient. The environment and interactions must be thoughtful and purposeful. All parts of the day should be considered opportunities for learning, and the teacher should know the curriculum content, instructional strategies, and individual children well enough to be responsive in a variety of situations. Through the use of essential questions, teachers help children connect content to their experiences, which takes them beyond rote learning and leads to thoughtful, reflective learning.

The ELC also uses supplemental materials to increase literacy skills and social emotional skills. They include:

- Zoo Phonics- A multi-sensory Language Arts program
- Second Step- A holistic approach to Social-Emotional Learning
- Zippy and Moe- A lesson based approach to Social-Emotional Learning

The Montessori Academy at the Early Learning Center is a unique partnership between the Baldwin County Board of Education and Georgia College. The Academy follows the Montessori curriculum and uses authentic Montessori materials. Children are provided freedom to explore subjects in blended classrooms where older students solidify their own knowledge by helping the younger students learn. Instead of lecturing from the blackboard, teachers are able to work with small groups of students and independent learners. This creates an environment where each student can learn at his or her pace.

We are a Kind Campus. Our mascot is the Bee because we are always striving to Be Kind.



Our Kind rules are:

- Kind Feet
- Kind Hands
- Kind Words
- Kind Ears