

To children it's playtime, to teachers it's learning

Liz Dufour, ldufour@enquirer.com 12:27 a.m. EST December 6, 2014

To the children, it's playtime as they fill up plastic bottles with bubbly water or create an enclosure with blocks for their stuffed dog. To their teachers, they're learning math skills and social skills and everything else that will get them ready for kindergarten.

In mid-November, the Cincinnati Early Learning Centers were able to expand once again in Lower Price Hill as they opened the Robert & Adele Schiff Early Learning Center II in a building that had been condemned.



The building, on Staebler Street, sits just behind Oyler School. The additional learning center (there's already one inside Oyler) will allow them to add up to 25 preschoolers.

"We are extremely grateful to the Schiff family for making this expansion possible," said Patricia Gleason, president and CEO of CELC. "With our new facility, we are able to serve more children in this densely populated area, helping the children get a great start in life."

The new space, which has all new furnishings and artwork, was designed to be a home-like environment.

"Beauty in a space conveys a sense of worth to those who occupy the space. Attention to detail and the addition of furnishings and décor that create a feeling of warmth have been incorporated into each of the programs operated by CELC. These additions have had a profound impact on the children, staff and families," said Tracey Rowe, vice president of programs for CELC.