Introduction

The Supreme Council of Universities approved the establishment of the Nursery Unit at Assiut University under Resolution No. 145, dated August 27, 1996, as a unit of a special nature.

Nursery care plays a very important role in a child's life. During this stage, children learn how to play with their peers and interact with them. They gradually develop independence and acquire new positive behaviors and habits, such as discipline, responsibility, giving, and sharing. They also move beyond the limited social environment of their family to include friends and peers in their lives.

The nursery prepares children for the transition from a stage of strong attachment to their mothers and homes to a new and important stage: education and formal learning. Studies have shown that children who attend kindergartens or nurseries tend to demonstrate better language development, social skills, and interaction with others than children who enter school directly without experiencing this preparatory stage.

Nursery Mission

1. To equip the nursery with aesthetically appealing and recreational facilities that attract children.
2. To train children to learn through play.
3. To help children acquire healthy nutritional and behavioral habits.
4. To discover children's talents, support them, and encourage their development.
5. To encourage children to participate in creating educational materials.
6. To foster self-confidence and independence.
7. To use diverse learning strategies that take individual differences among children into account.

Nursery Vision

The nursery seeks to develop well-rounded, integrated, and balanced children who can keep pace with the age of science and technology.

I grow. I learn. I play. I innovate. I think. I acquire sound behavioral habits and values.

Nursery Objectives

1. To provide working mothers with peace of mind and emotional reassurance.
2. To care for children and attend to their religious, health, social, and psychological needs.
3. To monitor children's developmental abilities and guide them toward healthy and appropriate development.
4. To reinforce positive values among children and bring joy and happiness into their lives.
5. To provide a healthy, stimulating, and suitable environment for children to learn and play.
6. To enhance children's social skills through interaction, cooperation, and group participation.
7. To provide children with opportunities to develop their motor skills through physical activities.
8. To develop children's imagination through engaging and varied activities.
9. To help children adapt easily to new people and unfamiliar situations.

Report on the Nursery for the Year 2024

Submitted for your kind consideration is a report on the activities and developments of the Nursery during 2024, as follows:

First: Renovation of Room No. (2) at the Nursery

The room was renovated through improvements to the flooring, installation of foam floor coverings, repainting of the walls, installation of D3 wallpaper, renewal of educational materials and toys—including a ball pit and a climbing ladder—and repainting and refurbishing the furniture.

The room was named "The Little Explorer Hall." It provides children with opportunities to participate in a variety of exciting and enjoyable scientific activities and experiments in an atmosphere filled with joy, fun, and excitement.

Second: Renovation of Room No. (1) at the Nursery

The room was renovated through improvements to the flooring, installation of foam floor coverings, repainting of the walls, and renewal of educational materials. A play area was created featuring a ball pit enclosed by a safety fence. The furniture was also repainted and refurbished. In addition, leather chairs shaped like letters and beanbag chairs were received, and the renovation of the room was completed.

1. Winter Club 2024

The Winter Club ran from December 31, 2023, to February 9, 2024, for a total of six weeks.

During the Winter Club, the nursery's operating hours were extended until 6:00 p.m., with work organized into two shifts.

2. Extension of Nursery Operating Hours

The nursery continued to operate until 4:00 p.m. to accommodate the needs of children and their families.

3. Summer Club 2024

The Summer Club ran from June 1, 2024, to August 31, 2024, for a period of three months.

During the Summer Club, the nursery's operating hours were extended until 10:00 p.m., with work organized into three shifts.

Fifth: Activities, Initiatives, and Visits

During the 2023/2024 academic year and the current 2024/2025 academic year, the Nursery organized numerous activities, initiatives, and visits. The most notable are as follows:

1. Science and Sports Day

On Thursday, December 14, 2023, the Nursery of the Faculty of Early Childhood Education organized a Science and Sports Day for children. The event featured a variety of games and scientific experiments in the Little Explorer Hall, aiming to develop children's scientific awareness and curiosity in a joyful and happy atmosphere.

The experiments included a volcano experiment, invisible ink, water spillage, and a foaming reaction.

2. Scout Camp

On Thursday, January 18, 2024, the Nursery held a Scout Day featuring a variety of activities and the establishment of scouting camps. Participating children were introduced to the Scout emblem, promise, and oath. The event also included a barbecue, campfire-style social activities, and arts and crafts activities for children in an enjoyable atmosphere.

3. Children's Reading Festival

The Nursery organized the Children's Reading Festival in cooperation with the Misr Public Library in Assiut Governorate, headed by Ms. Hager Mahrous, Library Director. The event took place on Sunday, February 4, 2024, in conjunction with the Cairo International Book Fair, as part of the Nursery's Winter Club activities.

The event was conducted in a creative and unconventional manner, enabling children to gain cultural experiences while participating in enjoyable artistic and recreational activities.

4. Stories on Four Wheels

On Tuesday, May 21, 2024, the Nursery of the Faculty of Early Childhood Education, in cooperation with the Misr El Kheir Foundation, organized the "Stories on Four Wheels" initiative, a mobile library for children.

The initiative aimed to encourage children to read and explore books, enrich cultural engagement, and form part of the series of activities offered by the Nursery during its Summer Club.

5. Simulating the Hajj Rituals

For the first time, the Nursery of the Faculty of Early Childhood Education organized an event simulating the Hajj rituals on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

The event aimed to teach children the rites of Hajj through practical demonstrations around a model of the Holy Kaaba and a model representing Mount Safa and Mount Marwah. Children also learned about the stoning of the Jamarat, the accompanying Takbir chants, and the rituals of Umrah through practical explanations and demonstrations.

6. Our First Initiative: "Plant Your Tree"

As part of this initiative, the Faculty of Early Childhood Education organized an introductory day for children under the presidential initiative "A New Beginning for Human Development," entitled "Plant Your Tree." The event was organized by the Nursery on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, and targeted children aged 3 to 10 years.

The initiative aimed to raise children's environmental awareness and promote their social, physical, and psychological development through a continuous series of scientific and theoretical activities conducted throughout the day.

The initiative also provided children with an opportunity to experience planting firsthand by planting seedlings in the Nursery's garden.

7. Children's Sports Festival

On October 15, 2024, the Nursery organized the Children's Sports Festival in cooperation with Al-Riaya Al-Mutakamelah Kindergarten.

The festival was held as part of the University's participation in the presidential initiative "A New Beginning for Human Development" and targeted children aged 3 to 10 years.

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Sixth: Children's Enrollment and Subscription Fees

1. Children's Enrollment During the 2023/2024 Academic Year

Approximately 247 children benefited from the Nursery's services during the 2023/2024 academic year. Enrollment arrangements included annual, semi-annual, and monthly subscriptions, as well as daily childcare services.

2. Enrollment in the Winter and Summer Clubs in 2024

Approximately 184 children benefited from the Nursery's services during the Winter and Summer Clubs in 2024.

3. Children's Enrollment During the First Semester of the 2024/2025 Academic Year

Approximately 245 children benefited from the Nursery's services during the first semester of the 2024/2025 academic year. Enrollment arrangements included annual, semi-annual, and monthly subscriptions, as well as daily childcare services.

Please accept our highest regards and respect.

Nursery Director

Marwa Ahmed Mohamed Jaafar