



TLT ACCREDITATION

We are very proud to announce that as of September 1, 2006 our kindergarten program has been accredited by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports in Croatia. Accreditation is a system that encourages excellence in kindergarten programs. Accreditation is voluntary; kindergartens in Croatia choose to become accredited because it is evidence of their quality. The following list summarizes the most important criteria we follow in order to get accredited:

- Teachers and administrators have professional training and credentials. Teachers have B.A. degrees in teaching or child development.
- Teachers relate well with children, respecting cultural and ethnic differences and paying attention to each individual child. They encourage children to talk and explain their ideas. Teachers set limits using positive discipline, without physical punishment, scaring, or humiliation.
- Class sizes consist of approximately 14 children for three-year-olds and 20 for four-year-olds, with at least two teachers per class. Our program exceeds this criterion by holding a ratio of 6 children per teacher.
- The curriculum is carefully thought out, so that there is a well-rounded selection of activities that strengthen all areas of development: physical, creative, social, and intellectual. Learning is primarily active, rather than passive. The curriculum is also flexible, in response to the needs of the children in the class.
- Annual plans and educational goals are written in detail and turned in every year to be reviewed by the Ministry of Education Science and Sports.
- Parents are welcome to visit the classroom at any time, and are encouraged to participate in many activities, to ask questions, and to contribute their insights into the strengths and needs of their own children. Teachers communicate regularly with parents through newsletters, notes, phone calls, and conferences. When problems arise, teachers and parents work together to solve them.
- Teachers evaluate each child's progress on an ongoing basis, through observations of their behavior and their artwork and other products. They help each child to develop fully.
- The physical space, both inside and out, meets standards for developmental appropriateness and safety. There are areas for active and quiet play. There is a set minimum square footage per child.
- Health and safety standards assure cleanliness and reasonable protection against infectious diseases, especially food-borne illnesses.

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Principal