

Localized Programs in Non-Profit Preschools for Adaptive Learning

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In order to provide children with proper education, the K-12 Education Administration of the Ministry of Education encourages preschools to incorporate local resources to build featured schools and to develop localized programs based on different stages of child development, their interests and life experiences, and the educational goals.

In Ching Gou Non-Profit Preschool in Yilan, for example, the open space is transformed into an outdoor learning area that imitates the hillside landscape of Yilan, scattered with tires and irregular-shaped stones for children to explore freely. Teachers would lead children in various gross motor activities and utilize the undulating landscape to create a multi-sensory environment that not only stimulates children's senses but also help those with sensory integration dysfunction improve their symptoms.

Min Chin Non-Profit Preschool in Hualien introduces a featured program every school year. Since the beginning, the school has offered different localized programs, including an aboriginal culture program, an ecology program to explore Meilun Mountain, a history program to learn

about Hualien Train Station, and a folklore program to experience and make folkgame toys. These programs incorporate local history and culture, allowing children to experience nature, learn about diverse ethnic groups, and understand local history and culture.

Located near the Pacific Ocean, Little Whale Non-Profit Preschool in Taitung is famous for its marine ecology program. In school, children are encouraged to learn about marine life actively. By learning respect for life, children led by teachers would also participate in wildlife activities to release sea turtles back into the sea. In art courses, preschool children are encouraged to use their imagination and the acquired marine knowledge to paint the school walls with images of wonderful marine creatures. In the constructed wetland under Fengli Bridge, children are introduced to wetland plants and animals and inspired to explore the environment with their five senses. Together with parent-teacher cooperation and the integration of resources in the neighborhood, they create localized programs for children to learn and grow happily.

According to the K-12 Education Administration, different geographic locations are endowed with locally diverse cultures and characteristics, which non-profit preschools can utilize to offer integrated, themed programs and immersive experiences. In the future, the administration will continue to provide affordable, quality, and local education services, and develop more diversified and interesting programs with professional teams, so that children can receive proper care and education.