

Adventures In Learning Preschool, LLC



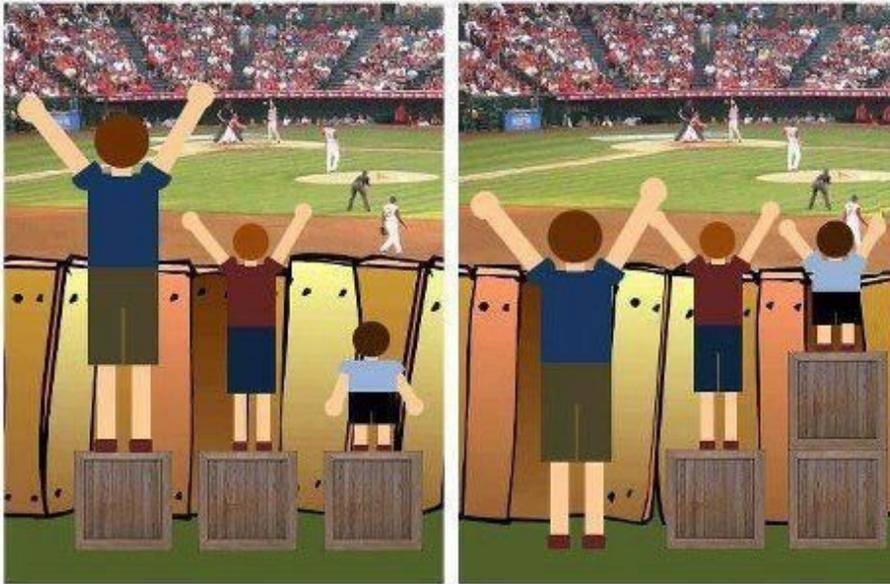
Parent Information

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

~Benjamin Franklin

Philosophy

- Children learn best in a setting where they feel safe and have trusting relationships with others.
- The classroom fosters a sense of community and values each individual child.
- Fair does not always mean equal:



- Children learn through exploration, with encouragement from supportive adults and through peer interactions.
- Children benefit from learning how to be independent; to be responsible for their belongings, to do things on their own, to solve their problems and how to be critical thinkers.

Parent Involvement

- Parents are the child's first teacher! You know what your child's life experiences have been because you have been there since the beginning; you know what skills they possess because you have taught them; you know what their strengths are because you have witnessed them. As teachers we rely on you to share with us as much as possible about your child so that we can know them well.
- We need each other in order to be effective! When we collaborate on specific skills together we are much more effective. Consistency is so important!
- Communication! Communication! Communication!
 - Bloomz (see handout)
 - Facebook
 - **Website**

Clothing

- We expect children to be dressed appropriately for the weather.
- We expect children to wear clothing that is appropriate for outside messy play.
- We prefer children not to have tie shoes or buckles, if they are not able to manage them on their own.
- Coats must have hoods.
- Waterproof mittens are preferred. Gloves are hard for some children to put on themselves, and cloth gloves get wet quickly and children get cold.

Schedule

8:50 - 9:00 / 12:25 - 12:30	Arrival
9:00 - 9:15 / 12:30 - 12:45	Morning greeting, Star of the day and Question of the day
9:15 - 10:10 / 12:45 - 1:15	Recess
10:10 - 10:15 / 1:15 - 1:35	Circle Time
10:15 - 10:35 / 1:35 - 1:45	Hand washing
10:35 - 10:45 / 1:45 - 2:05	Snack
10:45 - 11:05 / 2:05 - 3:00	Free choice/Art/Kindergarten Time
11:30 - 11:40 / 3:00 - 3:10	Clean-up time
11:40 - 12:00 / 3:10 - 3:30	Story Time, Goodbye Song, Parent Pick up

The schedule is not set in stone, if we feel like things need to be moved around we will do so.

School Calendar

- We follow the North Thurston School District calendar.
- Snow days are usually made up when the district makes up days.
- If there is a power failure here at school and I have to close, those days are not made up.

Emergency Kits

- This year we will be starting a new emergency kit procedure. We are asking that each child bring a gallon size Ziploc bag with the following items:
 - 1-2 Hot Chocolate Packets
 - 2 Applesauce/Fruit Cup
 - 1 Granola Bar (no nuts)
 - 1 Small Beef Jerky
 - 1 Small Cracker/Cookie Pack
 - 1 Juice Box
 - 1 Cup of Noodles or Easy Mac
 - 1 Fruit Leather/Roll-Up /Fruit Snack or Dried Fruit Pack
 - 1 Emergency Mylar Blanket
 - A note of comfort for your child

Star of the Day

- Each day one child has the opportunity to be Star of the Day.
- The child who will be Star of the Day will receive a bag to take home the day before they are Star of the Day. In the bag they will be able to put a special item or toy from home and a favorite book to "read" to the class. They will also have special privileges that day like picking the song at circle time, and being the teacher's special helper for the day. We will try to coordinate this day around birthdays as well; so that they are star of the day on the same day we celebrate their birthday.
- If your child is sick, or otherwise absent, on their day, we will leave a couple of days a month for make-up days.

Adventure Days at a park

- The first Thursday and Friday in the month of October, November, January, February, March, and May
- Parents drop children off and pick children up at the park (which will be announced several weeks prior to the date) at normal preschool times.

- Children must be dressed appropriately for the weather, or they will not be able to attend. It's important to dress for worst-case scenario; we can always remove layers if needed.
- Children bring their own snack, water bottles, and change of clothing in their backpack.

Field Trips

- Parents transport and attend all field trips.
- Younger siblings are always welcome.
- Field trips are in lieu of preschool for the day.
- If your child doesn't attend preschool on the day the field trip is held they are still invited to attend.
- Our field trips typically coincide with the curriculum theme that month, so it's important that your child attends the field trips. We spend a lot of time talking about what we saw and did on the field trip and how it relates to the activity that we are doing.

Pre-K Curriculum

- The concepts listed below are taught through multiple modalities; we sing songs, read books, do art projects, work in one-on-one interactions during free choice time, and do small and large group activities, usually in a game type activity.
- The most important aspect of our program is the development of a child's social and emotional skills, and also their ability to manage the classroom rules and routines, these skills are grouped under Social Skills below.
- By the time children go to kindergarten they will be exposed to the following:

Social Skills

- Second Step Empathy curriculum
- Practice problem-solving skills in social situations
- Share classroom materials with others
- Participate in classroom jobs, such as setting up for snack, sweeping after snack, helping peers wash their hands, etc.
- Maintain appropriate behavior during classroom activities and group times, such as: listening during story time, participating in and completing art activities and games played as a group, standing in line, listening to teacher directions, etc.
- Practice using manners: please, thank you, excuse me, table manners
- Communicate his/her needs
- Take care of his/her own basic needs: clean up, put on and fasten clothing, use tissue as needed, etc.
- State personal information: first and last name, age, parent's names, city and state where they live

Math

- Recognizing numerals 1-20
- Counting objects to 20
- One-to-one correspondence of objects
- Sorting by various attributes: color, shape, size
- Patterns: AB, AABB, ABC
- Sizes: small, medium, large
- Shapes: square, rectangle, circle, triangle, hexagon, octagon, oval
- Concepts of: Same and Different and More, Less, Same

Literacy

- Exposure to alphabet: sounds first then letter names (Zoo Phonics curriculum)

- Recognize, spell, write first name
- Hold a pencil, marker, crayon correctly
- Retell familiar stories
- Draw pictures and dictate sentences about stories and experiences (journals)
- Answer questions about stories
- Repeat simple nursery rhymes and fingerplays
- Concepts of print: left to right direction, holding a book right-side-up
- Build new vocabulary
- Build listening skills
- Strengthen visual discrimination
- Sequencing
- Develop fine motor skills for writing: play dough, scissors, writing utensils, Legos, etc.

Science

- Explore science tools: magnets, magnifying glasses, etc.
- Experience the world through gardening, playground explorations, and field trips
- Observe insect life
- Observe plant growth
- Observe weather and plant life during each season
- Measure and mix ingredients in cooking activities
- Identify basic colors and explore color mixing
- Make observational drawings and dictation
- Explore the world with the five senses
- Investigate animals, the homes they live in, the food they eat

Creative Arts

- Explore a variety of art processes: painting, drawing, collage, etc.
- Use a variety of art materials: crayons, tempera paint, watercolor paint, colored pencils, markers, chalk
- Experiment with mixing paint colors
- Cutting with scissors
- Sing traditional songs and songs that enhance the curriculum
- Participate in movement songs and dances
- Use scarves, rhythm sticks, and shakers to practice rhythms
- Use a variety of children's instruments
- Participate in dramatic play
- Dramatize familiar stories

Assessments

- Assessments are done in all of the following areas of development: Math, Literacy, Social/Emotional, Cognitive, and Physical Development.
- We are using an assessment tool called Teaching Strategies Gold. Our observations are used for data entry into the tool; you will receive detailed reports from the program during conferences.

Conferences

- Conferences are not required but are strongly encouraged, the more we partner together the more your child will grow!
- We hold conferences twice a year:
 - October 15th, 16th and 17th
 - March 18th, 19th and 20th
- On the days we hold conferences we do not have preschool classes.
- If you would like to schedule a time to talk with me about your child in between conferences please email or text me and we can set up an appointment.

Take Home Bags

- Take home bags contain activities that teach concepts or skills that your children are also learning in preschool.
- Beginning in October, parents have the option to begin taking activity bags home to enjoy with their child.
- My expectations for these bags are that you take good care of them; this means do not leave them out where your child can get into them without supervision and lose the pieces in them.
- I expect parents to tell me when bags are missing something or need repair, this way the bag doesn't go out with another child missing pieces or in bad shape.
- You may sign out one bag at a time.
- You may keep the bag as long as you like.

Parking and parking lot expectations

- Your child must be with you at all times while in the parking lot.
- If you want to converse with other parents (which we strongly encourage!) please do so after you drop off your child for preschool or after you have secured them in their car seat.
- Please do not allow your child to run through the flowerbeds.
- Everyone should back into parking spots instead of pulling nose in; doing so makes it a lot easier to see if there are short people (aka preschoolers) walking past.
- Carla has a designated parking spot, which will be marked.

Drop-off procedures

- The main preschool light being turned on is the indicator that it's okay to come in, this will always be at 8:50/12:25 on the dot!
- PLEASE be on time!! It is very disruptive to our star of the day time when people are late.
- Sign in
 - On the sign in table:
 - Newsletters
 - Tuition box
 - Communication board
 - Watch for notes I may have left
 - Upcoming events
 - Curriculum
- Children put backpacks in cubbies upon arrival
- Call/text **before** class if your child will be absent

Pick-up procedures

- You must notify me in writing if a person other than approved persons will be picking your child up
- Pick-up time is between 11:55 and 12:00, or 3:25 and 3:30, no later. I will be enforcing a \$1/minute late fee after 12:00/3:30. **There will be no leeway here**, especially on days that we have our afternoon class, as Carla and I will only have 25 minutes to clean and prepare for the next class and to also eat our lunch.

Tuition

- Tuition is due by the 5th of every month, I will remind you the day before it's due.
- If the 5th falls on a weekend or a day your child isn't at preschool you must pay it before the 5th (with the exception of September).

- There is a \$10 fee for being late. Late payments must be paid via Venmo.
- You can choose the standard monthly payment, which fluctuates depending on extended breaks from school, or the budget option. Once you make a decision about which option you would like to pay it cannot be changed.
- Payment options.
 - Cash
 - Check or money order
 - Venmo
 - Bill Pay through your bank

Fostering Independence

- One of the big things we work on here in preschool is learning to be independent, and helping the children gain confidence their ability to do things on their own. Ways that you can help with this are:
 - Send your child in clothing and shoes they can take off and put on independently.
 - Have your child carry their own belongings to and from preschool, and allow them to put them in their cubby on their own.
 - Allow your child to walk to and from the preschool. For safety you may hold their hand, but please don't carry them.
 - Help your child learn to put on their coat themselves. We use the Arm-Arm-Flip method.

Birthdays and Other Holidays

- Birthdays are celebrated at preschool as close to the child's birthday as possible.
- Summer birthday are celebrated during the month of June. Your child will get to bring a treat to share with the class. The treat must be store bought, but please no cupcakes or frosted cookies.
- At Halloween and Valentine's Day we have parties here at the preschool with a sign-up for a special snack.
- Our Christmas Party this year will be done on the Santa Train in Chehalis on Friday, December 14th
- Our end of the year program will be moved to late May this year (location and date TBD).
- Graduation for the 4-year-old classes will be held on the last day of school.

Questions???