

THE LEARNING KORNER PRESCHOOL



Welcome to The Learning Korner Preschool

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are thrilled to welcome you and your child to The Learning Korner Preschool! This school year promises to be an exciting journey for all of us. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to be included in your child's early educational adventure. Our dedicated staff is committed to delivering a well-rounded, age-appropriate program that caters to each child's mental, social, emotional, and physical needs.

The preschool years are crucial for your child to acquire essential skills that will pave the way for success in kindergarten. These include waiting their turn, listening attentively, participating in group activities, and focusing on tasks. Additionally, they will need to develop various pre-academic skills that kindergarteners are expected to possess today. Equally important, these years are vital for learning play and social skills while having plenty of fun! We eagerly look forward to getting to know both you and your child.

As parents, you play a significant role in supporting your child's success in preschool. Please make sure to review the newsletters and notes we send home to stay informed about school happenings. Encourage your child to share their experiences by asking lots of questions, demonstrating that their activities matter. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to the teachers, Miss Cassie and Miss Angie.

Regular attendance at preschool is essential for your child's development, even though they are not yet in grade school. A consistent routine is valuable for their growth. If your child is feeling unwell (e.g., persistent cough, headache, stomachache), has had a fever in the last 24 hours, or is experiencing diarrhea or vomiting, we kindly ask that you keep them home until they are fully recovered. Our goal is to maintain a safe, stimulating, and healthy environment for all children.

The Learning Korner teachers are excited to kick off the year and are delighted to have your child join us on this journey.

Thank you!

Cassie Challburg (Miss Cassie)

Crystal Gonzalez (Miss Crystal)

Philosophy

At The Learning Preschool, we recognize the significance of a child's early developmental years. Children thrive and learn through play in a safe, secure, and nurturing setting. We understand that each child has a unique learning style, and we are committed to nurturing their individuality by enhancing their understanding through engaging, age-appropriate activities that are both enjoyable and educational.

Self-esteem and self-reliance are crucial elements of early childhood, and our program will emphasize these values consistently. As children learn through play and exploration, The Learning Korner will provide resources that encourage creativity and stimulate their imagination and learning processes. We also acknowledge the vital role of language development in the growth of young learners. Our preschool educators will engage students with open-ended questions and foster conversations to support their linguistic growth.

At The Learning Korner, we will implement age-appropriate strategies to promote cognitive development and independence in the following areas:

- Language and Literacy
- Social Relations
- Initiative
- Music and Movement
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Creativity

Lastly, we firmly believe that it takes a village to raise a child, which makes parental involvement essential.

“Education is a social process; Education is growth; Education is not a preparation for life but is life itself.” — John Dewey

Program Goals

The overall goals of the Learning Korner Preschool are:

- To provide a program where children develop intellectually, socially, physically and emotionally.
- To provide opportunities for children to gain independence, self-control, and respect for others.

- To provide an environment, which will enhance the self-esteem of all children through successful learning experiences.

Eligibility

Children must be potty trained to participate. No family shall be excluded from The Learning Korner because of race, color, religion, disability, sex or national origin. Only the child's parent or legal guardian may enroll the children. Application and shot records are required to be on file before The Learning Korner may take your child.

Positive Discipline Techniques

One of our goals is to build self-esteem in children. This is done in a positive manner and by setting limits and/or redirecting the child's inappropriate behavior.

Examples of Techniques used:

- Treating all children with respect and dignity.
- Establishing rules for children in the classroom and on the playground.
- Praising children for specific appropriate behavior.
- Handling inappropriate behavior in the environment in which it occurs through natural and/or logical consequences of behavior.

Suggestions for Parents at Home

- Read to your child every day. Reading materials are available at the public library, school library and the classroom library. Ask your child's teacher for more information.
- Praise your child when he/she successfully completes a task.
- Set aside a special time each day to listen to and talk with your child. In this manner, you are encouraging listening and showing interest in your child.
- Discuss school activities, school friends, and new experiences with your child.
- By doing this, you encourage learning.
- Establish bedtime and wake-up routines.
- Have your child participate in everyday chores in order to develop a sense of responsibility (i.e. picking up toys, folding clothes).

Parent-Teacher Conferences/Assessments

Parent conferences are held at least twice a year and are usually informal in nature. If you have concerns at any time about your child or about the program, please talk to the teacher. Assessments are implemented for all children using the Creative Curriculum. We will utilize an ongoing assessment tool addressing each developmental area. We will also

maintain a portfolio for each child. These portfolios will contain work samples, art projects, pre-academic activities, and pictures. The teachers will use observations to monitor each child's progress in the classroom. The Learning Korner has an open-door policy. Parent's concerns, questions and/or input are always welcome. Child's progress will be measured in three different ways.

Authorized Persons

It is important that the registering parent notify The Learning Korner Preschool in writing of persons authorized to pick up the child. Anyone picking up your child should be prepared to show proper identification before the child will be released. It is important that the registering parent indicate in the enrollment application who has legal custody and who may pick the child up.

If your child does not attend Kid's Korner, please arrive no earlier **than ten minutes** before the session starts (7:50 in the am programs or 12:20 in the pm programs). The teachers will be at the front door of the classroom to meet the children. At the end of the session, the teachers will wait with the children at the front door of the building.

Weather Policy and Appropriate Clothing

Your child will participate in a variety of experiences designed to enhance his/her social, emotional, physical and intellectual development. These experiences include activities such as painting, pasting, and outdoor play. At the Learning Korner Preschool, we believe highly in the value of outdoor gross motor play. Therefore, unless the actual temperature or the wind chill is below freezing (32° F) or it is raining, lightening, snowing, etc..., our class will be playing outside for at least 10-15 minutes. Please note the following suggestions.

- Dress your child in comfortable play clothes.
- Send your child in appropriate clothing for the weather.
- Send your child in sturdy shoes with non-slip soles.
- If wearing a dress, please have your child wear shorts underneath.

Communication

We believe strongly in parent-teacher communication, especially when working with kids at such an early age. We will be sending home monthly newsletters, occasional daily notes, and communicating on a regular basis about your child's progress. Please check your child's papers daily and feel free to leave messages, as we will check those daily. Family involvement is highly encouraged, and teachers will take the time to answer any questions or concerns. The Learning Korner Preschool also have a Facebook page,

which we keep up dated with pictures, announcements, and reminders.

<https://www.facebook.com/LearningKornerPreschool>

Birthdays and Half-Birthdays

We will be celebrating birthdays in our classroom and half-birthdays if your child's birthday falls during the summer months. We will have a small classroom celebration for every child's birthday. Please contact the teachers to make arrangements if you wish to send treats. Treats may NOT contain Peanut products.

Snack

A daily snack will be provided by the Learning Korner Preschool. This will be a small snack unless it is a cooking project day and then we will eat what we have made or a birthday and there is a birthday treat. For drinks, we will have water. We are a peanut free facility!

Show and Tell

We will be having show and tell once each month. We will ask that the children bring something from home that begins with letter we are currently working on. Typically show and tell will occur on the last session day of the month. We will send out reminders and post the information in the newsletter/facebook page as the date approaches.

Toys from Home

We understand that some children may have a difficult time separating from their parents for preschool, especially those first few weeks. Children may bring a comfort object from home to help ease the transition. However, once the child begins playing and is ready to join in the group, we will ask them to keep their comfort object in their backpack for the duration of the session.

As for toys, we will not allow children to play with toys from home at preschool. If they bring a toy from home, we will store it in their backpack for the duration of the session. This is for the protection and safe keeping of the child's toy as well as to minimize sharing problems amongst the children in our classroom. The Learning Korner is not responsible for lost brought to preschool.

Payment Policy

Parent's or legal guardians will be responsible for payments to the Learning Korner for preschool services *before* they are rendered. We accept checks, credit cards and debit cards. If you wish to pay for preschool in cash, please see the director or teacher for a

receipt. Payments may be placed in the lock box located at the front desk. Please make sure it is specified that the payment is for The Learning Korner.

The enrollment form and a deposit (first month fee) are required to secure a slot for the preschool program. If you choose to pay the entire year rate to receive the 10% discount, this amount is due by August 1, 2015. Families still need to pay the first month to secure the slot even with paying the year amount if it is before the given date. The deposit and a 10% discount will be taken off the annual preschool fee.

INJURY AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

NON-LIFE THREATENING

Non-life-threatening injuries will include things such as stitches, general illness (i.e. flu) etc. These injuries or illness either need medical attention or the child will need to go home. In these cases, every effort will be made to contact the parents first. In the event that the parent cannot be reached, an emergency contact person that has been designated will then be contacted. If parents and emergency contacts cannot be reached, and the child needs to seek medical attention, the teacher and director will see to it that the child receives proper care. Teachers will follow the instructions given on the child's information sheet concerning which doctor to be utilized. If the physician cannot be reached, the child will be taken to ER and provided care as instructed by the attending physician and/or nurse. Kid's Korner will continue to call parents and emergency contacts during this process.

LIFE THREATENING

If a child becomes ill or injured and it is life threatening, the providers will handle the injury from their training in First Aid. They will call the ambulance and notify the Childcare Director. When the response team arrives, the teacher will notify the parents. In the event that the parent cannot be reached, the staff will notify the emergency contacts and continue to do so until someone is notified. The hospital staff will continue to provide proper care until a parent arrives.

CODE BLUE

A code blue is called when someone is not breathing or his or her heart has stopped. In this case the teacher will begin CPR while another provider notifies the ambulance. The director and parents will then be notified. Other children in the room will be relocated to a different room immediately.

FIRE EVACUATION

The children will be escorted outside the east doors and across the parking lot to wait on the grass. A head count will be done and will remain outside until an all clear has been given. If a fire is in the east entrance the children will go west and proceed out the north entrance door.

CODE BLACK

A code black is known as a bomb threat. The children will be removed from the center and transported to an undisclosed location. Once The Learning Korner has arrived at our "safe haven" providers will then notify parents.

LOCK DOWN

A lock down will be warranted when an unwanted person that may be harmful enters our facility or there is a problem in the community. We will determine which level to go into depending on the severity of the matter.

- Level One: Teachers will be notified to lock room doors. Staff will be on alert and aware of the surrounding happenings and who is always present in the building all times.
- Level Two: In addition to level one the daycare doors will be closed and locked. Parents picking up will need to call the center for access to the building.
- Level Three: In addition to level one and two the children will be placed in the bathroom and away from doors and windows. Authorities will be called immediately, and parents will be notified as soon as possible.

These steps will be practiced on a quarterly basis along with our tornado and fire drills.

DAILY SCHEDULES:

Morning Daily Schedule

8:00 – Small Group Table Time (puzzles, fine motor tubs, books, etc...)
8:20 – Circle Time (Calendar, Weather Chart, Letter of the Week)
8:35 – Planning
8:45 – Work Time (Center play time)
9:35 – Recall and Group Bathroom Break
9:55 – Snack
10:05 – Large Motor Play (playground, gym time, walks at park)
10:25 – Directed Activity (art projects, handwriting papers, cooking projects)
10:45 – Large Group Time (read-aloud, songs, games, etc...)
11:00 – Dismissal

Afternoon Daily Schedule

12:30 – Sign-In and Partner Pre-Academics
12:50 – Circle Time (Calendar, Weather Chart, Letter of the Week)
1:05 – Planning
1:15 – Work Time (Center play time)
2:05 – Recall and Bathroom/ Handwashing
2:25 – Snack
2:35 – Large Motor Play (playground, gym time, walks at park, Music & Movement)
2:55 – Directed Activity (art projects, sensory experiences, cooking projects)
3:15 – Large Group Time (read-aloud, songs, games, etc...)
3:30 – Dismissal