

the Nature Preschool at IRVINE

Ages 3-5



2018-2019

PREPARING YOUR
YOUNGSTER FOR KINDERGARTEN
AND BEYOND



what makes the nature PRESCHOOL special?



We share our love and respect for nature.

Our students meet live animals and explore wild places.

We garden, compost and recycle.

Together we invent and build with natural materials.

We taste sap, smell skunk cabbage and unearth insects and salamanders.

We develop an appreciation for the simple, joyful aspects of nature and learn what it means to be an active, connected part of the natural world.

MISSION statement

The mission of The Nature Preschool at Irvine is to foster appreciation for the natural world while providing children with hands-on experiences for skill development in all areas of learning.



OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Childhood should be joyful and wholesome! We believe it is every child's right, as an integral part of the natural community, to develop a foundation of academic skills *through* encounters in the natural world.



CURRICULUM

Our emergent curriculum is a holistic approach to learning. We embrace your child's ideas and celebrate seasonal outdoor discoveries. With comparable attributes of Reggio Emilia, Montessori and Waldorf approaches, we address the cognitive, physical, social and emotional skill development of every child.

To support each child's learning path we:

- Provide a supportive, safe learning environment to encourage discovery, questioning and experimentation;
- Offer sensory opportunities with live animals, natural objects, artifacts, trail games, out-door interpretation and creative arts activities;
- Engage cognitive growth and problem-solving skills through hands-on games and activities;
- Develop physical motor skills through active learning and play;
- Promote social skills and positive self-image through group play and cooperative learning;
- Cultivate emotional literacy and empathy to develop self-esteem;
- Nurture self-expression, creativity and reflection;
- Celebrate diversity of all living things and the individuality of children and families



Note: Our preschool is fully licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR SCHEDULE & PRICING

We offer morning and afternoon classes for children ages 3 to 5 years old with half- and full-day options. *(Children must be 3 and toilet-proficient by September 1 of the year in which they are applying.)*

Full Day

Monday, Wednesday and Friday	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	\$6,750 per year* or \$675 per month
Tuesday and Thursday	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	\$4,725 per year* or \$472.50 per month

Half Day (Mornings)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	\$4,575 per year* or \$457.50 per month
Tuesday and Thursday	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	\$3,050 per year* or \$305 per month

Half Day (Afternoons)

Monday and Wednesday	1-3:30 p.m.	\$2,480 per year* or \$248 per month
Tuesday and Thursday	1-3:30 p.m.	\$2,480 per year* or \$248 per month

** A 10% down payment is due with the Enrollment Contract. The "per year" fees already include this down payment.*

IRVINE'S UNIQUE campus

Irvine is the only private, nonprofit nature center in the region. We are an environmental education organization. Our mission is to educate and inspire current and future generations to explore, respect and protect nature. At Irvine, we guide learning. We live green. We foster respect. We thrive outdoors.

Irvine provides the perfect place for nature-based learning. Our green building is family-friendly and full of animals and artifacts for discovery. Classrooms keep busy hands learning and doing. Our lush trails, gardens and natural outdoor classroom are an ideal setting for exploration and play.



staff

Our talented staff is experienced in both early childhood and environmental education, and they are passionate about nature-based education and student-centered learning. Our teacher to student ratio is 1:7, which allows educators to provide maximum support during our learning adventures.



enrollment

For more information or to schedule a tour contact Karen Madigan,
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 Printed on recycled paper, protecting habitats for all wildlife.