Nature Preschool
at Irvine Nature Center

Daily nature-based, child-centered classes for children ages 3 to 5
Participants in The Nature Preschool at Irvine must be 3 years old and toilet-proficient before their first day of school.

Choose one:
☐ Currently Enrolled Student
☐ Sibling of Current/Alumni Student
☐ New Applicant

Child’s Name: ____________________________
Nickname (Goes By): _______________________

Gender:  ☐ Male  ☐ Female  ☐ _____________
Date of Birth: _____________________________
Child’s Age as of Sept. 1, 2019: __________________

Please tell us about your family:
Parents/Guardians: ____________________________
____________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________
City: _____________________________  Zip: ________
Preferred Phone: _____________________________
Other Phone(s) Please specify: __________________
____________________________________________

Email Address(es): _____________________________
____________________________________________
Employer(s)/Occupations(s): __________________________
____________________________________________

Enrollment Procedures: Enrollment for new families begins late February. Current preschool families and families interested in enrolling in 5 days a week with AfterCare receive priority through March 30th. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received. Incomplete applications will not be considered. You will receive an Enrollment Contract if spaces are available. If one of your preferred class choices is not available, we will contact you to offer an alternate choice. You must submit the Enrollment Contract with your non-refundable 10% tuition down payment (equal to one month’s tuition) by the due date on the contract to secure a place in our program. For more information, contact the Director of Early Childhood Education, Katie Rooney, at RooneyK@ExploreNature.org.

Payment Details
☐ Cash  ☐ Check (made payable to Irvine Nature Center)  ☐ Charge

Name on Card: _____________________________  Card Number: _____________________________
Expiration Date: _____________________________  Signature: _____________________________

How did you learn about The Nature Preschool at Irvine?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

OPPOSITE SIDE:
CHOOSE YOUR PREFERRED CLASS TIMES AND VIEW OUR AFTERCARE OPTIONS

Please return this Application Form and the $40 non-refundable application fee to Irvine Nature Center by email, in person, by fax or by post.
WHAT MAKES THE NATURE PRESCHOOL SPECIAL?

TOGETHER WE...

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.
SCHEDULE AND PRICING

We offer morning and afternoon classes for children ages 3 to 5 years old with half and full-day options; before care is available for an additional fee.

*Children must be 3 years old and toilet-proficient before their first day of school.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Tuition (monthly)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full days, Monday - Friday</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$11,525 ($1152.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full days, M/W/F</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$6775 ($677.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full days, T/H</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$4750 ($475)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mornings, T/TH</td>
<td>9am-noon</td>
<td>$3075 ($307.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoons, T/TH</td>
<td>1pm-4pm</td>
<td>$3075 ($307.50)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE FERN CLUB AFTERCARE

Enrollment in AfterCare is for a semester or year. While it is not required to enroll now, spots are limited and families electing to enroll in 5 day preschool and AfterCare will be given priority.

The Fern Club is open 2-6pm, every day the Nature Preschool is in session*. While students may be picked up at any time, tuition is a flat rate regardless of actual pick up time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>1st Semester (Sep-Jan) Tuition (monthly)</th>
<th>2nd Semester (Feb-May) Tuition (monthly)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M - F</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$2550 ($510)</td>
<td>$2040 ($510)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/W/F</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$1530 ($306)</td>
<td>$1224 ($306)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T/H</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$1020 ($204)</td>
<td>$816 ($204)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T/H**</td>
<td>4-6pm</td>
<td>$510 ($102)</td>
<td>$408 ($102)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Aftercare will not be provided during monthly Preschool Staff Meetings held on pre-determined Mondays. A school calendar including these dates will accompany contracts.

** Only students enrolled in the T/H afternoon class are eligible for the 2 hr option (4–6pm).
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, outdoor 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

Irvine’s Nature Preschool is licensed and accredited by:
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.

IRVINE'S 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 1:7.5, which allows educators to provide maximum support during our learning adventures.

For more information or to schedule a tour contact Katie Rooney, Director of The Nature Preschool, at 443-738-9223 or RooneyK@ExploreNature.org

Irvine NATURE CENTER

11201 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117
443-738-9200
WWW.EXPLORENATURE.ORG
BLOG: WWW.EXPLORENATURE.ORG/PRESCHOOL-BLOG
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.

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.
CLASS PREFERENCES

Please rank in order of your preference.

<table>
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<th>Tuition (monthly)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full days, Monday-Friday</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$11,525 ($11,525.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full days, M/W/F</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$6,775 ($6,775.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full days, T/H</td>
<td>9am-2pm</td>
<td>$4,750 ($4,750)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mornings, T/H</td>
<td>9am-12noon</td>
<td>$3,075 ($3,075.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoons, T/H</td>
<td>1-4pm</td>
<td>$3,075 ($3,075.50)</td>
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The Fern Club is open 2-6pm, every day the Nature Preschool is in session*. While students may be picked up at any time, tuition is a flat rate regardless of actual pick up time. There is no AfterCare at this time for children enrolled in the morning preschool class.

If you would like to enroll your child in AfterCare, please select the days you will need:

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<tr>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$2,550 ($510)</td>
<td>$2,040 ($510)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/W/F</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$1,530 ($306)</td>
<td>$1,224 ($306)</td>
</tr>
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<td>T/H</td>
<td>2-6pm</td>
<td>$1,020 ($204)</td>
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Early Bird Care is also available to families that would like to drop their child off at school starting at 8:30am. An additional fee is associated with that service. Please contact Katie Rooney directly for more information, RooneyK@ExploreNature.org.