



White Bear Lake Area Schools

2012-2013 Registration Guide Early Childhood Program

Infants, Toddlers,
Preschoolers & Parents



Registration
January 26th, 2012
See page 20 for details.

Program Information



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Para Espanol por favor llame al 651-407-7625

Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623



WELCOME

Early Childhood Program

The White Bear Lake Area Schools' Early Childhood Program provides services, classes and support for families with children from birth to Kindergarten. Our focus is to strengthen families; boost parenting skills and parental confidence; and help young children develop their physical, language, cognitive and social potential. All families are welcome.

Opportunities for You and Your Child(ren)

Within Early Childhood we offer classes, home visits, special events, as well as information and resources to help you and your child grow together. Specialists in the areas of speech and language, occupational and physical therapy, and children's mental health are an integral part of our programs – often working directly in the classrooms with all students.

We offer many opportunities and activities for Parents and Families throughout the year, including:

- ◆ Special Parent, Child and Family Classes, Activities and Events
- ◆ Parent Education and Parent/Teacher conferences
- ◆ Guest Speakers and Parent Workshops
- ◆ Community Field Trips and Outings

Program Information



Early Childhood Family Education

The Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program provides a welcoming and enriching environment for families with children from birth to five years of age.

Our programs include classes, playgroups, single parent groups, home visits and parent-child experiences that encourage positive parent/child interaction. Parents are offered hands-on experiences with the children, and participate in parent education discussions. Licensed and experienced early childhood and parent/family educators are in every classroom.

See pages 6-10 for class offerings and program information.

Special Events

See back cover and pages 12 & 14 of this brochure for events and special opportunities for you and your child.

Play & Learn Preschool

Play and Learn Preschool offers a warm, fun learning environment. Classes meet one to four days per week. The program includes:

- ◆ Licensed teachers and trained assistants in every classroom
- ◆ Low child/teacher ratio
- ◆ Play areas and gyms designed and equipped especially for young children
- ◆ Ongoing assessment to measure students' growth in all areas of early childhood development
- ◆ Specialists on-site to meet individual needs
- ◆ MN Early Childhood Indicators of Progress are used as a framework for our curriculum

See pages 15-20 for class offerings and more program information.

Open House Play and Learn Preschool and ECFE

Your family and preschool child will have the opportunity to tour our sites, observe classrooms in session, participate in activities and have your questions answered.

Normandy Park

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
9:30-10:30am & 6-7pm

Hugo Elementary

Wednesday, January 11, 2012
1:30-2:30pm

Tamarack Nature Center

Thursday, January 19, 2012
10-11am



Program Information



Early Childhood Sites

Each of the White Bear Lake Area Schools' Early Childhood program sites have unique areas that foster large muscle development and active play. You are welcome to register for classes and activities at any site regardless of where you live. Locations and codes for those schools are listed below.

Normandy Park Education Center - NP

2482 County Road F East
White Bear Lake

Normandy has an indoor gym and outdoor playground designed especially for young children.

Tamarack Nature Center - Tam

5287 Otter Lake Road
White Bear Township

Tamarack Nature Center has a Nature Play Area and Discovery Garden with daily nature exploration activities.

Hugo Elementary - Hugo

14895 Francesca Ave, Hugo

Hugo's indoor and outdoor spaces have been newly remodeled to accommodate preschoolers and early elementary grades.



Registration ECFE and Preschool Registration Night

**Thursday, January 26, 2012
4:30-7:30pm
at Normandy Park**
(see page 20 for details)

Registrations Accepted Year-Round

After the initial registration event for each program, registrations are welcome anytime. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class. For availability call, 651-653-3100 or view openings on our online registration site.

Online Registration

Register online at
wbearlychildhoodregistration.org
beginning February 6th, 2012.

Class Fees

ECFE Class Fees

Fees vary based on your income and number of sessions the class meets. See page 10 for details.

Play and Learn Preschool

Fees are based on the number of class days. There is no income adjustment for preschool; however, fee assistance is available. See page 20 for details.

Class Dates

Classes will begin the week of September 10, 2012 and will continue through May 24, 2013.

Program Information



Help Me Grow

Early Childhood Information & Referral

Screening & Assistance for Children Who Need Extra Help

If you have concerns about the development of your infant to 5 year old child, there may be services available to you.

Please call either of the numbers below for more information.

Help Me Grow North Suburban Office

Serving the White Bear Lake Area
School District
651-604-3700

MN Department of Education Help Me Grow

1-866-693-GROW

Early Childhood Development

For more information about child development:

www.mnparentsknow.info

Early Childhood Special Education

Special Education Services are provided free of charge to children from birth to age five. Children younger than 3 are generally seen at home by teachers and specialists.

Services for children 3-5 years old may include:

- ◆ Integrated Classroom Options
- ◆ Speech/Language, Occupational and Physical Therapy
- ◆ Home Visits/Community Resource Information
- ◆ Multi-disciplinary Educational Assessments

Call 653-3101 for more information.

School Readiness Preschool Placement

Your child may qualify for School Readiness or Title I Preschool classes based on the following eligibility requirements:

- ◆ Income
- ◆ Preschool Experience
- ◆ Home/First Language
- ◆ Health and Development

Call 653-3102 for more information.

Contact Info

Program Information, Events, Registration & Class Openings

Mary DeLoach
Program Secretary
651-653-3100
ec@isd624.org
[www.isd624.org/Community/
Early Childhood](http://www.isd624.org/Community/Early%20Childhood)

ECFE, Play & Learn Preschool, Outreach, School Readiness, Early Childhood Screening, and PTO

Danielle Mickelson
Early Childhood Supervisor
651-653-3102
danielle.mickelson@isd624.org

Early Childhood Birth to Five Special Education

Margie McMahon
Early Childhood Supervisor
651-653-3101
margie.mcmahon@isd624.org



ECFE Classes



Early Childhood Family Education

The ECFE program provides parent-child experiences for children from birth to five years of age. Families are offered hands-on experiences with their children, and participate in parent education discussions.

Discount for Multiple Children in Same Class

If you are registering members of the same family for the same parent/child class, the fee structure is as follows:

Full sliding fee for the 1st child, 50% of the fee for the 2nd child, and 25% for additional children.

This is only for the same parent/child class – not for 2 different classes. *Fee reduction does not apply to Preschool classes.*

Sign up for classes throughout the year

After the initial registration, registrations are welcome at any time. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class. Call 651-653-3100 for details.

ECFE Classes begin the week of September 10, 2012 and run through May, 2013



Infants

Participate in play and learning activities together with your infant. Enjoy this time to celebrate and nurture the relationship with your new baby. Connect with other new parents who want to introduce their infants to being with other children and playing in new environments. Activities are designed to stimulate the developing infant brain. Parent education and discussion time will be held in the same room with your infant.

Birth to 9 Months

4000.001 M 9:30-11am NP

Translation Services

Para Espanol por favor llame al 651-407-7623

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Young Toddlers

Learn about balancing parent/child needs and your toddler's developing skills. You and your child will participate in play and learning activities, songs and stories. Join other parents looking to find ways for their toddler to become more aware of and comfortable with others, and engage in beginning social interactions.

Activities are designed to meet the needs of toddlers who are becoming more mobile and wanting to explore their environment, under the caring guidance of parents and staff.

0-12 Months

14 session class

Class meets every other week.

4000.002 T 6:15-7:45 pm NP

First Class Meets 9/11/12

9-18 Months

4000.003 T 9:30-11am NP

12-24 Months

4000.004 T 6:15-7:45pm Hugo

**Daytime classes-30 sessions, Evening classes-28 sessions
Unless otherwise listed. See page 10 for prices.**

Daytime Mini Series Classes

Magical Mess Makers (2-4yrs)

Art and sensory exploration and experiences

4101.001 (9/17, 9/24, 10/1/12)

Music Around the World (2-4yrs)

Music and movement activities representing a variety of cultures and styles.

4101.002 (10/15, 10/22, 10/29/12)

Polar Plunge (2-4yrs)

Polar Bears, Penguins and Snow, Oh My!

4101.003 (11/12, 11/19, 11/26/12)

Tunes for Toddlers (9-24mo)

Music and movement for toddlers

4101.006 (12/3, 12/10/12)

(2 sessions 9-11:00am)

Preschool Preview (2-4yrs)

Sample a Play and Learn Class

4101.004 (9:00-11:00am)

4101.005 (12:30-2:30pm)

(1/9, 1/16, 1/23/13)

Rain, Rain, Go Away (2-4 yr)

Celebrate the changes and highlights of Spring

4101.007 (3/4, 3/11, 3/18/13)

Baby Animal Extravaganza (2-4yr)

Experience life "Down on the Farm"

4101.008 (4/15, 4/22, 4/29/13)

All classes, except where noted, are offered on Mondays from 12:30-2:00pm at Normandy Park.



Toddlers

Ready, set, separate! Toddlers are changing quickly and learning new things every day. With all of the change and growth taking place, toddlers may or may not feel comfortable leaving their parents and loved ones. Separation can be a difficult time for both parents and children. Share with other parents and help ease the transition process knowing that this is a normal and important stage of development.

Parent/child activities are designed to encourage and nurture toddlers' growing independence, but acknowledge and support their dependence on you for help and guidance. Parents and children will meet in different classrooms during parent education time. Additional support is available as needed for children having a difficult time separating.

Children Age 1 but not yet 2 as of Sept 1, 2012

4000.101	T	9:30-11:30am	Hugo
4000.102	W	9-11 am	NP
4000.103	Th	9-11 am	NP

Children age 0-5 Family Class

4000.105	T	6:15-7:45pm	NP
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Older Toddlers/ Young Preschoolers

Share in your child's continued journey toward independence and help make it a fun, positive, and rewarding adventure. Share your experiences and successes with other parents, and learn strategies from each other. Parent/child activities are designed to facilitate children's development in the areas of social/emotional development, language and communication, motor development, and learning about the world around them. Parents and children will meet in different classrooms during parent education discussion time.

Children age 2 but not yet 3 as of Sept 1, 2012

4000.201	T	9-11am	NP
4000.202	W	9-11am	NP
4000.203	Th	9:30-11:30am	Hugo

Children age 2 but not yet 4 as of Sept 1, 2012

This class is in combination with the one day preschool class (4500.241) which meets on Thursdays.

4000.231	T	9-11 am	NP
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ECFE Classes



Break Time Drop off Child Care

Need some *alone time* to run an errand, clean house, or meet a friend for coffee? *Break Time* is a popular perk we offer parents who have a child enrolled in any of our programs.

You can drop your child off at Normandy Park to be cared for by the Sibling Care staff. Your child will have fun playing, doing crafts and burning off energy playing in our gym or on the playground. *Space is limited.*

Registration

You may register for *Break Time Care* by calling 651-653-3112

Cost is \$15 for 1st child, \$10 for each additional child, maximum of \$35 per family per session.

Available winter and spring 2012 dates and times are listed below.

February 8 and 22, 2012

9:30-12:30

March 7 and 16, 2012

9:30-12:30

April 11 and 25, 2012

9:30-12:30

May 2, 2012

9:30-12:30



Knee-High Nature at Tamarack Nature Center

Children age 2 years 6 months but not yet 5 as of Sept 1, 2012.

In this unique parent-child program, children and their grown-up partners explore, investigate, and unearth nature's secrets that lie beyond the classroom doors.

As with other ECCE classes, you will have one-on-one time with your child, indoors and out. There will also be time when parents meet in a different room to discuss their child's learning and development, while children spend time with a teacher learning more about themselves, each other, and the natural world.

A naturalist will work with each class. *Sibling Care is not available for these classes.*

4000.241 M 9:15-11:15 am Tam
4000.242 W 9:15-11:15 am Tam

Parent-Child Play Group PreKindergarten Children 6 months-5 years

The Parent Child Play Group is for parents and preKindergarten children, 6 months to 5 years old, who are not enrolled in a regular ECCE class.

Parents and children explore classroom games, activities, circle time, and open gym together. There is no regular, structured parent education time. Infant siblings younger than 6 months are welcome in class at no charge. Please fill out the registration form if you are interested in enrolling on a regular basis.

If you are interested in periodic drop-in, you must call 653-3100 for a reservation prior to each session. Drop-in is free for one session, and thereafter is \$5 per time for one child and \$10 for 2 or more children.

Drop-in space is limited.

4102.001 F 9:30-11 am NP

Parenting on Your Own

Parents & Preschool
Children Birth to Age 5

Free! These classes meet an average of twice a month. They include activities for single parents and children, with a time to discuss parenting concerns and information about local resources.

You are welcome to join this group in addition to a weekly ECCE class.

14 session class

Class meets every other week

4102.002 T 6-7:45 pm NP

First class meets 9/18/12

ECCE Classes begin the week of September 10, 2012 and run through May, 2013

ECFE Classes & Mini Sessions



Four Week Evening Mini-Series

For Children 2 to PreKindergarten - Tuesdays, 6:15-7:45 pm
at our Hugo Elementary Location

In today's busy lives, Early Childhood would like to make it easier for you to find time to take a class with your young children. We offer a series of 6 classes lasting 4 weeks each. Families are welcome and encouraged to sign up for all or part of the series. Enjoy a variety of activities with your child including weekly circle time with music, finger plays, stories, snack, and time in the gym. Sibling Care will be available for an additional fee.

Apples, Leaves & Pumpkins

Enjoy the change of seasons with your child as we explore what happens in autumn from apples, to colored leaves, to pumpkins. Our explorations will take us inside and out.

4100.001 (9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2/12)

Dad 'n Me

Dads, come and join other dads and their children for some special scheduled time. Enjoy fun and creative learning activities with your child, circle time and more.

4100.002 (10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13/12)

Bedtime Stories

Put your children in their pajamas and join us for our bedtime stories series. Have fun playing and learning through activities, circle time, and help prepare a healthy bedtime snack.

4100.003 (11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18/12)

Magical Mess Makers

Encourage your child to explore and experiment with various art activities and sensory materials. You can LEAVE THE MESS TO US!

4100.004 (1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29/13)

Thinking About Spring

As winter is starting to come to an end, join us as we get ready for spring, planting grass and seeds and discovering the joys and changes that come with springtime.

4100.005 (3/12, 3/19, 4/2, 4/9/13)

Farm Animals

Enjoy *The Three Little Pigs* and other farm stories as we learn about life on the farm and all of the animals that live there.

4100.006 (4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7/13)

Community Outreach Resources & Assistance

Community Outreach is a way for our program, staff, and families to reach out to others in the community who may want or need some additional resources or assistance.

Opportunities may include:

- ◆ Home visits
- ◆ Child Care site visits
- ◆ Winter Coat Drive
- ◆ Holiday Giving Tree
- ◆ Community Baby Showers
- ◆ Family Literacy Events, with supporting learning materials
- ◆ *Parenting on My Own* classes

We encourage all families to participate in these efforts as a way to teach the value of helping others and to share in the joy of giving. Call 651-653-3102 for more information.



ECFE Fees & Registration



Sliding Fee Scales

Class Fee Payment Schedule

Weekly class fees are based on a sliding fee scale. Fees listed are for the full year and may be paid yearly (1st day of class), semi-yearly (1st day of class & January), or quarterly (1st day of class, November, January, & March). Sliding fee scales apply only to weekly classes and mini sessions.

3 and 4 Session Classes

Class fee for classes meeting for 3 and 4 sessions must be paid in full at the first session of each class.

Fee Assistance

No district family will be excluded due to inability to pay. Fee assistance is available. Call 651-653-3100 for information.

Year-Long Class Format & Attendance

All weekly classes run for a full school year. Once your child is in a class, they are guaranteed a spot in that class for the full year as long as there is no outstanding fee balance at any time.

Since space is limited, your attendance and participation in class is vital to retaining a spot in the class. If you have more than two consecutive unreported absences, you may forfeit your spot in the class to someone on the waiting list.

In-Person Registration

Thursday, January 26, 2012 4:30-7:30 pm at Normandy Park

In-person registration procedures are listed on page 20. After the initial registrations for each program, registrations are welcome at any time by phone, mail, fax, in person at Normandy Park Education Center, or on-line at www.wblearlychildhoodregistration.org. Classes will begin the week of September 10, 2012 and run through May 2013. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class.

Fees for Year Long Daytime Classes

Class hrs/wk Your Income Level*	Normandy or Hugo		Tamarack
	1.5 Fee	2 Fee	2 Fee
\$90,000 +	\$367	\$490	\$632
\$70,000-89,999	\$306	\$408	\$528
\$50,000-69,999	\$222	\$298	\$384
\$30,000-49,999	\$167	\$224	\$290
\$0-29,999	\$126	\$169	\$216

Fees for Evening, Mini Sessions, & 14 Session Classes

Your Income Level*	Eve.	2 Ses.	3 ses	4 ses	14 ses
	Fee	Fee	Fee	Fee	Fee
\$90,000 +	\$343	\$24	\$36	\$ 49	\$172
\$70,000-89,999	\$286	\$20	\$30	\$ 41	\$143
\$50,000-69,999	\$207	\$15	\$22	\$ 30	\$104
\$30,000-49,999	\$156	\$11.50	\$17.25	\$ 23	\$ 78
\$0-29,999	\$118	\$ 8.50	\$12.75	\$ 17	\$ 59

***Families will be required to show proof of income before fees are confirmed. Fee assistance may be available for qualifying families.**

Fees for Sibling Care

Sibling Care is available at the Normandy Park and Hugo sites. If you are planning on using Sibling Care please fill out the information on the registration form. We need this information so that we can provide adequate staff for numbers and ages of children. Fees listed are for the full year and may be paid at the same time as your class fees.

Daytime classes:

1.5 hr	\$92 for 1 child or \$114 for 2 or more children
2 hr	\$122 for 1 child or \$153 for 2 or more children

Evening classes:

28 sessions	\$86 for 1 child or \$106 for 2 or more children
14 sessions	\$43 for 1 child or \$53 for 2 or more children
4 sessions	\$12 for 1 child or \$15 for 2 or more children

Fees must be paid in full at 1st class of each session

ECFE Registration

Early Childhood Family Education Registration

Normandy Park Education Center

2482 County Road F East, White Bear Lake 55110

(651) 653-3100 Fax: (651) 653-3155

Registration Fee and copy of your child's birth certificate and immunization record must be submitted before registration placement is finalized. Proof of income will be required to finalize fees.

Child's Full Legal Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Guardian _____ Guardian _____

Address _____ Address _____

Home _____ Cell _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Demographic Information:

Primary Language Spoken in the Home: _____

Ethnicity (please select one):

Asian/Pacific Islander _____ Hispanic _____ Black _____ White _____ American Indian _____

Please list your 1st, 2nd & 3rd choice for classes

Class/Special Event & Number	Age as of 9/1/12	Day/Time	Location	Fee

Siblings needing childcare during class time MUST be registered

Sibling Name	Age	Birthdate	Location	Fee

Payment plan (please check one) 4 payments _____ 2 payments _____ 1 payment _____

\$10 application fee (1 time) \$ _____ **Make checks payable to ISD 624** Check # (s) _____

TOTAL PAYMENTS \$ _____ **Charge to my:** VISA MasterCard

Name as it appears on credit card _____

Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Special Offerings



Special Events

Smart Parenting, Smarter Kids: What Science Tells Us about Raising Bright, Healthy and Happy Children

Presentation by author David Walsh, Ph.D.

How can I raise my child's IQ? What foods are brain foods? Why is sweating important for brain growth? How is technology rewiring kids' brains? How can U.S. kids catch up with kids in other countries on those international tests? Dr. Dave Walsh will answer these questions and many others in a workshop based on his newest book, 21st Century Parent: What Brain Science Tells Us about Raising Smart, Healthy Kids. Internationally renowned psychologist, best selling author, and in-demand speaker, Dr. Dave will translate the latest findings from brain science into practical strategies that parents, teachers and anyone concerned about kids can put to use immediately.

March 8, 2012
7:00-8:30 pm

Tartan High School
828 Greenway Ave N
Oakdale, MN

This event is FREE and open to the first 700 guests.



Family Literacy Class

English as a Second Language

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
1:00–3:30pm beginning
9/18/2012**

Program fees are determined with a sliding fee scale to be set at the time of registration.

No family will be turned away because of an inability to pay.

For more information, or to discuss fees, please contact Early Childhood Supervisor, Danielle Mickelson
651-653-3102

Translation Help

HAISQHI A! Yog koj xav tau tsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu tus Hmoob Liaison rau (651) 407-7623.

ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625

The ESL Family Literacy Program can help you:

- ◆ Get your child off to a good start in school
- ◆ Learn English or expand your speaking and writing skills
- ◆ Improve your parenting skills
- ◆ Education for you and your children so that:
 - ◆ You can achieve your GED and work toward a brighter future for yourself and your children
 - ◆ Your children can become better learners

Our program provides:

- ◆ Vocational and career counseling
- ◆ Life-skills education
- ◆ Support and encouragement
- ◆ On-site child care for children from birth to age five; and preschool for children ages three to five

Reading Readiness

Children who are read to and exposed to books from birth show significantly more language skills and vocabulary than children who are not.

Ideas to Help your Child Become a Reader

For Babies

- ◆ It's never too early to start reading to your child
- ◆ Start with books that have pictures of things familiar to your baby
- ◆ Cuddle with your baby while you read
- ◆ Use sturdy board books, because they may go in mouths
- ◆ Make reading time a quiet time to help your baby learn to focus

For Toddlers

- ◆ Keep the books simple, with clear, uncomplicated pictures
- ◆ Let your toddler set the pace for how long to stay on a page
- ◆ Have your child turn the pages when they are able
- ◆ Start a bedtime reading routine (one or two books)
- ◆ Encourage your child to point to and name objects in the pictures
- ◆ Read with expression/change your voice for different characters
- ◆ Let your child choose his own books
- ◆ Be prepared to read the favorites AGAIN and AGAIN

For Preschoolers

- ◆ As your child's attention span increases, story times will get longer
- ◆ Give your child more opportunities to *read* to you
- ◆ Young preschoolers prefer books that are comfortable and familiar, rather than scary
- ◆ Children are able to follow a simple story
- ◆ Preschoolers enjoy books about everyday life (families and animals), and start getting interested in ABC and counting books
- ◆ Make reading fun – choose times that work for both parent and child

For Moms and Dads

- ◆ Be a reader yourself – our children want to be just like us
- ◆ There is more to read than just books – signs, food boxes, newspapers, store labels, etc.



Early Childhood Parent Teacher Organization

All parents are welcome to serve on our PTO - Parent Teacher Organization. PTO helps direct and support the Early Childhood program and serves as a liaison between parents and the program.

PTO advises program staff on policies, fees and programming. They also co-sponsor annual events such as book fairs, the Early Childhood garage sale, meet the teacher, and the yearly fundraisers.

The PTO Outreach Committee helps inform families about community resources. They collect and distribute coats and holiday gifts for families in need, and provide baby showers for new babies and their parents.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this valuable group, contact Danielle Mickelson, 651-653-3102

Special Opportunities for You

Family Fun Nights

Music Together

January 12, 2012

Movie Night

February 9, 2012

Circus Juventas

March 8, 2012

Magical Mess Makers

April 12, 2012

Petting Zoo/Nature

Playground

May 3, 2012

PTO Spring Event-Tamarack

Nature Center

May 10, 2012

For more information and/or to register, call 651-653-3100.



Offered Only Through Public School Partnerships

The Incredible Years

For Parents of Infants & Toddlers

If you are a new parent, a parent looking to learn new skills or improve on old ones, or wanting to find a network of other parents, the *Incredible Years* parenting classes are a great opportunity!

The infant classes will include a time for socializing with other parents of infants, discussions regarding parenting techniques, communication, and building relationships with your infant. We'll also have time to practice these new or improved skills in a group with the help of a professional.

If you are a parent of a toddler, classes will focus on topics such as potty training, reading to your child, play-based communication, and positive discipline.

Classes will include time with other parents, discussions, and practice sessions with professional ECFE parent educators and school psychologists. For more information regarding classes call 651-653-3104.

Dinosaur School

For 3-5 year olds

Our Early Childhood Program uses Dinosaur School in all of our classes for 3-5 year olds. The program strengthens children's social, emotional, and academic skills through the use of puppets. We cover:

- ◆ Learning classroom rules, listening to and following directions
- ◆ Understanding and communicating feelings
- ◆ Using effective problem solving strategies
- ◆ Managing anger, practicing friendship and conversational skills



The Power of Play!

Play is a key component in our Preschool classes. It is essential to children's learning and is critically important to their development. Play is children's work: if they are successful with this first job, it will lead to further success later in life. So next time your child tells you that they *played* at school – celebrate all that they are learning!!

How do our children learn from each type of play?

Music and Dance

- ◆ Language
- ◆ Coordination and rhythm
- ◆ Self esteem
- ◆ Physical fitness
- ◆ Connection of movement & sound
- ◆ Following directions

Arts and Crafts

- ◆ Creativity
- ◆ Small muscle development
- ◆ Social skills
- ◆ Pre-reading and math skills
- ◆ Self Esteem

Outdoor/Gym Play

- ◆ Large muscle development
- ◆ Creativity
- ◆ Social interaction/language
- ◆ Physical fitness

Block Play

- ◆ Scientific thinking and problem solving skills
- ◆ One-to-one correspondence and counting
- ◆ Sizes, shapes, prepositions
- ◆ Fine motor skills
- ◆ Feelings of competence/self esteem
- ◆ Social skills

Pretend Play

- ◆ Practicing situations from the grown-up world in a setting that is safe and secure
- ◆ Flexibility
- ◆ Empathy
- ◆ Abstract thinking
- ◆ Social skills/language

A Typical Day at Preschool

Play and Learn Preschool offers a warm, fun learning environment with teachers and trained assistants in every classroom.

All of our Preschool classes include:

◆ Free Choice Time/Centers

As children play, teachers work with them to develop and enhance friendships, independence, and self confidence. They also learn to work and play together. Centers include sensory, art and dramatic play activities.

◆ Focused Learning Activities

Teachers help children develop skills in following directions and completing tasks independently.

◆ Circle Time

Group learning activities that encourage active participation, such as songs, finger plays, stories, movement and games.

◆ Gym/Large Motor Time

◆ **Snack Time** - While children enjoy their snack, they learn and practice table manners and conversational skills.

◆ Closing Circle

Includes a review of the day, singing a Goodbye song, and independently getting coats on and backpacks ready to go home.

As the Preschool classes progress in age, activities increase in time and complexity to coincide with higher age levels and developmental expectations.

Play & Learn Preschool



Play & Learn Preschool

Low Child/Teacher Ratios & Specialists On Site

We offer one of the lowest child/teacher ratios in the area...
An average of 5 children to one teacher.

Specialists in the areas of speech and language, occupational and physical therapy, and children's mental health are an integral part of our programs.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences are held two times per year to talk with you about your child's development, and to share ways that you can support and extend what they are learning.

You are also welcome to set up a meeting with your teacher at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Sign up for classes throughout the year

After the initial registration, registrations are welcome at any time. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class. Call 651-653-3100 for details.



Welcome to the World Of Preschool

2-3 year olds

Introduce your child to Preschool, where they will become more comfortable and confident in a classroom setting, learn to follow rules, routines and directions, begin to initiate social interactions, and become an integral part of a group. This is a time for children to explore and learn about a new environment. Activities and daily schedules are developed with our youngest preschoolers in mind.

We have added Preschool Parent Connection to extend and support this exciting and new learning experience for your child, and to more fully include parents in that transition. The program may include a combination of the following opportunities designed to support your child's ongoing learning and development of school readiness skills:

- ◆ Evening Parent/Child learning activities
- ◆ Evening Parent Discussion groups and meetings with the teacher
- ◆ Child care for parent-only events (minimal fee applies)
- ◆ Family Literacy Nights
- ◆ Home Visits

For children who are 2 but not yet 4 by Sept 1, 2012

4500.241 Th 9-11 am Normandy

*** Participants must also register for ECFE parent/child class.

For children born between March 1, 2009 and March 1, 2010

4500.242 M/W 8:30-11 am Normandy

Play & Learn Preschool



Let's Be Friends

3-4 year olds

Preschool is a new experience for many children. This is a great opportunity for children to learn from each other as they begin to interact, cooperate and develop their first friendships. As children become more social, classroom activities will include more of a focus on turn-taking, sharing, playing games, pretend play, and small group learning.

For children who are 3 but not yet 4 by Sept 1, 2012.

4500.300	M/W	8:30-11:00	NP
4500.301	T/TH	8:30-11:00	NP
4500.302	M/W/F	9:15-11:45	HU
4500.303	T/TH	9:15-11:45	HU

For prekindergarten children who are born between March 1, 2008 and March 1, 2009

4500.342	T-TH	8:30-11:00	NP
4500.343	M/W	12:30-3:00	NP

For prekindergarten children who are 3 but not yet 5 by September 1, 2012

4500.344	T	5:30-7:45 pm	NP
4500.341	T-TH	8:30-11:00	NP

Kindergarten, Here We Come

4-5 year olds

These classes are highly focused on helping your child become an independent learner, and giving them the skills to be successful in Kindergarten. We use specialized curriculum to ensure that we are addressing all areas of development and preparing your child for learning. See pages 14 & 19 for more detailed information regarding our curriculum.

For prekindergarten children born by Sept 1, 2008

4500.400	T-TH	12:30-3:00 pm	NP
4500.401	M-TH	12:30-3:00 pm	NP
4500.402	T/Th	12:30-3:00 pm	NP
4500.403	M/W/F	1-3:30 pm	Hugo
4500.404	M-Th	1-3:30 pm	Hugo

Integrated Classrooms

Lower Child Teacher Ratios

Many of our classes are integrated with children from the Early Childhood Special Education program. This integration allows children of varying abilities to learn and grow together – building on each other's strengths, learning acceptance, and allowing children to be teachers and role models for their peers. Having children of varying abilities, strengths and needs also allows for a lower child to teacher ratio. All of the children in our programs help to make for a wonderful and diverse learning environment.

Ongoing Student Assessments

Preschool teachers continually assess children's development throughout the year to keep you informed of your child's strengths, areas where they need support, and their many successes. Special attention is given to:

- ◆ Social/Emotional Development
- ◆ Vocabulary, Language and Literacy
- ◆ Physical/Motor Development
- ◆ Cognitive/Academic Skills/ Basic Concepts

These skills are all important in getting your child ready for kindergarten. Tracking their progress helps to ensure we are addressing every child's individual needs.

Play & Learn classes start the week of September 10, 2012 and run through May, 2013

Play & Learn Preschool



Expanded Learning Opportunities for Parents

Parent/child learning activities, parent discussion groups and home visits are now offered as part of our 2-3 year old classes.

Evening Family Class

We are now offering families the opportunity to enjoy a class together in the evenings. This class will be held at Normandy Park Early Childhood Center and will provide activities for Parents and their children birth to age 5.

Sign up for classes throughout the year

After the initial registration, registrations are welcome at any time. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class.

Call 651-653-3100 for details.



My Nature Preschool at Tamarack Nature Center

3-4 year olds

Imagine a preschool where children roll down a hill in cushions of autumn leaves, look for tadpoles in a pond, or follow fox tracks in the snow. *My Nature School* revolves around nature. The cornerstone of the program is providing frequent access to the natural world and making it a part of children's and parent's everyday lives.

Tamarack's *natural* version of the district's *Play and Learn* classes includes the development of reading, writing, math, science, music and art skills with the added bonus of daily adventures in nature.

Children are immersed in rich experiences that help them make meaningful connections to their classmates, teachers and the plants and animals that share their world.

A Tamarack Naturalist is an integral and collaborative member of the teaching team.

Hoppers - 3 yr olds
(3 by Sept. 1, 2011)
4500.503 T/Th 9-11:30 am

Jumpers - 3 & 4 yr olds
(not yet 5 as of Sept. 1, 2011)
4500.545 T/Th 1-3:30 pm

Bounders - 4 & older
(4 by Sept. 1, 2011)
4500.507 M/W 1-3:30 pm

Leapers - 3.5 & older
(3 by March 1, 2011)
4500.508* F 1-3:30 pm

*Priority for Leapers registration will be given to students registered for other Tamarack classes.

Play & Learn Preschool Curriculum



Curriculum Designed to Help Your Child Grow & Develop

White Bear Lake Area Schools' Early Childhood Program uses specialized curriculum to help each child learn, develop and be successful. We have a comprehensive program that promotes positive experiences and outcomes for all children, including English-language learners, children with disabilities, and advanced learners. We also offer parenting, outreach, special events, information and referral, and other programs and services to benefit you and your child.

Early Childhood Curriculum Used in Our Programs

Dinosaur School

Our Early Childhood program uses *Dinosaur School* in all of our classes for 3-5 year olds. This program strengthens children's social, emotional, and academic skills. *Dinosaur School* is offered only through public school partnerships. See page 14 for more details.

Alphafriends/Sound Buddies

Alphafriends is used in our classes for 3 & 4 year olds. The program uses a collection of characters designed to teach children about the alphabet and the sounds of the letters. It provides a basis for learning to read. The individual characters have a name beginning with the corresponding letter and are designed to captivate young children by engaging them in songs and activities that focus on that sound. The *Alphafriends* curriculum is also used in our district's Kindergarten.

The Creative Curriculum

The White Bear Lake Area School District uses *Creative Curriculum*®, a leading scientifically based, comprehensive curriculum for programs serving children from birth to age 5. It is designed to create a high-quality learning environment which opens doors to successful learning by making learning exciting and relevant for every child in our classrooms.

Activities focus on your child's social, emotional and physical development, as well as learning in language, literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Handwriting Without Tears

Handwriting Without Tears is used in all of our preschool classes to help children prepare for Kindergarten.

It is an award winning curriculum that uses fun, child-friendly activities to prepare children for writing. It expands their exposure to language, colors, shapes, movement, letters, numbers, counting, and how each relates to writing.

This program helps children develop coloring, drawing and handwriting skills by using music, writing and hands-on activities.

The *Handwriting Without Tears* curriculum is also used in our district's Kindergarten.

Nature

All of our sites will have some focus on nature to introduce a developmentally appropriate view of our environment, exploration, and experimentation within nature. Students will be introduced to a new nature topic monthly with activities taking place both in the classroom as well as outdoors. The Tamarack Nature Center preschool program is heavily linked with a nature-based curriculum and students have an opportunity to go outside daily.



Play & Learn Fees & Registration



Registration Procedures

In-Person Registration

Thursday, January 26, 2012
4:30-7:30 pm at NP

1. Choose 3 class choices from the class descriptions that fit your child's age range and your family's schedule.
2. Fill out the registration form.
3. Include registration fee.
4. Wait for your number to be called and proceed to the registration table where your registration will be processed.
5. Registration is not complete until we have a copy of your child's birth certificate, registration fee with proof of income, and their most recent health and immunization record. Your doctor can fax us the immunization record at 651-653-3155.

If Registering after Jan 26

You may register at our Normandy Park Office via mail, phone, fax or in person. You may also register online. If registering by phone, drop off, mail, or online; please send your registration fee and copies of your child's birth certificate, immunizations and completed form from page 21 to:

Normandy Park
2482 County Road F East
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Play & Learn Preschool Class Fees

You are registering for the entire school year - 30 weeks of classes. Preschool does not have a sliding fee. There is a flat fee for the school year. *Tamarack fees are higher to cover the cost of the naturalist.*

Number of classes per week Payment Options

	9 Payments	2 Payments	1 Payment
1 day/eve per week at Normandy or Hugo	\$ 72	\$304	\$608
2 days per week at Normandy or Hugo	\$140	\$608	\$1215
3 days per week at Normandy or Hugo	\$197	\$864	\$1728
4 days per week at Normandy or Hugo	\$253	\$1116	\$2232
2 days per week at Tamarack Nature Center	\$185	\$ 810	\$1620
1 day per week at Tamarack Nature Center	\$ 95	\$405	\$810

Consider Your Family Budget When Choosing A Class

9 Payment Option

Fees will be divided into 9 payments. The first payment is due the first day of class. All remaining payments are due the 1st of each month, with the last payment due in May.

There will be a late fee of \$5 for any payment received after the 16th of the month. If the payment is not received by the last day of the month and you have not contacted the office for assistance, the assumption will be made that you are dropping the class.

2 Payment Option

First payment is due by the first day of class. Second payment is due in January.

1 Payment Option

The fee for the entire year is due the first day of class.

Financial Assistance

Families can request financial assistance for our classes at Hugo and Normandy Park Early Childhood Center

Financial assistance forms are available from your teacher or our office. This request is *CONFIDENTIAL*. Each request will be reviewed individually. The Play & Learn preschool program receives no district, state, or federal funding. Financial assistance is only available through limited School Readiness state funds. To maintain your financial assistance, you must attend class on a regular basis. The maximum assistance allowed is \$800. If you experience financial hardship during the school year, call the office for the financial assistance form at 651-653-3100.

Registrations will be accepted throughout the year if space is available. Call 651-653-3100 for information or visit www.wblearlychildhoodregistration.org

Play & Learn Registration

Play & Learn Preschool Registration

Normandy Park Education Center

2482 County Road F East
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

(651) 653-3100 Fax: (651) 653-3155

Payment, and a copy of your child's birth certificate, Immunization Record and Health Emergency form must be submitted with registration. Forms are on page 21.

Child's Full Legal Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Guardian _____ Guardian _____

Address _____ Address _____

Home _____ Cell _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Demographic Information:

Primary Language Spoken in the Home: _____

Ethnicity (*please select one*):

Asian/Pacific Islander _____ Hispanic _____ Black _____ White _____ American Indian _____

Please list your 1st, 2nd & 3rd choice for classes

Class Title or Special Event & Class Number	Child's Age as of 9/1/12	Day/Time	Location	Fee

Payment plan (*please check one*) 9 payments _____ 2 payments _____ 1 payment _____

\$30 application fee (1 time) \$ _____ **Make checks payable to ISD 624** Check # (s) _____

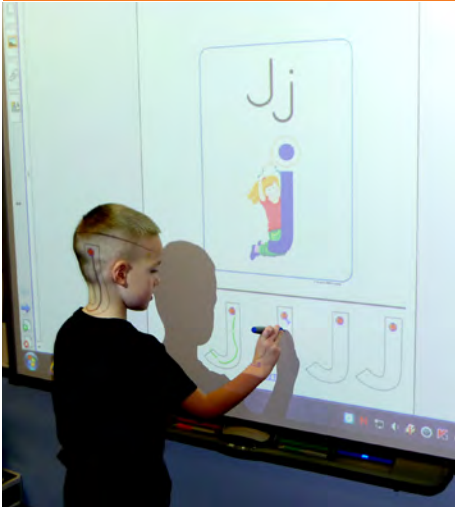
Charge to my: VISA MasterCard

Name as listed on credit card _____

Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Kindergarten



Did you know

- ◆ Every elementary student receives painting and drawing lessons through an award-winning partnership with the White Bear Center for the Arts, and water safety lessons at the new WBLAS - YMCA Aquatic Center.
- ◆ The District's elementary science proficiency scores increased 17 points in two years.

As your child moves from the Early Childhood Program into Kindergarten

There are a variety of school choices in the White Bear Lake Area School District

The District's kindergarten curriculum is based on the belief that all children are valuable, unique and capable of learning and achieving. Our kindergarten programs focus on the academic, social and personal development of all students.

All of our programs provide safe, nurturing and challenging environments in which children can acquire knowledge and skills, think critically and creatively, appreciate diversity and develop positive attitudes toward self and others. Each program incorporates basic concepts of the core academic disciplines including:

Literacy	Science	Technology
Physical Education	Math	Music & the Arts
Social Studies	Health	Personal and Social Skills

Recognizing that not every child learns the same way or has the same needs, the White Bear Lake Area School District offers a variety of kindergarten program options. We invite you to choose the program that best suits your child's needs.

Kindergarten Program Options

The Half-Day-Every-Day Kindergarten option is a free kindergarten program offered for all Kindergarten students in the White Bear Lake Area School District.

Kindergarten Plus is a fee-based option available for families in the White Bear Lake Area School District in which students are involved in a full-day kindergarten program with a certified, licensed kindergarten teacher.

Kindergarten Extended Day is a fee-based kindergarten option for parents who want their child to attend their school of choice for the half-day kindergarten program and have high quality child-care for the remainder of the day.

Our Schools

Birch Lake

1616 Birch Lake Avenue
White Bear Lake (651-653-2776)

Hugo *

14895 Francesca Avenue
Hugo (651-653-2798)

Lakeaires

3963 Van Dyke Street
White Bear Lake (651-653-2809)

Lincoln

1961 Sixth Street
White Bear Lake (651-653-2820)

Oneka *

4888 Heritage Parkway
Hugo (651-288-1800)

Otter Lake

1401 County Road H2
White Bear Lake (651-653-2831)

Matoska International Baccalaureate World School

2530 Spruce Place
White Bear Lake (651-653-2847)

Vadnais Heights

3645 Centerville Road
Vadnais Heights (651-653-2858)

Willow Lane

3375 Willow Avenue
White Bear Lake (651-773-6170)

* Students who live in the northern Hugo/Oneka part of the school district will attend Hugo Elementary for kindergarten and first grade. Hugo is paired with Oneka Elementary, which includes grades 2-5.

For more information about school choices

Call 651-407-7674 or visit
www.isd624.org

Early Childhood Screening

Did you know?

Early Childhood Screening is required by the State of Minnesota for all children, prior to entering kindergarten. White Bear Lake Area School District provides this screening at NO CHARGE to your child.

Screening can be completed for any child who has turned 3 and has not yet entered kindergarten. We recommend that screening be completed between the ages of 3 and 4. Screenings that are completed between the ages of 3 and 4 help us to ensure that all of our children and families have access to information and resources that can help in their transition to kindergarten.

What is a screening?

The screening includes several components:

- Vision and Hearing
- Height and Weight
- Immunization Status
- Skills in Thinking, Communication, and Language
- Large and Small Muscle Control
- Social and Emotional Development

What do I need to bring?

- **Birth Certificate**
- **Immunizations**

Additional forms available on-line at: www.isd624.org/Community/EarlyChildhood. Click on "Screening". There are links to 3 forms:

- Census
- Early Childhood Screening Registration
- Health History

These forms are also available for completion the day of your appointment.

Does it help to wait to complete screening when my child is older?

No, the tasks that your child completes during screening are appropriate for their age at the time of the screening assessment. The screening will not be "easier" because your child is older.

Screening gives families valuable information about the resources within the community, information regarding your child, and the time to help prepare your child for success in kindergarten.

Does screening determine whether or not my child is ready for kindergarten?

No, this is not a test to determine "readiness" for kindergarten. Your child will be allowed to enter kindergarten based on age eligibility, not based on their performance on screening.

When do I learn how my child did on the assessment?

Early Childhood Screening staff meet with families immediately to discuss the screening results. They will answer questions, address any concerns, and provide information for resources you may need.



What happens if there are concerns?

Screening staff will work with your family to meet the educational needs of your child. We want to ensure that all children have the resources and supports they may need to have a successful start to kindergarten.

How can I prepare my child for screening?

We understand that this process can be overwhelming for some children. Please know that we are flexible and creative with our process. Activities are as follows:

- height and weight ("let's see how big you are now")
- hearing and vision (seeing and hearing "games")
- "playing" with a teacher
- High-Fives and Cheers for a job well-done.

How do I register?

Beginning January 16, 2012, families will have the option to register on-line at www.wblearlychildhoodregistration.org.

We continue to accept registrations through our registration answering system at 651-653-3154.

Please be prepared to provide your child's name and date of birth as well as your name and phone number.

Where is screening?

Normandy Park Early Childhood Center
2482 County Road F East
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
651-653-3100

Para Espanol por favor llame al
651-407-7625

Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623

White Bear Lake Area Schools
Early Childhood Program
Normandy Park Education Center
2482 County Road F East
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 3363

White Bear Lake Area Schools

Leading Minds to Learning, Hearts to Compassion
and Lives to Community Service



In-Person Registration Night

Thursday, January 26, 2012 4:30-7:30 pm

In-person registration procedures are listed on page 20. After the initial registrations for each program, registrations are welcome at any time by phone, mail, fax, in person at Normandy Park Education Center, or on-line at www.wblearlychildhoodregistration.org. Classes will begin the week of September 10, 2012 and run through May 2013. Fees will be adjusted based on the date your child starts class.

For more details and questions, call 651-653-3100

Para Espanol por favor llame al 651-407-7625

Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623

Open Houses

Tour the buildings, gather information about classes and programs, meet our staff, and ask questions. Classes will be in session, so we encourage you to spend some time in a classroom observing the activities. Children are welcome to join in the class if they choose. All Open Houses have info regarding all of our sites, so pick the time that works best for you.

ECFE & Preschool 2012 Open House Schedule

Hugo

Wed, Jan 11, 1:30-2:30

Normandy Park

Tue, Jan 17, 9:30-10:30 am & 6-7 pm

Tamarack

Thur, Jan 19, 10-11 am

Kindergarten Jumpstart

Help your child prepare for Kindergarten. Children will practice following classroom routines, participate in group activities, and learn about school bus safety, all in their own elementary school. Each school will have a one-week program in the morning during the summer.

Watch for details in the spring/summer Community Services and Recreation brochure.

Keep this Catalog Until May 2013

This brochure contains information, programs, classes and activities scheduled through May 2013.