

*Welcome to*

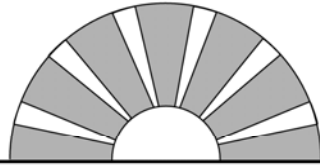


**Ms. Giroux's Class**

**Child's Day**

*Kindergarten!*

*2009-2010*



# Child's Day

**Preschool · Kindergarten · Child Development Center**

2525 Wallingwood Drive # 100 • Austin, Texas 78746  
Phone: (512) 327-3274 • FAX (512) 327-3281

Dear Parents,

Thank you for choosing Child's Day, where children come first! We will do our very best to make your time with us a safe, enjoyable and rewarding experience.

We believe young children learn best by doing – through play and meaningful work. They need a safe, happy, stimulating, and nurturing environment offering concrete sensory experiences, positive social encounters and age appropriate learning opportunities.

We believe children can achieve their full potential by experiencing success with activities which encourage development of a healthy self-concept and foster positive interactions with peers and adults. Children learn to feel good about themselves as people when they are treated in a positive, caring manner. Trust and emotional security result when children learn to expect positive experiences with caring, affectionate adults.

We believe each child is unique and part of a family system. Since parents are the most significant adults in a child's life and know their children better than anyone, respectful, supportive partnerships between teachers and parents are critical to meeting each child's needs. Daily communication between parents and teachers is very important.

We believe parents and teachers benefit from child development educational opportunities, enhancing their skills and improving their ability to help children become independent, self-confident, inquisitive learners.

Please familiarize yourself with the Parent Handbook and other assorted documents and forms available on our web site: <http://www.childsday.com/Library.htm>. Additional information and helpful hints about child development are also available from the staff.

We strive daily to be the best early childhood center in Austin. Your comments and suggestions are welcome and expected. As owners, we want to know whenever you have a question or concern. Misunderstanding can occur when communication is lacking, so please be sure to let one of us (Lead Teacher, Director, or Owner) know when something is on your mind. We are proud of the faith you have placed in us and will work continually to justify your trust.

We look forward to having you with us!

*Shirley Gamble & Charley Tucker*

***Child's Day***



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Dear Parents,

## **Welcome to PAC!**

The Parents' Advisory Committee (PAC) is a volunteer group of parents whose children are enrolled at Child's Day—that's you! You are automatically a member of PAC with your child's enrollment. However, **PAC is defined by your involvement**, so as the 2009-2010 PAC President, I encourage you to join me in setting the agenda and activities of PAC.

PAC provides a wide variety of opportunities for parent participation throughout the school year and we value whatever contributions you can offer: time, creativity, hands-on participation, leadership, etc. Volunteering is a great way to stay involved with your child's experience at Child's Day, and to better enable Child's Day staff to maintain its high quality program.

Historically, PAC has run a "no-fuss" fundraiser (*i.e.*, families make a one-time donation in lieu of organized fundraising activities) to sponsor the events coordinated throughout the year. These events have included:

- scholarships for faculty and staff to enhance their teaching skills
- Family Night Out
- a staff holiday breakfast
- The Week of the Young Child (WOYC)
- Staff Appreciation Week (SAW)
- Parent Education/Child Rearing programs such as CPR and first aid

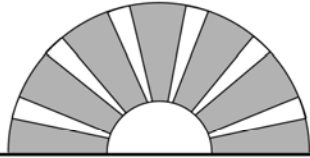
One hour meetings are held once a month from 5:30 to 6:30. By attending the meetings, you help determine how the PAC funds are spent, and can help define and execute the details of each of the events the group sponsors.

You can also volunteer to become your classroom's representative:

- communicate with fellow class parents about PAC events and relevant issues at Child's Day
- coordinate WYOC and SAW activities with or for your classroom teachers
- serve as the communication medium between your class, PAC, and the Child's Day staff.

Please join me in helping PAC sponsor these educational and appreciation events for the children, staff, and parents at Child's Day. I look forward to seeing you at the first meeting on **Wednesday, September 9** at 5:30.

Thanks,  
Leah Stewart  
2009-2010 PAC President  
512-330-9433 or lbs4t@hotmail.com



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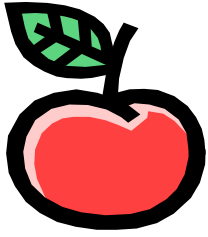
I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to the Kindergarten Class at Child's Day. I am very excited about the year to come, and I'm looking forward to getting to know you and your family.

Enclosed in this packet, you will find an outline of the year's curriculum topics. These broad topics will serve as frameworks under which the subject areas of language arts, math, social studies, and science will be taught. Using such an integrated thematic approach, allows me to teach skills in context, making the learning experience more meaningful for the children, as well as more lasting. Please be aware, however, that the listed topics are subject to change depending on the needs and interests of your children.

I am committed to keeping you informed of our activities and hope that you will also share your ideas, time, and talents with us throughout the year.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer Giroux*



## Projected Topics / Themes

### Kindergarten Class

- August: All about Me / Feelings
- September: My Body / My Five Senses 
- October: Halloween / Recycling
- November: Nutrition / Thanksgiving 
- December: Helping Others / Traditions
- January: Weather / Money 
- February: Telling Time /  
The Postal System / Valentine's Day
- March: Maps/Other Cultures 
- April: Gardening 
- May: Reflections; Looking forward & Looking back

# Kindergarten Schedule

7:00	Before School Care (optional)	
7:45	Classroom opens - Intro. Activities / Daily Health Check	
	Sign-In	Morning Activity
	Free Journals	Handwriting Journals
8:05	Circle Time 1 (Large Group)	
	Welcome Songs	Morning Message
	News of the Day	Phonemic Awareness Games
	Shared Reading	Journal Sharing
	Literacy Mini-lesson	
8:35	Literacy / Math Centers	
9:40	Circle Time 2 (Large Group)	
	Transition Songs	Calendar Activities
	Jobs	Mathematics lesson
10:15	Free Centers / Story Dictation / Snack	
11:05	Clean Up	
11:15	Story Time	
11:35	Wash Up / Lunch Preparation	
11:45	Lunch Time	
12:15	Lunch Time ends - Clean-up, transition	
12:30	Playground Time	
1:15	Return to Room	
1:30	Quiet Time / Rest Period / Independent Reading	
2:15	Rest time ends -- put mats away, transition	
2:30	Music / Science / Spanish / Gymnastics	
3:00	Story Dramatizations / Wrap-Up Activities	
3:25	Afternoon Snack -- Class Ends	
3:30	After School Program (optional)	
6:00	Classroom Closes	

## Please

Make sure your child is in the classroom **no later than 7:50**. The introductory activities we will engage in from 7:45 - 8:05 will be referred to throughout the day. Missing these activities on a regular basis will prevent your child from feeling like part of the classroom community.

## Communication

- ✓ Daily: **Brief**, informal conversations at drop off / pick up. (If you have information to convey to me that requires more than a minute or two, please feel free to write me a note and put it on the small clipboard on the wall near the teacher sink. I will read it during my planning time and get back to you as soon as possible.)
- ✓ Weekly: A weekly newsletter will be emailed to you Thursday evenings
- ✓ Twice Yearly (usually in November and April): Parent / Teacher Conferences
- ✓ As Needed:
  - Incident reports will be prepared if your child has an accident during the day. You will be contacted by telephone in the event of a serious injury or illness, and also in the event your child receives a head bump or facial injury.

Reminder notes for field trips, book orders, etc. will be posted periodically near the sign-in sheet outside the classroom door.

You are welcome to call me at home, but I ask that you call before 9:00 p.m.

Please remember that the children require my full attention. While you are welcome in our classroom at any time, I will not be able to visit with you for more than a minute or two. If you have concerns, I will be happy to schedule a time to meet with you that is convenient for both of us.

**Ways for parents to be more involved**  
**in our classroom community:**

- ☺ Volunteer to be our PAC Representative
- ☺ Volunteer to help set up the room on teacher work day
- ☺ Accompany us on field trips
- ☺ Come eat lunch with our class
- ☺ Volunteer to read books at story time
- ☺ Help set up for parties and special events
- ☺ Share your expertise of a particular topic / theme we are studying
- ☺ Develop film for us
- ☺ Donate recycled materials to the classroom (Examples include):
  - Corks
  - Toilet Paper and/or Paper Towel Tubes
  - Styrofoam Trays (Meat, Mushroom Trays)
- ☺ Donate items from our wish list
- ☺ Come spend a day (half day / hour / 30 minutes) just hangin' out with us in the room

Read the weekly newsletter for other ideas as the year goes along.

## Kindergarten Helpful Hints

- ◆ Each child should have a complete change of clothing (including underwear and socks!) in his / her cubby to be used in the case of accidents. Please change out clothing when needed (i.e., seasonally, outgrown clothes, etc.).
- ◆ Each child should bring a small blanket or towel for rest time each Monday. Blankets will be kept at school for the week and returned to you for laundering each Friday. Please be sure to label all blankets and/or towels with your child's name.
- ◆ Please do not bring breakfast food into the kindergarten classroom.
- ◆ "Medication Authorization Forms" must be completed as needed for your child.
- ◆ Please be sure to sign your child IN and OUT each day on the attendance sheet located outside the classroom door. This is a state regulation.
- ◆ Please be sure to check your child's Parent Pocket daily for messages from the teacher. Also, please check his/her cubby for artwork, etc. needing to go home.
- ◆ Proper nutrition is very important for growing children. We encourage you to provide your child with a well-balanced lunch. Healthy desserts include fruit, yogurt, pudding, and muffins. Soda pop, hard candy, and gum will not be permitted in the classroom.
- ◆ It is helpful if you can notify us in advance of vacations. It is also our expectation that you call on the day of an absence or illness if you are unable to let us know in advance.
- ◆ Please label all of your child's personal belongings!
- ◆ Please leave all personal toys at home (with the exception of ONE small cuddly toy for nap).
- ◆ When dropping your child off, let him/her know that you will be back to pick him/her up later. We want all of our children to feel secure in the knowledge that Mom/Dad will be there to get them at the end of the day. However, we ask that you limit your time in the room to 10 minutes in the mornings. Otherwise, your child will expect you to stay, which will result in a more difficult separation for you and for him/her.

## Possible Kindergarten Field Trips

◆ Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

◆ Pumpkin Patch

◆ Austin Public Library



◆ Wild Connections Butterfly Farm

◆ A+ Federal Credit Union

◆ Post Office

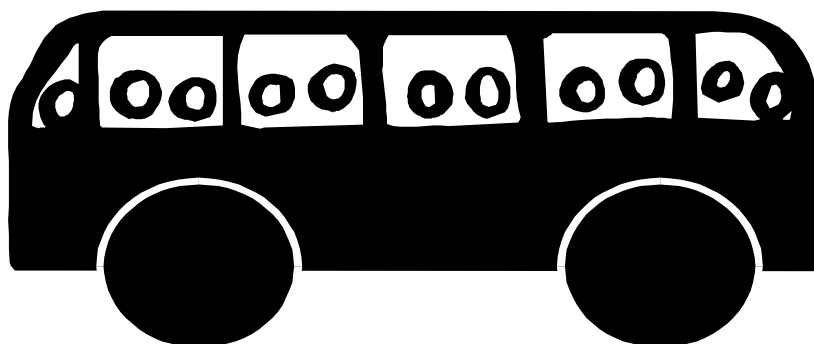
◆ Zilker Park



◆ Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum

◆ Austin Museum of Art

◆ Wal-Mart



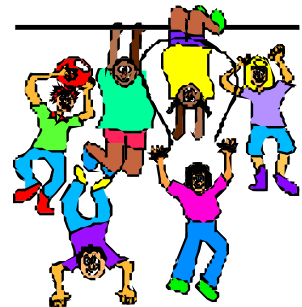
# SUMMER

## Program Information!

Each summer, Child's Day presents its unique and exciting summer "Day Camp" program for children who will be entering Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The "Day Camp" is a modification & enhancement of our year-round curriculum. All children in the Puffins, Field Mice and Kindergarten must register for "Camp" to maintain enrollment during the Summer. The "Camp" program takes the place of the "school year" program for these three groups, and a Registration Form must be completed to secure enrollment. At the end of January, families will receive Summer Program Registration forms allowing you to reserve weeks on a "priority" basis. There will also be a special information session when you will hear a presentation on the Summer Camp. Preliminary Theme and Field Trip plans, swimming and gymnastics times and general program information will be provided.



In addition to swimming and gymnastics, special indoor and outdoor events will include weekly field trips in and around Austin, parties, creative dramatics, indoor and outdoor games, picnics, and nature exploration. Themes will include beach, ocean & desert life, sun, heat & gravity, insects, reptiles & endangered species, and more. Music and songs, arts and crafts, storytelling and make believe will all be part of this exceptional program, designed to provide children with a summer of excitement, discovery and relaxation. I.Q. Kids computer classes and "Musikids" vocal and keyboard lessons will continue to be available as optional extras.



*Look for more information and enrollment forms at the end of January!*



# Illness Exclusion Policy

**Children should remain at home (or will be sent home) with:**

**Ear temperature of 100.4 or higher. Oral temperature of 100.4 or higher, or underarm temperature of 99.4 or higher, in the past 24 hours.**

**Conjunctivitis** "Pink eye", redness of the eye and/or lids, usually with secretion of yellowish discharge and crusting.

**Bronchitis**, which usually begins with hoarseness, cough, and a slight elevation in temperature. The cough may be dry and painful but gradually becomes productive.

A **rash** you cannot identify which has not been diagnosed.

**Impetigo**; red pimples which become small vesicles surrounded by a reddened area. When blisters break, the surface is raw and weeping. Look for signs in neck creases, groin, underarms, face, hands, or edge of diaper.

**Diarrhea** two or more times within 24 hours (watery BM's that look different and are more frequent than usual.)

**Vomiting** within 24 hours (more than usual "spitting up").

**Head Lice**; live contagious insects or their nits (egg sacs) that infest hair. Children will not be readmitted without being free of live lice and nits, or must have a written note from a physician, local health authority, advance practice nurse, or physician's assistant stating that they are no longer contagious and may return to school.

Some **unknown illness** without obvious symptoms other than unusual paleness, irritability, tiredness, or lack of interest.

Any **contagious disease**, including Measles, Chick Pox, Mumps, Roseola, Strep Throat infection, Head Lice, until the child has been diagnosed by a physician and the established Center readmission criteria for individual illnesses has been met.

Children may be brought into the Center if they have a mild cold or allergy, an allergic rash, diaper rash, prickly heat, a loose bowel movement, dietary or medication diarrhea, and can cope successfully with the program. Staff should be alerted to anything out of the ordinary.

Children's exclusion and readmission to the program is subject to review by their receiving classroom staff and / or a Director.

If your child has a chronic illness or disability, please discuss a plan for reasonable admission/exclusion criteria with a Director.

By helping us to observe good health standards, you will be protecting your child and the others in the Center.

## Child's Day Parent Volunteer Opportunities

Research shows that children are more successful when their parents are involved in their classroom experience. Volunteering in your child's class or at the PAC school-wide level is one way to help meet this goal. Please take the time to read through the opportunities listed below and determine where you would like to help this year. Your time and efforts will be well spent while enriching the children's learning experience. We encourage both parents to sign up and volunteer.

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Volunteer's Name	Email Address	Phone #
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Volunteer's Name	Email Address	Phone #
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Child's Name	Classroom	Teacher's Name
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### \* Volunteer Opportunities \*

Please indicate areas of interest by checking below:

- Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Classroom Representative: PAC meets on the second Wednesday of each month for one hour to discuss how to create the richest possible environment that promotes the learning, health and well-being of all of the children at Child's Day.
- PAC Classroom Alternate: Attends PAC meetings when the regular PAC representative cannot.
- PAC Special Events Volunteer: Assist with one-time, special PAC events such as the Staff Holiday Breakfast
- PAC Family Night Out (FNO) Volunteer: Assist with the annual FNO event by either helping to plan, setup, coordinate food, welcome table, t-shirt, or clean-up
- PAC Staff Appreciation Week (SAW) Classroom Representative: Coordinate classroom recognition activities during SAW
- Room Parent: Supports teacher and classroom and helps organize classroom events such as family social events.
- Story-time Reader: \_\_\_ Once a month; \_\_\_ every other month; \_\_\_ on occasion
- Material Preparation: Helps the teacher to make, color, cut or collect materials to be used in the classroom
- Talent Search: Share your interests, hobbies, work/job experiences with the children, PAC, and the school.  
Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Miscellaneous:  

___ Computer Work	___ Special Projects Helper
___ Field Trip Driver	___ Photo Helper

Please return this form to the office. Thanks!