



Katie's Kids
Learning
Center at Ft.
Jesse

Family Newsletter

Our first month is under our belts and we couldn't be happier with the way things are going! New children are joining us each week, staffs have a routine established and we feel we are really getting to know our families well. What more could you ask for?

I would like to share with you another reason why we do what we do here at Katie's Kids. Below is a list of "10 Signs of a Great Preschool" as determined by the National Association of Education for Young Children (NAEYC). I encourage you to read through these things and think about whether or not you see these 10 signs here at Katie's Kids...I bet you do!

Thank you for sharing your family!

Jody

National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC) – Early Years Are Learning Years

10 Signs of a Great Preschool

1. Children spend most of their playing and working with materials or other children. They do not wander aimlessly, and they are not expected to sit quietly for long periods of time.
2. Children have access to various activities throughout the day. Look for assorted building blocks and other construction materials, props for pretend play, picture books, paints and other art materials, and table toys such as matching games, pegboards, and puzzles. Children should not all be doing the same thing at the same time.
3. Teachers work with individual children, small groups, and the whole group at different times during the day. They do not spend all their time with the whole group.
4. The classroom is decorated with children's original artwork, their own writing with invented spelling and stories dictated by children to teachers.
5. Children learn numbers and the alphabet in the context of their everyday experiences. The natural world of plants and animals and meaningful activities like cooking, taking attendance or serving snack provides the basis for learning activities.
6. Children work on projects and have long periods of time (at least one hour) to play and explore. Worksheets are used little if at all.
7. Children have an opportunity to play outside every day. Outdoor play is never sacrificed for more instructional time.
8. Teachers read books to children individually or in small groups throughout the day, not just at group story time.
9. Curriculum is adapted for those who are ahead as well as those who need additional help. Teachers recognize that children's different background and experiences mean that they do not learn the same things at the same time in the same way.
10. Children and their parents look forward to school. Parents feel secure about sending their child to the program. Children are happy to attend: they do not cry regularly or complain of feeling sick.

School-age Break Days...

Oct. 12 – Columbus Day

Dec. 21-Jan. 4 – Christmas Break

Jan. 18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Feb. 15 President's Day

Mar. 22-26th – Spring Break

Please sign up at the front desk if you need care. Cost is \$40 per day.

Family Fun Night and Wiener Roast

will be held on October
22nd from 6:00-7:30pm.
Please bring a side dish to
share!!

Would you like to
receive a monthly
statement?

If you're interested,
please let the front
desk know. 😊

(e-mail or paper copy available)



Classroom Tidbits...

Infants Room 1

Dear Families,

This month the older infant room will be opening! We are sad to see Miss Marissa and her children (Tyler, Kendyl, Isabel and Cohen) go. We wish you luck!

With the opening of the older infant room, we wish to welcome the new families that will be joining us in the younger infant room! We are so glad to have you as a part of the Katie's Kids family!!

Tami and I would like to say thank you to Tammy J. for helping us out the last few weeks. We love having you in the classroom!

Have a great October!!!

Laine and Tami

Older Infants Room 2

Good news!! My friends and I are now having fun learning and exploring in the older infant room. We are so excited to have a bigger area to explore, discover and move around in. We are also looking forward to having some new friends join us soon. Come take a look at our new environment and see the exciting work going on!

Miss Marissa

Toddler/2's Room 4

In the Toddler 2's class, we are very excited to begin our first project! This month we will be learning about the Farm. We successfully finished Phase I of our project and will move into Phase II this week. This month we'll learn about barnyard animals, the different types of barns we see on farms and we'll venture into the farmers world of planting, pumpkins, apples, corn and beans. If any of our families have some type of farm item they'd like to share for the remainder of our project, it would be greatly appreciated!

Kristen, Jessica and Kara

Preschool Room 5

We have all settled into a routine in Room 5. We are continuing to add new friends from week to week and we are excited to begin our first project. We are going to be doing project work on FARMS. We actually began our project on Sept. 21. We have made our web (what we like about farms), we have read a few farm stories and have made some animal crafts and projects as well as some farm games. We are very excited about our upcoming field trips to Ropp and Radar Farms in October. Both of these activities will help us to move our project forward and we can't wait for our farm experiences.

Tammy and Alicia

Tips to a Smooth Transition

A smooth transition to a new environment can be challenging for any child. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- ✓ Prepare your child for his/her day. Talk about coming to KKLC, and what they will be doing here, and what you will do after you pick them up.
- ✓ Develop a routine. Be sure to do the same things at drop off every day, so your child knows what to expect.
- ✓ Point out to your child what is occurring within his/her classroom. Be sure to mention all of the exciting things going on in different areas, and if they have favorite friends, where those friends are located. This will help your child develop interest in the activities around them.
- ✓ Know when to say good-bye. Allow your child time to adjust to the room, and then reassure them you will return, followed by a quick departure. Procrastination may increase a child's insecurity, and can make a challenging situation for both of you.
- ✓ Take time at pick-up to hear all about your child's day. Come into the classroom, greet your child, and take interest in all he/she wants to show you. It's important that they feel their time at KKLC is as important to you as it is to them.

Book Fair

Thank you for all your support with our first book fair. We were able to purchase lots fun new books for our classrooms. The children have been busy reading and enjoying them!!



🍎 Center Events 🍎

- 10/12 Preschool Field Trip to Ropp Farm
- 10/22 Preschool Field Trip to Rader Farms
- 10/22 Family Fun Night and Weiner Roast from 6:00-7:30pm

Praise When Praise is Due

Richard Wissbourd, writing in Work & Family Life (September 2009) observes that it matters how parents praise...

Praising children in the service of happiness and self esteem has important benefits but it can become excessive. Children thrive on praise when it is sincere and connected to specific accomplishments, but children know when they've truly accomplished something. Too much praise connected to tiny accomplishments can make them wonder why adults need to always prop them up.

"Children who are praised too much also feel continually judged. Research by Carol Dweck, Ph.D., suggests that overly praised kids become more conscious of their image, more competitive, and more prone to cut others down. And too much praise can hook kids on it: They require higher and higher doses of compliments and feel like there's something wrong when they aren't being bombarded with kudos."

Preventing the Flu: Good Health Habits Can Help Stop Germs

AVOID CLOSE CONTACT: Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick.

STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK: Stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. Keep sick children at home. You will help prevent others from catching the illness.

COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE: Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN: Washing your hands and the hands of your children often will help protect you from germs.

AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH: Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

PRACTICE OTHER GOOD HEALTH HABITS: Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

