

Highlands Early Education Program

“Open a World of Enriching Experiences for your Child”

Philosophy

The Highlands Early Education Program is community based and committed to creating a positive safe environment where your child’s learning will thrive, be nurtured and loved. We find new and innovative ways to teach curriculum, foster development and ignite your child’s imagination. Our licensed program cultivates the growth of your child’s self-esteem, socialization, early education and the continuous developmental experience. The understanding, knowledge & skills of our teachers harbor a warm, loving and inviting atmosphere for your child which will raise your comfort level and ensure your peace of mind.

We believe that children learn best through play; that is why our program is developed around theme based curriculum, lesson plans and activities that teach fundamental concepts, for example, **each week follows the a specific letter of the alphabet letter and are used as a springboard for science, art, movement, math and language activities. Other weeks follow curriculum focusing on the senses, recycling and protecting our world, our bodies, eating healthy and architecture week.** This medium encourages children to express themselves in areas of social, intellectual, emotional and physical growth. The importance of muscle development is emphasized in our program through climbing on structures on the playground, digging in the sandbox, running, riding tricycles and using the upper body for physically active and body strengthening experience. The Early Education Program focuses on hands-on learning activities both in the classroom and outside that provide each child with the opportunity to learn at his/her level by their own tactile experience.

Classroom Readiness

Age does not always determine a child’s learning scope; classroom readiness can be evaluated by trained teachers to establish your child’s level for the Early Education Program.

Ages 2.5-3.75: “Oh the experiences I will have” This program promotes your child’s creativity, independence and imagination; socialization, language and reading readiness are all incorporated into hands-on daily activities. Children are encouraged and begin to identify colors, shapes while also learning to recognize letters of the alphabet. Circle time with songs and stories are incorporated into the daily routine. It is our definitive goal to instill a joy of learning in your child, positive socialization experience and development of personal confidence to try and be exposed to new challenges that will result in future successes.

Ages 4-5: “Onwards and Upwards: Oh the places they will go” This age appropriate program brings together many foundations built in earlier years of structure, independence and exploration. This program emphasizes a wide range of educational activities that promote language arts, reading readiness, motor skills, socialization and science. Our environment promotes creative expression, peer cooperation, conflict

resolution and movement activities. Children will learn to both recognize and write their own name, participate in daily circle time and create lasting friendships. Parent conferences will be held twice during the school year in order for both the teachers and parents to see the development and growth of their child from start to finish. Our staff provides a personalized experience that will prepare your child with the necessary skills for their elementary educational experience.

Selection of Staff and Training

The Highlands Recreation Center knows an important attribute to a successful Child Care Center is the quality of the staff; we endeavor to hire only the best. We make our Center a fun and exciting place to work and our staff is energetic and creative. The environment at our Center stimulates children to learn and challenges staff to excel. All of our staff have a teaching credential, early education units and/or many years of classroom experience and must pass an intensive background check through the FBI, Department of Justice and reference check. Members of our staff receive on-going training and are evaluated each year. To concrete your confidence and trust, we encourage regular communication between parents and teachers. Our doors, like the lines of communication, are always open.

Teacher traits:

1. *Energetic, Intelligent & Caring*
2. *Responsible role model who still understands the inner child*
3. *Compassionate with the ability to respect each child's individual needs*
4. *Creative & Imaginative*
5. *Fun, yet always keeping safety in mind*
6. *Has a belief that open & clear communication is fundamental to a educational experience*

Safety

We know there is nothing more precious to you in this world than your children. We take this responsibility very seriously. Safety is number one at the Highlands Recreation Center. Our center is maintained and constantly upgraded to meet and excel state safety standards. For the past two years we have received the highest safety rating through our association with the CAPRI (California Association of Parks Recreation Insurance). When it comes to your peace of mind, you will find us striving for the highest possible standard. Our center also complies with all State of California Licensing requirements, such as "sign-in and out procedures" and requiring ID for all individuals picking up children from our center.

Nutritional Value of our Food

Through all the different activities, we know your child will be working up an appetite. Each day we offer a healthy snack that has nutritional value that will help your child

focus throughout the remaining morning hours. During the daily snack time your child will learn important social skill, such as sharing, communication and table manners.

Equipment

The Early Education Program has overhauled its supplies and equipment in the past four years in order to provide your children with cutting edge opportunities. We offer a variety of hands-on manipulates, where opportunities for science and sensory experiences occur, dramatic play stations, literacy activities in groups and individually, puzzles, rhythm sticks and much more. Each day the classroom is set up in new ways to stimulate your child's learning experience.

2007-2008 Fees

	<u>SEPT/OCT/NOV/FEB/APRIL/MAY</u>
M-F	\$600/605
MWF	\$480/485

	<u>DECEMBER/MARCH</u>
M-F	\$450/455
MWF	\$360/365

	<u>JANUARY</u>
M-F	\$525/530
MWF	\$420/425

	<u>JUNE</u>
M-F	\$300/305
MWF	\$240/245

ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE: \$100/child

Highlands Early Education Program **“Where children love to learn.”**

Looking ahead to Pre School for the 2007-2008 school year? Highlands Recreation is proud to present a flexible program for 2.5 – 5 year olds. The licensed program will incorporate all the fundamentals of both our past Pre-K & Tiny Tots programs *and blend in the most current standards in pre-school education. Children will be grouped by age and developmental readiness* by qualified teachers and assistants in a supportive environment. Your child will be exposed to activities that develop their small & large motor skills, written & verbal skills and age appropriate indoor & outdoor programs.

Mon-Fri OR MWF
8am-12:30pm

Starts After Labor Day Weekend in September!