



Creative Years Preschool Press

FALL 2011



A Typical Preschool Day

At *Creative Years*, our programs are based on two fundamental principles of child development:

1. Consistency in routine and establishing daily rituals helps children to feel more secure and trusting.
2. Children learn best in an environment that offers a variety of fun and enriching activities.

This means that our children follow a daily schedule that includes:

- **Language Circle Time** - Songs, finger plays, and group discussion about weekly theme topics
- **Learning Centers** - Small groups focusing on literacy, math and science concepts such as patterning, rhyming, sequencing, phonics, letter and numeral recognition, counting and seriation
- **Choice Time** - Includes activities in Creative Arts, Dramatic Play, Manipulatives, Puzzles, Tactile Play, Computer Time and Book Corner
- **Music and Movement** - Physical Fitness skills such as balance, laterality, rhythm and coordination
- **Story Time** - Books, puppets, flannel board and story telling
- **Social Learning Circle** - Guidance in learning to get along with others and developing social competencies (see article on Dinosaur School)
- **Outdoor Play** - Time to enjoy the playground and take neighborhood walks
- **Nutrition** - Breakfast 7:15-8:15 Lunch 11:30-12:00 Snack 2:30-3:00
- **Quiet Time** - Allows children time to rest and enjoy some quiet solitude and self reflection.

Within the parameters of this schedule, teachers put a great deal of effort into planning a variety of activities that appeal to children's need to explore and learn about their world. Individual classroom schedules and weekly activity plans are posted on the hall bulletin boards. As you can see, we are very busy!

If you have ideas for projects, guest speakers, field trips or activities, please let us know! We welcome parent feedback and are happy to meet with you to discuss our program as well as your child's individual needs and progress.

SPECIAL REMINDERS:

*Please label all jackets, gloves, hats, and show and tell items with your child's name.

*It's helpful if your child can be dropped off at about the same time each day. Our preschool curriculum begins at 8:30.

* School Portraits will be happening Sept. 21st -23rd. Be sure to check parent folder in the next few weeks for more information.



WEB SITE

Creative Years on the web!! Over the last year, Jessica Bobitsky, our Toddler Program Manager, has been working hard to make our web-site another wonderful resource for parents. The web-site now offers detailed information about scheduled activities and dates to remember for all of our programs, plus newsletters and any information we may put into your parent box. If you haven't already, check us out at www.creativeyears.org.

Meet The Preschool Staff

SHOOTING STARS STAFF:

Sally Graham, Rachel Benavidez, Kristine Hartman and Christy Huerta

****SALLY** has been with Creative Years since January of 2004. She has a degree in Early Childhood Education as well as English. She has taught young children for over 20 years and enjoys reading, walking, Bible study, and being active in her church.

****RACHEL** is bilingual and has enjoyed working with preschoolers for over 11 years. She has been with our Preschool Program since March of 2006 and has attended college to receive her Early Childhood Teacher status by taking ECE classes. She loves spending time with her large extended family and likes baking, cooking, and has an elephant collection.

****KRISTINE** has been with Creative Years since April of 2009. She is a wife and mother of three school age children. She had previously been very involved in her children's schools volunteering in the library and preschool classrooms. She has also taken 2 ECE college courses to obtain her Early Childhood Teacher status, and recently completed the Creative Years Classroom Management Training where she gained new ideas and skills to implement into her teaching. She always has a smile on her face and we are so glad she has joined our staff.

****CHRISTY** began working at Creative Years in August of 2009. She worked at a previous child care for over a year, and has also been a part of her church nursery. She recently completed the Creative Years Classroom Management Training where she gained new ideas and skills to implement into her teaching. She truly enjoys being here and has been a wonderful addition to the Creative Years Staff. Christy also enjoys spending time with her husband, 2

sons, and 5 year old daughter. Some of her hobbies include fishing, swimming, cooking, and making jewelry.

SUNSHINE CLUB STAFF:

Kathy Peevler and Kelly Connor

****KATHY** is a legend at Creative Years having been with us for over 29 Years!! She has an Associates degree in Early Childhood Education and enjoys spending time with her husband and 2 grown children. They love swimming, camping, and hiking.

****KELLY** started at Creative Years in October of 2008. Previous to her current position as a Group Leader in Sunshine Club, she was a Shooting Stars teacher and a consistent sub. She is currently attending college courses to earn her Early Childhood Teacher status She enjoys camping, fishing, and hiking around Colorado as well as spending time with her family.

MOONBEAMS STAFF:

Crystal Fisketjon and Kristine Hartman

****CRYSTAL** has been with Creative Years since August of 2005. Her previous work experience includes teaching at Little Papoose Preschool in Frederick for four years, coaching gymnastics for three years, and being a nanny for a year. She enjoys scrapbooking, gymnastics, crafts and spending time with her son and boyfriend.

****KRISTINE** has been with Creative Years since April of 2009. She is a wife and mother of three school age children. She had previously been very involved in her children's schools volunteering in the library and preschool classrooms. She has also taken 2 ECE college courses to obtain her Early Childhood Teacher status and recently completed the Creative Years Classroom Man-

agement Training where she gained new ideas and skills to implement into her teaching. She always has a smile on her face and we are so glad she has joined our staff.

ADMINISTRATION:

****TRISH BOYLE** Executive Director, has been working with Creative Years families and teachers for over 30 years. She has a degree from Colorado State University in Early Childhood Education and is a certified Incredible Years Teacher Trainer and Consultant. She loves spending time in all the classrooms, developing curriculum, and working with such a terrific staff. She also loves to cook, read, hike, do yoga, garden, and sew.

****CHAREE GIVAN** Director, has been with Creative Years since 2001. She first began teaching in preschool and school age classrooms. She then became a teacher in the toddler program and eventually became the program manager. After being mentored by our executive directors and receiving her Director License, she moved into a director role. She now enjoys teaching our parenting classes and working side by side with teachers to continue to make Creative Years an enriching place for children. Outside of work she loves to spend time with her two sons, be outside camping and hiking, volunteering in the community, and she LOVES the Broncos!!

****BECCA BARGER** Director, has been working with children for over 15 years and has been with Creative Years since 2007. She has her associates degree from the University of Sioux Falls in Early Childhood Development. She began as a preschool teacher and then after being mentored by our executive directors, and receiving her Directors License in July of 2009, she moved into the director position she is in now. Her favorite things to do with young children are creative arts, singing, and reading. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband and 2 year old daughter, and also loves to draw, sing, paint, and scrapbook.

Fall Activity Themes

WE

WILL BE
CLOSED
ON
MONDAY,
September
5th for
Labor Day!!



September

Teeny, Tiny, Giant!: Sizes and measuring.

I Gotta Be Me!: What makes me unique?

My Family: Families come in different forms

My Five Senses: I learn about my world by using all my senses

Keep It Safe: Learning about fire safety, poisons, and safe touch

October

Fun in Fall!: The wondrous colors, smells, and signs of fall

Feelings, Fears, and Dreams!: Learning to express and deal with what's inside of us.

Healthy Food and Bodies!

Good nutrition habits

Halloween: A special time for pretending.



November

Doctors, Dentists, & Nurses!

They help us stay healthy!

Native Americans: So many cultures to explore.

Colors all Around Us!: Exploring colors, contrasts, and famous artists.

What are we Thankful For!

Celebrating feasts and families

Rocks, Sand, Dirt, & Mud!

Textures and consistency of our earth layers.