

MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Minnetonka Preschool & Early Childhood Family Education

2016-17 Registration Catalog



Preschool Open House Jan. 30, 2016 • 9:30-11:30 a.m.
2016-17 Online Registration Opens Feb. 6, 2016 • 8 a.m.
www.minnetonkacommunityed.org • 952-401-6812



Where Dreams Set Sail

MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Minnetonka Preschool Open House

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016 • 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Minnetonka Community Education Center, 4584 Vine Hill Road

- » Meet our teachers and learn how they inspire children to wonder, discover and create.
- » Tour our classrooms.
- » Learn about combining Preschool and Junior Explorers childcare for a full-day program.
- » Listen to a 30-minute presentation, "What to Look for in a Preschool" at 10 and 10:45 a.m.
- » Play in our gym!

This event is free of charge and sponsored by the Minnetonka Preschool and ECFE Advisory Council / PTO. Childcare will be provided during each presentation.



Online registration for fall 2016 begins Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m.
Call 952-401-6812 for more information





“The parent time for my ECCE class has been an invaluable source of learning and support for me. I am a better mother because of it.”

— Minnetonka ECCE Parent

Minnetonka ECCE parent + child classes

Learn and grow with your child

Early Childhood Family Education (ECCE) is a community education program of Minnetonka Public Schools. Through ECCE, parents and children, birth to age 5, take classes together that promote interaction and teach parenting techniques. Our program seeks to involve parents in their child’s education, right from the start. Not only are they a child’s first and most important teacher, research also shows when parents are involved, children do better later in school.

Most classes meet once a week at the Minnetonka Community Education Center and include parent-child play focused on developmental learning and educator-led discussions. During a typical class, parents spend time with their child, then move to a nearby room for discussion time led by a licensed parent educator. Our Baby & Me class includes an educator-led

discussion; in which, parents and children stay in the same room for the entire class.

All ECCE classes are led by experienced, licensed teachers who help children discover and learn about the world around them through activities and play — using art, science, movement, games and stories. Our teachers create a safe and secure learning environment where children thrive and parents receive information, friendship and support.

Minnetonka ECCE is committed to fitting the needs of all families. We offer day and evening classes to fit the schedules of at-home and working parents, grandparents and caregivers. With ECCE; you, your child and your family grow together.

Minnetonka ECFE parent + child classes



“We are so lucky to have such an amazing program. Minnetonka Preschool offers a wonderful environment for children to learn and parents to connect.”

— *Minnetonka ECFE Parent*

New moms (and dads) are welcome to join our Baby & Me classes during maternity/paternity leave — even if it's only for a few classes. Just tell us how long you are able to attend class and we'll prorate your fee. Call 952-401-6812 for details.

Baby & Me

Birth-12 months | Non-Separating

Meet other parents and enjoy time with your new baby! Spend the entire class together, engaged in sensory and movement activities and a licensed educator-led discussion. Learn about your baby's growth and development, how to develop healthy eating and sleeping habits and what research tells us about your baby's important first experiences.

Please select a class based on your child's age as of Sept. 1, 2016. During the school year, as the children grow in age, the class content will continue to grow as well. Sibling care is available for all sections, except the Saturday section. If you are on maternity/paternity leave for a limited time, and only able to attend a few classes, let us know and we will prorate your fee. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

0-12 months | Mondays | 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Section 412-11: Sept. 19-May 22

6-12 months | Tuesdays | 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Section 412-21: Sept. 20-May 9

0-6 months | Wednesdays | 1:15-2:30 p.m.
Section 412-31: Sept. 21.-May 17

0-12 months | Saturdays | 10-11:15 a.m.
(Sibling Care is not available)
Section 412-41: Sept. 17-May 20

Expecting a new baby after Sept. 1, 2016?

We will start a second 0-6 month Baby & Me class in January. Note that this class is based on your child's age as of Jan. 1, 2017.

0-6 months | Fridays | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Section 412-51: Jan. 27-May 19

Please select a class based on your child's age as of Sept. 1, 2016. For class fees, see the sliding fee scale on page 15.

Up & At 'Em

7-11 months | Separating

As your baby grows, you encounter a world of new experiences and milestones together. Start your morning by connecting with others who are experiencing the joys and challenges of parenting. Class time will be split between parent-child play and educator-led discussion. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Wednesdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 405-11: Sept. 21-May 17

Thursdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 405-21: Sept. 15-May 11

Just Toddlin'

12-17 months | Separating

Toddlers are curious, busy and on the go! Spend time with other parents who have the same questions and concerns about this stage of their child's life. Enjoy activities with your toddler and an educator-led discussion about this period of rapid growth. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Mondays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 431-11: Sept. 19-May 22

Been There, Done That

12-23 months | Separating

Enjoy one-on-one time with your child and join other "veteran" parents to learn and share ideas about sibling relationships, positive discipline, temperament and family dynamics. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

12-18 months | Tuesdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 420-11: Sept. 20-May 9

19-23 months | Thursdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 420-21: Sept. 15-May 11

Happy Hour (Evening Class)

12-36 months | Non-Separating

Spend an hour reconnecting with your child at ECFE and it will most certainly be a happy hour. Enjoy time interacting and learning through engaging activities. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Thursdays | 5:45-7 p.m. (Sibling Care is not available)

Section 406-11: Sept. 15- May 11



What is ECFE?

Through ECFE, parents and children, birth to age 5, take classes together that promote interaction, teach parenting techniques and connect them with other families in our community. Classes include:

- » **Parent + Child Activity:** During this time you and your child will learn and play together through songs, stories, crafts and age-appropriate activities.
- » **Parent Discussion:** Following parent + child activity time, parents will meet in a separate classroom, with a licensed parent educator, to learn about their child's development, share the joys and challenges of parenting and discuss effective, researched-based parenting strategies. *Please note: Not all ECFE classes separate for parent discussion time. Please refer to the line below the course title for this information.*
- » **Children's Learning Time:** In classes where children and parents separate for the parent discussion time, children will stay with a licensed early childhood teacher and engage in a variety of age-appropriate activities, as well as time in our gym and outside on our playground.

Registration Information

Minnetonka Preschool and ECFE online registration opens Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org to register. Computer labs will be available from 8-9 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Education Center, 4584 Vine Hill Road.

- » Classes meet September 2016-May 2017.
- » Fall Preschool & Lunch Bunch classes begin Sept. 12, 2016.
- » Fall ECFE classes begin Sept. 15, 2016.
- » The cost of ECFE classes is determined by an income-based sliding fee scale. *See page 15 for details.*
- » Children must be the age indicated by Sept. 1, 2016.
- » Sibling care is available during weekday classes (evening and weekend classes excluded).

Minnetonka ECFE parent + child classes

Have a new baby or expecting one soon? Schedule a one-on-one visit with a parent educator.

The birth or adoption of your child is a very special event. It can also be a time filled with questions or concerns about your new baby, your family or yourself. Help Us Grow (HUG) is a community partnership designed to support all expectant families and families with children up to age 2.

HUG provides:

- » One-on-one visits with a caring, knowledgeable, licensed parent educator
- » Current information on parenting, baby's development and community resources
- » Opportunities to connect with other families in our community who also have newborns
- » A new baby welcome gift

To schedule a visit, contact Ann Ricketts at 952-401-6812 or ann.ricketts@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.

Sibling Care 3 months-5 years

Care is available for siblings during most daytime classes, while parents take a class with another child. Trained, professional staff provide a warm and friendly atmosphere for brothers and sisters, age 3 months to 5 years old.

To register for Sibling Care, each of your children must have a FeePay profile. *See page 14 for instructions on how to create your account and profiles.* Once you add an ECFE class to your cart a screen will appear, allowing you to select the child that will be taking the ECFE class and the child that will be attending Sibling Care.

For ECFE Sibling Care fees, see the sliding fee scale on page 15. Preschool Sibling Care fees are \$45/month per child. Drop-In Sibling Care may be available if space permits. Drop-In fee is \$15. Please call 952-401-6812 for availability.

Please Note: Parents must remain in the building while their children attend Sibling Care. If you have more than one child requiring sibling care, please call 952-401-6812.

Connect with us!

Stay connected with Minnetonka Preschool & ECFE by following us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/minnetonkapreschool or subscribing to our monthly digital newsletter, *Mini Tonka Times*. To join our distribution list, please email denise.nelson@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.



Please select a class based on your child's age as of Sept. 1, 2016. For class fees, see the sliding fee scale on page 15.

In-Betweens

18-23 months | Separating

At 18-23 months old, your toddler isn't just walking through the world — they're off and running! Learn ways to interact with your child through fun activities and share about your experience with this new stage of independence in an educator-led discussion. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Tuesdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 428-11: Sept. 20-May 9

Wednesdays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 428-21: Sept. 21-May 17

Shakers & Movers

24-36 months | Separating

Between the ages of two and three your child is a shaker and mover in a world full of wonder and discovery. Explore this world with them and gather for a discussion with other parents experiencing life with a toddler who is talking, becoming independent and challenging rules with a new found confidence. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Mondays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 411-11: Sept. 19-May 22

Thursdays | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Section 411-21: Sept. 15-May 11

Fridays | 9-10:30 a.m.

Section 411-31: Sept. 16-May 19

Please select a class based on your child's age as of Sept. 1, 2016. For class fees, see the sliding fee scale on page 15.

Night Owls (Evening Class)

2-5 years | Separating

Night Owls is a great way to reconnect with your child after a long day. Join other families for fun activities, followed by an educator-led discussion. Conversation topics range from behavior strategies to eating and sleeping routines. Parents and children separate for the educator-led discussion. Sibling care is not available for this class. *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15.*

Tuesdays | 6-7:30 p.m.

Section 406-21: Sept. 20-May 9

Parent Talk

Parents of elementary age children & older

Missing your ECFE class now that your children are out of preschool? This class is for you! Meet with other parents and a licensed parent educator to discuss topics relating to the cognitive and social development of your school aged child. Topics include, but are not limited to, technology, sexuality, communication, motivation, responsibility, homework, anxiety, etc... Parents with elementary and middle school students welcome! *For class fees see the sliding scale on page 15. Please use the Parent Talk class column.*

Every Other Wednesday | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Section 454-11: 9/21, 10/5, 10/26, 11/9, 11/30, 12/14, 1/11, 1/25, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19, 5/3, 5/17



“I encourage every new mom I meet to look at your program. Enrolling them here is one of the best things that I have ever done for my kids.”

— Minnetonka ECFE Parent

Science Discovery

3-5 years | Non-Separating

Explore fun science topics with your child during these afternoon or evening parent + child classes! All classes align with elementary life science, earth science, physical science, and/or nature of science and engineering standards. The fee is \$19 per class, per child, or register for all six classes at once for \$99 per child. All afternoon classes are held from 1:15-2:30 p.m. and all evening classes are held from 6:15-7:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Education Center. Sibling care is not available.

Light and Shadows

Tuesday, Oct. 4

How are shadows made? Come and engage your mind with the amazing process of understanding how light and shadows work together.

Ramp It Up (STEM)

Tuesday, Nov. 15

Do you like roller coasters? Are you curious about how they work? Come experiment with tubes, marbles, balls, ramps and your imagination to make your own roller coaster!

Under the Sea (STEM)

Tuesday, Jan. 10

What do whales and humans have in common? What's the difference between saltwater and freshwater? How do whales filter their food? Come help us design a filter fit for a sea creature!

Five Senses

Tuesday, March 14

We learn through our senses. Join us for all kinds of hands-on experiments to help us learn more about our senses. We will design and make something that invites all our senses to work together!

What is an Exoskeleton

Tuesday, April 11

What do ants and praying mantises have in common? Come to class to find out!

Space (STEM)

Tuesday, May 16

5-4-3-2-1-blastoff! We'll design and build our own rocket ships and experience space like never before.

Minnetonka ECFE



Learn. Play. Connect.

This exciting program provides additional opportunities, outside of the classroom, for families to *learn, play and connect*. In addition to Coffee & Play, Open Gym and Parent Talk Webinars, *Learn. Play. Connect.* offers classes, events and a variety of one-time workshops. Classes are open to the community.

Parent Advisory Council / PTO

Want to get involved? The Advisory Council / PTO is a group of parent volunteers dedicated to supporting Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education through fundraising, planning special events, lobbying before the legislature and offering feedback for program planning. Advisory Council / PTO efforts support and enrich programs for all families with young children in the school district. Free child care is available during daytime meetings. If you are interested in joining the ECFE Advisory Council / PTO or have questions, email MtkaPreschoolPTO@gmail.com.

Coffee & Play

Stop in at MCEC one Monday each month for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to socialize with other parents! Bring your child(ren), age birth to five. Toys and activities will be available. Coffee & Play is a free community event. You do not have to be enrolled in a class to participate, however registration is required. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.com/preschool to register.

Open Gym

Turn fall and winter Wednesdays and Saturdays into fun family time. Allow your children to burn off extra energy during our Open Gym at Minnetonka Community Education Center. Spend time together running, climbing, throwing balls and using riding toys. Children 18 months to 5 years only, please. Space is limited. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Cost: \$3 per child or \$5 per family. No Registration Required. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.com/preschool for the Open Gym schedule.

Parent Talk Online Webinars

Join our FREE online, educator-led discussion group for parents of preschoolers in Minnetonka and other community preschools. Using web conferencing software from the comfort of your home, enjoy unhurried discussion time with other moms and dads who share your desire to grow as a parent. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.com/preschool for Parent Talk Webinar schedule.

Workshops, Classes & Events

To register for the following workshops and events visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org/preschool and click on *Learn. Play. Connect.* on the left side of the website. Additional workshops and events may be added closer to the start of the 2016-17 school year. Please check the website listed above for a complete schedule.

Love, Limits & Logic:

Respectful Ways to Raise Respectful Children

Marti Erickson, Ph.D., Co-host of Mom Enough® and Director Emerita, Harris Training Programs, University of Minnesota
From the time your child is old enough to tip over a wastebasket, grab a plug from an outlet or throw a tantrum at bedtime, you need a well-thought-out discipline approach. But the foundation of effective discipline begins even earlier and, as neuroscience shows, love and sensitivity are at the core – especially when you focus on the longterm goal of your child's development of self-discipline and respect for self and others. Drawing on years of research on children's social and emotional development, as well as practical work with children and parents from all walks of life, developmental psychologist Dr. Marti Erickson offers a clear framework and tried-and-true tips that will help you guide and support your children, tots to teens, to be the people you hope they will be.

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016 6:30-8 p.m.
MCEC Deephaven Room FREE

Toilet Independence: An Intrinsic Reward

by Nicki Murphy, ECFE Parent Educator and Home Visitor
Are you currently or are you thinking about potty training your toddler? Join this discussion to learn what you can do to prepare and intrinsically motivate your child for toileting independence. Learn to use the language of encouragement as your children work toward their first "goal". The way you approach toilet training with your children now, often sets the tone for how you approach future endeavors with your children (i.e. homework, responsibilities around the home). We'll cover the steps of training, answer your questions and more. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.com/preschool to register.

Date TBA 6-7:30 p.m.
MCEC Deephaven Room FREE

Infant & Child CPR Class (Non-Certification)

This is a great class anyone caring for infants and small children, including parents, grandparents, babysitters and nannies! Learn important life-saving techniques to prevent, recognize and respond to cardiac and breathing emergencies in infants and small children. This class is led by Kathie Case, a certified American Heart Association CPR, First Aid and AED instructor with over a decade of experience. This class is intended for those who want to learn CPR, but don't need certification. All classes will be held in MCEC Room 205. Cost is \$30/person, \$50/couple.

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 6-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016 9-10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017 6-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April, 18, 2017 6-7:30 p.m.



2016-17 Calendar

First Day of Preschool.....	Sept. 12
First Day of ECFE.....	Sept. 15
No Preschool: Fall Conferences (ECFE Meets)	Oct. 13-14
No Preschool or ECFE: MEA Conference.....	Oct. 20-21
Open Gym at MCEC Begins.....	Oct. 26
No Preschool: Staff Planning (ECFE Meets)	Nov. 11
No Preschool or ECFE: Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 23-25
No Preschool or ECFE: Winter Break.....	Dec. 23-Jan. 2
No Preschool or ECFE: Martin Luther King Day	Jan. 16
No Preschool or ECFE: Staff Planning.....	Jan. 23
No ECFE (Preschool Meets).....	Jan. 31-Feb. 1
Preschool Open House (9:30-11:30 a.m.).....	Jan. 28
Preschool Registration for 2017-18 Opens (8 a.m.).....	Feb. 4
No Preschool or ECFE: Presidents Day	Feb. 20
No Preschool: Spring Conferences (ECFE Meets).....	March 2-3
Last Saturday Open Gym	March 18
Last Wednesday Open Gym	March 22
No Preschool or ECFE: Spring Break.....	March 27-31
No Preschool or ECFE: Staff Planning.....	April 3
Last Day of ECFE.....	May 22
Last Day of Preschool.....	May 26

Connect with us!

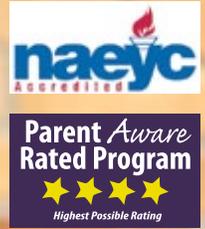
www.facebook.com/minnetonkapreschool

Stay connected with Minnetonka Preschool & ECFE by following us on Facebook or by subscribing to our monthly digital newsletter, the *Mini Tonka Times*. To join our mailing list, please email Denise Nelson at denise.nelson@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.



Minnetonka Preschool

2½ to 5 years



Why Minnetonka Preschool?

- » 100% parent satisfaction rate.
- » Low 9:1 student-to-staff ratio.
- » Caring staff, licensed in Early Childhood Education.
- » Options to combine Preschool with Junior Explorers Club childcare for a full-day program.
- » Part of the Minnetonka School District, which is committed to world-class, child-centered excellence.
- » Age-appropriate technology to enhance active learning in 21st century classrooms.
- » Use of Creative Curriculum, emphasizing learning and discovery through play, to support every student.
- » Focus on early literacy and exposure to the fine arts, world languages (Spanish and Chinese) and culture.
- » Accreditation from The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and recipient of the Four Star Parent Aware Rating.



Wonder, Discover, Create & Dream

Discover a place where children are inspired to wonder, discover, create and dream. At Minnetonka Preschool, children learn about the world around them through exploration and grow in a safe environment that focuses on social, emotional and cognitive development.

A Love of Learning

Part of the Minnetonka School District, Minnetonka Preschool is committed to world-class, child-centered excellence. Our program builds a child's confidence and provides them with skills that prepare them for kindergarten. For example, children in 4- and 5-year-old preschool classes are exposed to Chinese and Spanish languages providing an opportunity to explore potential interests in kindergarten language immersion options. All curriculum emphasizes early literacy, helps children develop a love of learning and uses leading technology to ignite imaginations.

Teachers Make the Difference

Meet our teachers and you'll see what we mean. They are nurturing,

energetic professionals with a passion for helping children learn. All are licensed teachers in Early Childhood Education and incorporate essential learnings from early childhood research into lessons. Their creative approach to class time makes every day a learning delight.

Parents are our Partners

Ongoing communication from teachers helps you, your child's first and most important teacher, keep up-to-date on learning activities. Our teachers welcome questions and conversations with parents. Their knowledge and experience will help you navigate every stage of your child's development.

Options for Every Family

Minnetonka Preschool offers a variety of options to fit every child's developmental needs. Choose from two- to five-day programs, with the option to combine select classes with parent education. All classes are held at the Minnetonka Community Education Center. Flexible scheduling and childcare is available with Lunch Bunch and Junior Explorers Club. *See pages 9 and 10 for more details.*

Preschool Fees

Minnetonka Preschool classes begin Monday, Sept. 12. Please select a class based on your child's age as of Sept. 1, 2016. You will be asked to provide proof of your child's age during the registration process.

Preschool - ages 2 and 3

Must be 30 months by Sept. 1, 2016.

Child Only

Tues./Thurs.	8:45-10:45 a.m.	419-1	\$145/month
Wed./Fri.	8:45-10:45 a.m.	419-2	\$145/month

Preschool + Parent Education

This class provides one parent/child day that includes time for families to interact together in the classroom, along with a parent education session, similar to an ECFE class. The other class day is for children only and is a typical preschool class. Sibling care is available during this class for \$45 per child per month.

Tues. (parent-child)	8:45-10:45 am	419-3	\$145/month
Thurs. (child only)			

Preschool - ages 3 and 4

Must be 3 years by Sept. 1, 2016.

Child Only

Tues./Thurs.	8:45-11:15 a.m.	419-4	\$175/month
Mon./Wed./Fri.	8:45-11:15 a.m.	419-7	\$249/month

Preschool + Parent Education

This class provides one parent/child day that includes time for families to interact together in the classroom, along with a parent education session, similar to an ECFE class. The other class day is for children only and is a typical preschool class. Sibling care is available during this class for \$45 per child per month.

Mon. (parent-child)	8:45-11:15 a.m.	419-10	\$249/month
Wed. & Fri. (child only)			

Preschool - ages 4 and 5

Must be 4 years by Sept. 1, 2016.

Child Only

Tues./Thurs.	9-11:30 a.m.	419-11	\$175/month
Mon./Wed./Fri.	9-11:30 a.m.	419-13	\$249/month
Mon./Tues./Wed./Thurs.	9-11:30 a.m.	419-15	\$342/month
Mon./Tues./Wed./Thurs./Fri.	9-11:30 a.m.	419-17	\$415/month
Mon./Tues./Wed.	12:30-3 p.m.	419-18	\$249/month
Mon./Tues./Wed./Thurs.	12:30-3 p.m.	419-20	\$342/month

"The communication from my child's teacher each week is so thorough and appreciated as you can talk to your child about specifics from the week and I LOVE the photos. Fun to see them in action!!"

— Minnetonka Preschool Parent

Lunch Bunch - Extend the Preschool Day 3-5 years

Extend your child's preschool experience with Lunch Bunch! On these days, parents send a bag lunch to preschool with their child. After a.m. preschool or before p.m. preschool, children are walked to lunch by a staff member and enjoy time with friends. Students enrolled in Junior Explorers do not need to register for Lunch Bunch. Supervised lunch is included in the Junior Explorers program.

Single days may be available if space permits at a cost of \$11.50/day. Please call 952-401-6812 for availability.

Please note: A \$20 non-refundable fee is charged for any changes or cancellations. Requests for refunds must be received five business days before the first day of class for a full refund (minus the \$20 change fee).

Tuesdays

Sept. 13-May 23	11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	418-1	\$374
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Wednesdays

Sept. 14-May 24	11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	418-2	\$363
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Thursdays

Sept. 15-May 25	11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	418-3	\$341
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Fridays

Sept. 16-May 26	11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	418-4	\$308
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Childcare Options



Combine Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers Childcare for a fun and enriching early childhood experience!

Junior Explorers Childcare

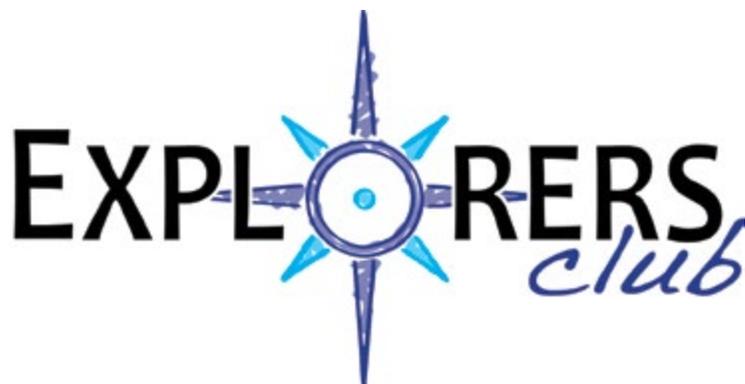
Junior Explorers Club is a flexible, high quality childcare program for preschool-aged children, ages 3-5. Sponsored through Minnetonka Community Education at the Minnetonka Community Education Center, Junior Explorers has experienced, creative professionals providing individualized care in conjunction with Minnetonka Preschool throughout the year.

Combining Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers childcare is a great option for families looking for high-quality childcare and a world-class preschool program. Staff accompany children between programs and ensure they are supervised at all times.

In Junior Explorers, children spend time with friends in activities including listening to stories, creating art and science projects and playing outdoors. Our highly qualified staff, many of whom are licensed educators, ensures all activities are age-appropriate and provide a balance between structured and non-structured play. Junior Explorers Club is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. each weekday and requires a minimum of two days of care each week. *See page 15 for fees.*

Childcare Options

- » **Before Preschool (6:30-9 a.m.):** Before school care includes a healthy breakfast snack.
- » **After Preschool (3-6 p.m.):** After school care includes a healthy snack.
- » **Opposite Preschool (6:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 11:15 a.m.-6 p.m.):** Care opposite an afternoon preschool class includes a breakfast snack. Care opposite a morning preschool class includes a snack. You may purchase a school lunch option for your child or send a bag lunch each day.
- » **Full-Day (6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.):** For families seeking full-day care when your child is not in preschool.
- » **Summer:** For families seeking care over the summer, when school is not in session.



Scheduling Options

You are asked to enroll your child(ren) in Junior Explorers on a consistent schedule of two to five days per week, at the same time increments each week.

There is a \$10 fee per child for each schedule change. Changes to your family's schedule must be made online or via email at least one week before modifications are set to take effect. Requests will be approved on a space-available basis.

Adding a day to your schedule from time to time is an option. Additions will be approved on a space-available basis and require 24-hour advanced notice. Add-a-Day rates apply. See page 15 for fees.

Ongoing Parent Communication

You have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher if they are not enrolled in preschool for a conference each fall and spring to discuss your child's growth and development. You also receive daily communication documenting your child's meal, nap and play schedule throughout the day. An electronic newsletter and calendar are also distributed each month.

Experienced Staff

Our Junior Explorers lead teachers have a degree in early childhood education or child development. We provide ongoing training to our staff through classroom instruction, on-site training and online training. With children being grouped together by their age, we are able to provide a 1:10 staff to child ratio.

Creative Curriculum

In Junior Explorers, we use Creative Curriculum, which addresses all the important areas of learning, from social-emotional and math to technology and the arts. It also offers daily, built-in opportunities for observation, helping teachers clearly see the strong relationship between curriculum and assessment.

NAEYC Accredited and Recipient of a Four Star Parent Aware Rating

NAEYC Accreditation lets you know that your children are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible. To earn NAEYC Accreditation, Junior Explorers went through an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against the ten NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and more than 400 related Accreditation Criteria.

Parent Aware's Star Ratings help parents find programs that go above and beyond to prepare children for school and life. Programs earning a Four Star rating shows that it is equipped to offer the very best in quality care, assuring you that it is doing all it can to prepare your child(ren) for school.



Sibling Care 3 months-5 years

Care is available for siblings during most daytime classes, while parents take a class with another child. Trained, professional staff provide a warm and friendly atmosphere for brothers and sisters, ages 3 months to five years old.

To register for Sibling Care, each of your children must have a FeePay profile. See page 14 for instructions on how to create your account and profiles. Once you add an ECFE class to your cart, a screen will appear allowing you to select the child that will be taking the ECFE class and the child that will be attending sibling care.

For ECFE Sibling Care fees, see the sliding fee scale on page 15. Preschool Sibling Care fees are \$45/month per child. Drop-in Sibling Care may be available if space permits. Drop-in fee is \$15. Please call 952-401-6812 for availability.

Please Note: Parents must remain in the building while their children attend Sibling Care. If you have more than one child requiring sibling care, please call 952-401-6812.

Learn more about Junior Explorers: www.minnetonkacommunityed.org/explorersclub
or call us at 952-401-6838

Community Education Youth Programs



Your child can attend Minnetonka Preschool, take a language, music, dance or recreation class and go to Junior Explorers Childcare - all between pick up and drop off!

Concordia Language Villages Immersion 3-5 years

This unique language program immerses children in the Chinese or Spanish language, culture and traditions. Learning Chinese or Spanish is fun and happens naturally through games, movement, arts and crafts, music, drama and stories. This class is a wonderful precursor to Minnetonka Immersion Kindergarten and is also a great addition to your child's Minnetonka Preschool and/or Junior Explorers schedule.

Spanish

Thursdays 67 209 S1	9:30-11:30 a.m. Sept. 15-Dec. 15 Sept. 15-April 20	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Thursdays 67 209 S2	12:30-2:30 p.m. Sept. 15-Dec. 15 Sept. 15-April 20	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Fridays 67 209 S3	9:30-11:30 a.m. Sept. 16-Dec. 16 Sept. 16-April 21	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Fridays 67 209 S4	12:30-2:30 p.m. Sept. 16-Dec. 16 Sept. 16-April 21	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Chinese

Fridays 67 209 C1	9:30-11:30 a.m. Sept. 16-Dec. 16 Sept. 16-April 21	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Fridays 67 209 C2	12:30-2:30 p.m. Sept. 16-Dec. 16 Sept. 16-April 21	MCEC \$295 (fall only) \$640 (full year)
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Minnetonka Music Academy Preschool Piano Lessons

4-6 years

Start your child's musical journey with private piano lessons! Our professional piano teachers have experience in teaching young children and use books especially written for young beginners. Eight 30 or 45-minute weekly lessons are scheduled at MCEC on weekday mornings. Classroom pick-up is available for students enrolled in Minnetonka Preschool at MCEC. *For class times, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.*

Minnetonka Music Academy Parent-Child Piano Lessons

3½-5 years + parent

Learn to play piano with your little one! Instructors will teach you and your child to play piano using the essence of Suzuki and Yamaha methods. Eight weekly 45-minute lessons are held on weekday mornings. *For class times, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.*



Amazing Athletes

30 months-6 years

Engage in a developmental sport and fitness program that teaches the basic fundamentals and mechanics of nine different sports including: baseball, volleyball, lacrosse, football, soccer, golf, hockey, basketball and tennis! Amazing Athletes builds self-confidence, improves fine and large motor skills and increases cardiovascular fitness, muscle tone, hand-eye coordination and reaction time. *For more information, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.*



Tonka DanceWorks

Tonka DanceWorks encourages and inspires grace, composure, creativity, balance and flexibility, rhythm and a sense of exuberance in students age 3 and up. Professional instructors encourage students to set and achieve goals in a positive, wholesome atmosphere. Tonka DanceWorks offers classes in ballet, jazz, hip hop, tap, lyrical, pre-ballet, creative movement and musical theater. *For class times, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.*



Preschool Enrichment

3-5 years

Minnetonka Community Education offers a variety of visual and performing arts, etiquette and STEM classes for preschool-aged children throughout the year, including non-school days. From LEGO classes to princess and superhero art camps, we have something that appeals to each child's interests. Our caring, professional staff work to make each class a fun, enriching experience! *For more information, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.*

Registration Checklist

1 Attend the Minnetonka Preschool & ECFE Open House Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016.

Join us Saturday, Jan. 30 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Education Center to learn about our program, meet our teachers and explore our building. Children are welcome. Childcare will be available.

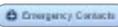
2 Prepare for registration.

To prepare for registration on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016, create a FeePay Account for your family, in advance, using the following steps. **PLEASE NOTE:** You must have an account for yourself and a profile for the child you wish to register, prior to enrolling in Minnetonka Preschool, ECFE, Junior Explorers or MCE activities.

STEP 1: Create a FeePay Account for yourself.

1. Visit www.minnetonka.ce.feePAY.com
2. Click  in the upper right corner of the screen to register a new FeePay Account.
3. Complete the Register New Account form. Remember, the account should be created in your name.
4. Click  at the bottom of the screen to save your information. You will be directed to your Account Profile after a few moments.
5. After you create your account, FeePay will send you an email requesting you verify your email address. Please follow the steps in the email to verify your email address.

STEP 2: Add a child and/or spouse to your FeePay Account

1. Access your account by clicking your name in the upper right corner of the screen. From the drop-down menu, select Account Profile.
2. Click  to add a child to your profile.
3. Complete the Add a New Person form. **PLEASE NOTE:** Please disregard the fields for grade and school. Also, under the District Information section, please select No, They Do Not Have A District ID.
4. Click  at the bottom of the screen to save your information. You will be directed to your Account Profile after a few moments.
5. Click  under each child's name and provide information for at least three emergency contacts. This emergency contact information will be used for all Minnetonka Community Education programs in which your child participates (including Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers).

3 Register for classes on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m.

Minnetonka Preschool and ECFE online registration opens Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org to register. If you need registration assistance, our friendly staff will be available to assist you from 8-9 am at the Minnetonka Community Education Center. You may also call 952-401-6812 or visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org for registration instructions.

The registration process for Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers will take approximately 20 minutes each to complete. Please have physician and clinic information, health history, medication information and emergency contact information available. This information is required on Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers Club registration forms.

After you submit your registration for Minnetonka Preschool, ECFE and/or MCE activities, you will receive two emails. The first is a Course Confirmation email from Minnetonka Community Education. The second email with the subject, *Minnetonka Public School FeePay Payment Confirmation*, is confirmation that your registration fee payment has been accepted.

After you submit your registration for Junior Explorers you will receive an email with the subject *Your Explorers Club Childcare Contract Request*. Once your contract has been approved, typically within three business days of the request, you will receive two follow-up emails notifying you that your contract has been approved and that your registration fee payment has been accepted.

4 Connect with our community!

Why wait until next fall to connect with other families in our program? Minnetonka Preschool and ECFE hosts a number of community events throughout the year and we would love for you to join us! For a complete schedule of events, visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org. Also, be sure to stay connected with Minnetonka Preschool & ECFE by following us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/minnetonkapreschool or subscribing to our monthly digital newsletter, Mini Tonka Times. To join our distribution list, please email denise.nelson@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.

Registration & Fees

Early Childhood Family Education Fees

ECFE classes meet from September through May. Register for the full year with the option to pay per semester or pay for the full year up front. If you plan to pay per semester, the first semester fee is due at registration and the second semester fee will be billed automatically in January.

The fees listed below are based upon your family's combined gross household income, per Minnesota law. You may be asked to verify your household income during the registration process. No one will be turned away because of an inability to pay.

A \$20 non-refundable fee is charged for any changes or cancellations. Requests for refunds must be received five business days before the first day of class for a full refund (minus the \$20 change fee). After that date, prorated refunds will be given through the third week of class. After the third week of class all registrations will be considered final and no further refunds will be given. All cancellations must be made in writing. Please call the office at 952-401-6812 for more information.

2016-17 ECFE Sliding Fee Scale			
Gross Annual Household Income	Parent Talk Classes	All Other ECFE Classes	Sibling Care* One Child
Under \$29,999	NO FEE	NO FEE	\$22
\$30-39,999	\$53	\$106	\$42
\$40-54,999	\$105	\$210	\$120
\$55-79,999	\$158	\$316	\$180
\$80-99,999	\$190	\$380	\$230
\$100-129,999	\$211	\$422	\$268
Over \$130,000	\$258	\$516	\$280

*If you have more than one child requiring sibling care, please call 952-401-6812 for fees.

Minnetonka Preschool Fees

Minnetonka Preschool fees are listed with the course descriptions on page 9. Tuition is billed on a monthly basis from September-May. A non-refundable registration fee of \$75 for the first child, and \$60 for the second child (if applicable), along with the first month's tuition (also non-refundable) are due at the time of registration. Any cancellations must be made in writing. Income-based tuition assistance is available. Please call 952-401-6812 to apply.

Junior Explorers Club Fees

Combining Minnetonka Preschool and Junior Explorers Club childcare is a great option for families looking for high-quality childcare and a world-class preschool program. Flexible scheduling allows families to choose one or a combination of care options.

Junior Explorers Club meets in the same building as Minnetonka Preschool, the Minnetonka Community Education Center. Register for Junior Explorers at the same time you register online for Minnetonka Preschool. A non-refundable \$35 registration fee per child is due at the time of registration. All schedules must be finalized by Aug. 10, 2016. Families may register after the deadline, but care won't begin until Sept. 19, 2016, at the earliest. Tuition is billed on a monthly basis. *See page 10 for a program description.*

2016-17 Junior Explorers Club Fees			
Type Of Care	Times	Daily	Add-A-Day
Before a.m. Preschool	6:30-9 a.m.	\$13.40	\$14.40
After p.m. Preschool	3-6 p.m.	\$13.40	\$14.40
Opposite a.m. Preschool	11:15 a.m.-6 p.m.	\$28.35	\$29.35
Opposite p.m. Preschool	6:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	\$28.35	\$29.35
Full Day	6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	\$51	\$53



Registration Information

Minnetonka Preschool, ECFE and Junior Explorers online registration opens Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org to register. Computer labs will be available from 8-9 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Education Center, 4584 Vine Hill Road.

- » Preschool and ECFE classes meet September 2016-May 2017.
- » Fall Preschool & Lunch Bunch classes begin Sept. 12, 2016.
- » Fall ECFE classes begin Sept. 15, 2016.
- » The cost of ECFE classes is determined by an income based sliding fee scale. See page 15 for details.
- » Children must be the age indicated by Sept. 1, 2016.
- » Sibling care is available during weekday classes (evening and weekend classes excluded).

Registration Confirmation

After you submit your registration for Minnetonka Preschool and/or ECFE, you will receive two emails. The first is a course confirmation email from Minnetonka Community Education. The second email with the subject, Minnetonka Public School FeePay Payment Confirmation, is confirmation that your registration fee payment has been accepted.

Canceled Classes

Classes may be canceled due to insufficient enrollment up to one week before classes begin. Full refunds will be issued.

Community Resources

Minnetonka Child & Family Support

This program provides services to families whose children, ages birth to kindergarten, are showing challenging behaviors in the home or in an early childhood setting. For information call Dana Teller at 952-401-6820 or dana.teller@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.

Are you on the school census?

Being on the census ensures that you will receive ECFE mailings, be notified for Early Childhood Screening and receive kindergarten information when your child becomes eligible to attend. Call 952-401-6800 if you have recently had a baby, moved to a new home or did not receive this catalog in the mail.

Preschool & ECFE Advisory Council / PTO

Want to get involved? The Advisory Council / PTO is a group of parent volunteers dedicated to supporting Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education through fundraising, planning special events, lobbying before the legislature and offering feedback for program planning. Advisory Council / PTO efforts support and enrich programs for all families with young children in the school district. Free child care is available during daytime meetings.

Coffee & Play

Stop in to MCEC one Monday each month for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to socialize with other parents! Bring your child(ren), age birth to five. Toys and activities will be available. Coffee & Play is a free community event. You do not have to be enrolled in a class to participate, however registration is required. Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.com for the schedule and to register.

Jenny's Light

In the United States, one in seven mothers will suffer from prenatal or postpartum depression and over half will not receive treatment. If you or someone you know is experiencing the symptoms of a perinatal mood disorder, visit www.jennyslight.org to find resources and support. It is also important to speak with your doctor or a mental health professional as soon as possible.

HUG - Helping Us Grow

FREE ONE-ON-ONE VISITS FOR DISTRICT FAMILIES

The birth or adoption of your child is a very special event. It can also be a time filled with questions or concerns about your new baby, your family or yourself. Help Us Grow (HUG) is a community partnership designed to support all expectant families and families with children up to age 2. HUG provides:

- » One-on-one visits with a caring, knowledgeable licensed parent educator.
- » Current information on parenting, baby's development and community resources.
- » Opportunities to connect with other families with newborns in the area.
- » A new baby welcome gift and more!

For more information or to arrange a visit, contact Ann Ricketts at 952-401-6812 or ann.ricketts@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.

Preschool Tuition Assistance & School Readiness

School Readiness is a program of Minnetonka Schools that helps children start school ready to succeed. School Readiness can provide:

- » Income-based tuition assistance for preschool.
- » Parenting help & free parenting classes.
- » Home visits to answer your questions.

If your child is at least 3½ years old, call 952-401-6812 to find out how School Readiness funds can help you both get ready for kindergarten. The deadline for School Readiness applications is June 30, 2016.

Early Childhood Screening

Early Childhood Screening is a free developmental check-up required by the State of Minnesota for all preschool-aged children.

Screening appointments:

- » Last approximately 45-60 minutes.
- » Are best completed between ages 3½ and 4.
- » Check your child's height, weight, hearing, vision and immunization record, coordination, large and small motor skills, speech, learning development and social and emotional skills.
- » Involve playful activities that make it an enjoyable experience for your child.
- » Are not tests. Screening simply identifies any needs that may require attention before your child enters school.
- » Produce immediate results, which your screener will share with you right after the appointment.

Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org to download your screening forms or contact Deb Sorteberg at 952-401-6840 or deb.sorteberg@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.



Have you scheduled your child's screening?

Early Childhood Screening is a free developmental check-up required by the State of Minnesota for all preschool-aged children

Screening Appointments:

- » Last approximately 45-60 minutes.
- » Are best completed between ages 3½ and 4.
- » Check your child's height, weight, hearing, vision and immunization record, coordination, large and small motor skills, speech, learning development and social and emotional skills.
- » Involve playful activities that make it an enjoyable experience for your child.
- » Are not tests. Screening simply identifies any needs that may require attention before your child enters school.
- » Produce immediate results, which your screener will share with you right after the appointment.



Visit www.minnetonkacommunityed.org
to download your screening forms or call 952-401-6840



Minnetonka Community Education
4584 Vine Hill Road
Excelsior, MN 55331

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Hopkins, Minn.

Minnetonka Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education

DATES TO REMEMBER

Minnetonka Preschool Open House

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Online Registration for 2016-17 Preschool & ECFE

Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016, at 8 a.m.

Did you miss registration?

Call 952-401-6812 for openings or visit us online at www.minnetonkacommunityed.org.

Current Openings

Some openings remain in current Winter/Spring classes. Call 952-401-6812 today!



Fun for the whole family!

Save the date! Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016, is the 11th annual Tour de Tonka. Scenic routes from 16-100 miles. Registration begins March 1. www.tourdetonka.org