

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in the Jewish Community Center Preschool. We look forward to the opportunity to work with your child. Our goals are to guide children as they grow and develop in a positive and nurturing atmosphere. We want each child to develop a love of learning and a love of self, the foundation on which future education and life choices will be built.

At the JCC Preschool, children learn through play and through hands-on experiences that are meaningful to them. Children are given the opportunity to experiment, discover, explore and express their ideas in an open environment. The program is designed to meet the developmental needs of each child.

We welcome visits to our preschool. Please give us a call so we can arrange a tour. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us. We look forward to meeting you and your child.

Sincerely,

Leni Sack

Executive Director of Early Childhood Education

## Philosophy & Program

**School is...** plunging fingers into sticky wet clay... it is the wonderfully gooey world of finger paints... it is singing with friends... it is learning to share the shiny wagon and building blocks... it is enjoying outdoor time on the playground... and most of all, it is developing self-confidence, the attitude that "I can do."

**Our preschool** offers a variety of programs for young children. The education program of the preschool is based on the developmental needs of individual children. The basic goals of Early Childhood Education include structuring the environment to provide opportunities for children which aid in their growth. The program includes reading readiness, math concepts, science, social studies, motor development, creative arts, and music. Our preschool emphasizes fun and meaningful Jewish experiences, which include weekly Shabbat programs, holiday celebrations and intergenerational experiences.

## Goals

**Social development** includes cooperating, sharing and interacting with others, making friends and relating positively to children and adults. This also includes learning to sit and listen as part of a group, following rules, and participating in an organized, routined atmosphere. The child also gains independence, as he/she is encouraged to do things on his/her own.

**Emotional development** relates to maintaining a comfortable separation from parents, a feeling of self esteem and general happiness, and an eagerness to participate in school activities. This includes encouraging the child to verbalize his/her feelings toward others, resolving conflicts on his/her own, and developing initiative in making choices and decisions about what to do and how to do it.

**Cognitive development** prepares your child for successful school experiences. This includes the development of reading readiness and math skills & social studies and science concepts. This also includes the development of listening skills, and thinking skills such as classification, seriation, temporal relations and spatial relations. Our readiness programs address all areas of growth and development.

**Physical development** includes gross and fine motion coordination, increase strength and agility, and an appreciation of the importance of good health habits.

**Creative development** emphasizes the skills that enable a child to develop new ideas and new modes of expression. The child then feels that his/her own ideas are worthwhile and he/she is willing to try new things. This is accomplished through art, dramatic plays, movement, and verbalization.

**Jewish Identity** is explored through an experiential programming approach to Judaism. Jewish traditions are

enriched through holiday and Shabbat activities including song, prayer, arts and crafts, music and cooking.

## How To Register

Registration dates for the 2009-2010 summer session and school year are listed on the back cover of this brochure. Registration for current families, local synagogue members and JCC members opens prior to registration for the general community. You may register as a current family if you have a child registered in the JCC Pre-school during the 2008-2009 school year. All siblings may be registered at the same time.

Members of Congregations Rodeph Sholom and Beth Shalom, where the South Branch and Brandon Preschools are located, may register the first week along with current families. JCC members and local synagogue members begin registration the following week. Registration opens to the general community, the third week.

A completed registration form is required for each child you are enrolling in the preschool, accompanied by a registration fee and tuition deposit. Both the registration fee and tuition deposit are non-refundable. The tuition deposit is applied to the May 2010 tuition. Families with two or more children are eligible for a 10% discount on tuition for the second and any additional children. Call the school office if you need additional forms.

A completed JCC membership form must also accompany the application. New families will not be billed for the membership fee until their child begins preschool, unless the family notifies the business office to start membership before that date.

A copy of a child's birth certificate is needed for new students only. Health forms and emergency medical forms for each child are required upon entrance to our program. The required health forms are available from your pediatrician's office. Complete information packets for parents are mailed out prior to the beginning of summer camp and preschool.

## Scholarships

For those families that may need scholarships or fee adjustments, limited financial assistance may be available. Please register according to the usual procedure and pay all fees and deposits. Ask the preschool office for a financial aid application packet. All applications must be turned in by April 15, 2009.

## Florida Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)

The JCC began participating in the **Florida Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)** program in October, 2005. The Florida VPK program was created to prepare every Florida four-year-old for kindergarten and build a strong foundation for their continued educational success. Since the JCC already provides a quality Pre-K experience, our transition into the Florida program has been an easy one.

Below is a chart describing the Pre-Kindergarten programs offered at the JCC Preschool.

**Priority is given to students who register for the classes that include additional instructional days and hours. The VPK only program is available if there are spaces.**

**Because of the difference in the length of the school year and the number of instructional hours, we anticipate families choosing the Pre-Kindergarten program that includes VPK with additional days and hours. Although there are additional costs, there is still substantial savings from the regular Pre-Kindergarten program.**

The Pre-Kindergarten program at the JCC provides a nurturing environment that challenges children. A print rich environment supports the continual stimulation of emerging literacy skills, pre-math and number understanding. Above all, it is a program where children's natural curiosity and desire to make sense of their world are used to motivate them to become involved in learning activities and experiences.

pre-K program availability	date	instructional hours	cost	space
9am-1pm VPK only if available	Aug 25 - Mar 26	540	No additional costs	Spaces only
9am-2pm open to students registering for this program includes VPK	Aug 25 – May 28	860	member: \$3648/yr* non-member: \$5906/yr*	Priority given

9am-2pm  
 en to students registering for this program  
 with daycare  
 (includes VPK)

Aug 25 – May 28

860

member: \$607/mo\*

Priority giv-

non-member: \$1030/mo\*

## Programs & Fees

Early Bird Registration until April 15, 2009 for JCC Members only.

Regular Registration after April 15, 2009. Registration fees are non-refundable.

### Program Registration Fees **brandon branch**

Early Bird \$125.00

Regular \$150.00

All classes require a \$150.00 non-refundable deposit towards the May 2010 tuition at the time of registration.

## Preschool & Summer Session

**Start & End Dates**    **starts**                      **ends**  
**Summer Session**    June 15, 2009                      Aug 7, 2009  
**School Year**        Aug 25, 2009                      May 28, 2010

	1yrs	2yrs	3yrs	pre-K	K	
	1yr old & walking by July 1, 2009	2yrs old by Sept. 1, 2009	3yrs old by Sept. 1, 2009	with (VPK) Florida Voluntary Pre-K 4yrs old by Sept. 1, 2009	<b>summer only</b> 5yrs old by Sept. 1, 2009	
<b>2 day - TT</b>	\$2614/yr	\$2015/yr				school year
<b>9am-noon</b>	\$579/8wks	\$445/8wks				summer session
<b>3 day - MWF</b>	\$3475/yr	\$2667/yr	\$2667/yr			school year
<b>9am-noon</b>	\$770/8wks	\$590/8wks	\$590/8wks			summer session
<b>5 day - MTWTF</b>	\$4998/yr	\$4142/yr	\$4142/yr			school year
<b>9am-noon</b>	\$1108/8wks	\$918/8wks	\$918/8wks			summer session
<b>5 day - MTWTF</b>				\$3648/yr		school year
<b>9am-2pm</b>				\$808/8wks	\$808/8wks	summer session

<b>Fulltime Year-round Student Rates</b> (Includes preschool, extended care and summer ).						
<b>5 day - MTWTF</b>	<b>\$783/mo</b>	<b>\$720/mo</b>	<b>\$720/mo</b>	<b>\$607/mo</b>		school year
<b>7:30am-6pm with day-care</b>	<b>\$783/mo</b>	<b>\$720/mo</b>	<b>\$720/mo</b>	<b>\$783/mo</b>	<b>\$783/mo</b>	summer session

***Fees listed are JCC member rates. Please check with the Brandon Preschool office for non-member rates.***

## Things to Know

### Accreditation

The Hillsborough County Child Care Licensing Office licenses all three of the JCC Preschools. This insures that we meet the necessary health and safety requirements established by Hillsborough County and the State of Florida.

North Branch License #:C HC 110288 South Branch License #:C TA 130310 Brandon Branch License #:C HC 431662.

The National Accreditation Commission (NAC), a division of the National Association for Child Care Professionals (NACCP), accredits JCC Preschool, North and South Branches. The Brandon program begins the accreditation process this year.

Accreditation assures that the JCC Preschools provide a high quality early childhood program in a safe and nurturing environment. Our goal is to promote the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of young children. For further information on our accreditation and the developmental approach to education, please contact the preschool directors in any branch office.

### Developmentally Appropriate Practices

JCC Preschool follows a research-based approach that recognizes that children learn all the time and that learning occurs through physical, emotional, social and cognitive experiences that are active and concrete.

Developmentally appropriate practices consider the age norms and the individual differences in children. This means that although the teacher plans classroom activities based on his/her knowledge of what an age group is like, activities and materials are also provided in light of the individual abilities and interests of each child.

### In a Developmentally Appropriate Classroom, You Will See.....

Activities based on the teacher's recognition of each child's interest and development

Traditional subjects as literacy and mathematics integrated into the activities and curriculum

A classroom that is full of activity, as children interact with each other, with adults and with a wide variety of materials selected by the teachers to help guide and stimulate problem solving.

### Teachers

Experienced professional staff members strive for a warm relationship with each child, while implementing a stimulating learning experience. There are two teachers in every classroom, a lead teacher and an assistant teacher. Lead teachers have either a college degree or a recognized state certification in early childhood education. Many of our assistant teachers also have the state certification or are working towards it.

Local, state and federal background checks are conducted on all staff. All staff are required to attend in-service trainings during the year to enhance their professional skills.

Much of what adds to the recognized quality of the JCC Preschools is the low turnover in staff. We are fortunate to have dedicated, loving and experienced teachers to enrich the classroom environment.

# What is Special About the JCC

## Judaics

The Judaic component of the JCC Preschool is a significant part of our Early Childhood Curriculum. We provide our preschoolers and their families with an appreciation and awareness of the Jewish holidays and values and a strong sense of Jewish identity. By integrating Judaic experiences into a child's life, he/she develops a complete, wholesome self-concept, and a sense of identification with family, the Jewish community, the American people and the world.

## Parental Involvement

The Parent Association enables parents to help in their child's classrooms, assist in special functions and organize fundraising projects for the school. We have two regularly scheduled parent-teacher conferences. Parents are always welcome to visit and participate in their child's class.

## Lunch Bunch

If your child is not in daycare, but you would like some extra time to run errands, go to an appointment or even meet a friend for lunch, you can reserve a spot in Lunch Bunch for your child. Lunch Bunch is open every day from noon to 3:00 p.m. (noon to 2:00 p.m. for two year olds) and is staffed by our preschool teachers. Children have the opportunity to explore learning centers, paint, play games, go on the playground and of course, eat lunch in a well supervised fun program for two through five year olds. Parents can reserve a spot in Lunch Bunch for the whole year or just one day—whatever works for your schedule! Reservations are a must. (The Lunch Bunch program is only available during the school year.)

## Enrichment Classes

We have a variety of after school enrichment classes that meet after the close of the morning and Pre K programs, Monday through Friday. These classes may include tae kwon do, dance, art, science, pottery, music, sports skills or gymnastics. Registration and information is available at each JCC Preschool branch office after the school begins.

## Mom's Morning Out\*

Mom's Morning Out (MMO) is a morning program for children fifteen months (and walking) through thirty months. Like Lunch Bunch, it is designed for parents who need to do some errands, go to an appointment or just want some time for themselves. During Mom's Morning Out, children play in a developmentally appropriate classroom, have snack, go to the playground, read stories, sing songs and even do an art project. Two experienced preschool teachers staff MMO. You can register your child by calling the preschool office.

## Preschool Rugrats (Mommy & Me)\*

For families with children ages, infant through two years of age. Led by an experienced facilitator, children and parents enjoy playtime, art, music, finger plays, snacks and discussions. Activities related to Jewish holidays and traditions are woven into this morning program.

*(\*Days, times and availability of these two programs will vary between the three JCC Preschools. Check with the preschool office for more information.)*

**813.643.0522**

**813.571.5608**

**JCC/Federation Preschool Brandon** at Congregation Beth Shalom  
706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, Florida 33511

## Preschool & Summer Session

**Registration Summer & Fall 2009 begins**

Current Families 9am, Mon, Jan 26

JCC & Area Synagogue Members 9am, Mon, Feb 2

New Families 9am, Mon, Feb 9

**Start & End Dates** starts ends

**Summer Session** June 15, 2009 Aug 7, 2009

**Preschool** Aug 25, 2009 May 28, 2010