# The Early Learning Years

Preschool and Kindergarten in Norwalk

The guide with important information for parents of young children entering kindergarten and pre-school programs plus much more!



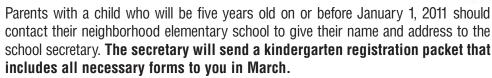
PRESENTED TO YOU BY THE NORWALK EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

Thanks to The William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund for making this publication possible.

Published by The Hour Newspapers for the Norwalk Public Schools

#### **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

#### **Begins on March 22 at elementary schools!**



A Checklist for Families [below] will give you the information of what is needed.

Norwalk Public Schools provides a FREE booklet entitled: Kindergarten Readiness and Expectations: Getting Your Child Ready for School.

Anyone may request a copy by calling Mary Budrawich at 203-854-4147.

Any questions may be directed to any elementary school office.

#### **Norwalk Public Schools**

#### WHAT'S NEEDED TO REGISTER A CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN

#### A Checklist for Families

Information / Forms Needed for Kindergarten Registration

Certified	birth	certificate	or	other	official	evidence	of you	child's	date	0f	birth
(such as	a pas	sport).									

- ☐ Completed Enrollment Form (YELLOW)
- ☐ Completed Developmental Questionnaire (PINK)
- ☐ Completed Home Language Survey (GREEN)
- Two proofs of your residence in Norwalk (such as a mortgage deed or a signed lease with your landlord's name and telephone number or a recent utility bill such as telephone (not cell phone), electric, or gas). A driver's license is not an acceptable proof of residency.
- Completed State of Connecticut Health Assessment (BLUE form) showing evidence of a physical exam done within one year before entering school and updated immunizations.
- ☐ Preschool to Kindergarten Information Checklist

Your child will not be permitted to enter kindergarten until all forms are completed and hand-delivered to the office of the school your child will be attending.



#### **REGISTRACIONES PARA KINDERGARTEN**

#### Comienzan el 22 de Marzo!

Padres que tengan niños/as que cumplan 5 años de edad para el primero o antes del primero de Enero deben comunicarse con la secretaria de las escuela de su distrito para darle su nombre, y dirección correcta y ella le enviará en Marzo las formas necesarias que usted necesita llenar.

La siguente Guia para Familias, le ofrece una lista de lo que usted necesita para la registración de su hijo/a en kindergarten.

Las escuelas públicas de Norwalk ofrecen gratis un folleto titulado: Preparación y Expactaciones - Preparando a su hijo/a para comenzar el Kindergarten. Todo padre puede solicitar una copia llamando a la Sra. Mary Budrawich al teléfono 203-854-4147 (en inglés).

Si tiene preguntas llame a una de las escuelas elementales.

#### **Escuelas Públicas De Norwalk**

#### **OUE SE NECESITA PARA REGISTRAR A UN NIÑO PARA KINDERGARTEN**

#### **Guia Para Las Familias**

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Un certificado (	de nacimiento	con un s	sello (u o	itra evidencia	oficial c	le la	fecha	de
nacimiento (po	r ejemplo un	pasaporte	e).					

☐ La forma de registración completa. (AMARILLO)

_		0	• \	,	
П	Las preguntas	del desarrollo	contestadas	completamente.	(ROSADO)

☐ Dos (2) pruebas de residencia en Norwalk.

Una prueba hipotecaria o un contrato firmado por el dueño de la casa donde
vive y el número de teléfono (del dueño de la casa). Un recibo de las utilidades
reciente (teléfono, electricidad, o gas, etc.) Una licencia de manejo no es prueba
de residencia)

El record del Estado de Salud (forma AZUL) demostrando evidencia del exámen físico llevado a cabo no más de un año después de cuando el niño(a) entra al sistema escolar y imunizaciones al día.

☐ Lista de Información De Prescuela Al Kindergarten

No se permitirá a su hijo(a) a que entre al kindergarten hasta que todos estos requisitos estén completos y entregados personalmente a la oficina de la escuela que su hijo(a) asistirá.

## What Can I Do to Help My Child be Ready for Kindergarten?

#### TALK TO YOUR CHILD ALL THE TIME

Take advantage of the time you are together to talk, talk, talk...

- Uhen you are in a bus or car, waiting in line, making dinner, cleaning, or going on an outing, talk to your child about what you are planning, seeing, doing, or thinking,
- Use new words often and explain their meaning to your child.
- Ask questions and engage your child in conversation. You will be developing your child's language and building their vocabulary.
- Point out the words you see while walking, driving, or taking the bus.
- Sing with your child. Songs are fun to listen and dance to. Nursery rhymes are great for helping your child to learn about rhyming words.
- ☐ Tell stories to your child children enjoy stories about their families, especially ones about when you were little.
- Retell a story you have read.

Talk, talk, talk with your child!

#### LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD

Pay attention to what your child says.

- Listen to his or her questions and spend time together to find out the answer.
- ☐ Encourage him or her to talk and use new words he or she has learned.

**Listen, listen!** Your child will feel valued and important.

#### **READ TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY**

Read to your child for a least 20 minutes every day This is one of the most important things you can do for your child. Reading together is a pleasurable experience and gives you the opportunity to show your child how to hold a book, how to turn the pages.

- Usit the library with your child and pick out books together. Let your child see you read.
- Read the stories your child likes over and over. Use different voices while reading.
- Ask questions: "What do you think will happen next? What part did you like best?"
- Have your child "read" to you by talking about the pictures. Ask your child to describe what is in the pictures.
- Read the print that is all around you: Road signs, store and restaurant names.
- Read cereal boxes, soup cans, and milk cartons when you are in the grocery store.
- □ Name the colors that you see.

#### Read, read, read!

Remember to speak and answer questions your child asks in complete sentences.

#### TAKE PART IN YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

Research shows that children whose parents participate in their education are more likely to be successful in school. Be sure to talk with your child's teacher, ask guestions, and attend parent-teacher conferences. Visit your child's school often. Join the PTO. Your child will have a happier educational experience with your help and support.

## Que Puedo Hacer Para Ayudar a Mi Hijo a **Estar Listo Para Kindergarten?**

#### HABLE A SU NIÑO/A TODO EL TIEMPO

Aproveche todas las oportunidades en las que están juntos para hablar, hablar, y hablar.

- Cuando está en el bus o el coche, esperando en una fila, preparando la comida, limpiando o saliendo a pasear, hable a su niño/a de los que está planeandok viendo, hacienda o pensando.
- Use palabras nuevas frecuentemente y explique su significado a su niño/a.
- Haga preguntas e involucre a su niño/a en la conversación. Ud. le estará ayudando a desarrollar su lenguaie v a construir su vocabulario.
- Muestre las palabras que Ud. ve mientras camina, maneja o toma el autobus.
- Cante con su niño/a canciones divertidas para escuchar y bailar. Canciones de cuna son buenas para ayuda a su niño/a aprender palabras que riman.
- ☐ Cuéntele historias a su niño/a los niños disfrutan cuentos sobre sus familias, especialmente aquellas de cuando Ud. era niño/a.
- Cuéntele otra vez cuentos que ya leyó.

Hable, hable, hable con su niño/a!

#### **ESCUCHE A SU NIÑO/A**

Preste atención a lo que dice su niño/a

- Escuche sus pregunas y pase tiempo juntos para entorar la respuesta.
- Inventívelo a hablar y usar las palabras nuevas que aprendió

**Escuche. escuche!** Su hijo se sentiará valorado e importante.

#### LEA A SU NIÑO/A TODOS LOS DIAS

Lea a su niño/a por lo menos 20 minutos cada dia. Esto es una de las cosas más importantes que Ud. puede hacer por su hijo. Leer juntos es una experiencia agradable y le da la oportunidad de mostrarle a su niño/a como sostener un libro, como dar vuelta sus páginas.

- ☐ Visite la Biblioteca con su niño/a y escojan libros juntos. Permita que su niño/a vea que Ud.
- Lea cuentos que le gustan a su niño/a una y otra vez. Use diferentes voces cuando lee.
- Haga preguntas: "Qué te parece que pasará? Qué parte te gusto más?"
- Haga que su niño/a le lea contándole sobre los dibujos que ve. P'eidale que le describa lo que hay en los dibujos.
- Lea todo lo que hay escrito alrededor suyo, señales en las calles, tiendas y nombres de
- Lea la caja de los cereals, las latas de sopa y cartones de leche cuando Ud. va al supermercado.
- Nombre los colores que Ud. ve.

Lea, lea, lea. Recuerde hablar y responder preguntas que su niño/a le hace en frases comple-

#### TOME PARTE EN LA EDUCACIÓN DE SU HIJO/A

Se ha investigado que los hijos de padres que participaron en su educación tiene mayor tendencia a ser exitosos en la escuela. Este seguro de hablar con el maestro de su hijo/s, hacerle pregunas y asistir a las conferencias con los maestros. Visite la escuela de sus hijos frecuentemente. Partecipe en la organización de padres. Su hijo/a tendrá una experiencia de educación más feliz con su ayuda y su apoyo.

## 10 | Norwalk Early Childhood Council | Guide to Preschool Programs

Dear Parents.

If your child is turning five on or before January 1, 2011, your child will be eligible to start kindergarten in Norwalk this coming September (2010). Now is a good time to start getting ready!

Children are always more successful when they have their parents' interest and support so let your child know that you believe school is important.

Many parents have asked, "How can I help my child be ready for kindergarten?" and "What do I need to do to register my child for kindergarten in the Norwalk Public Schools?"

The goal of this guide is to provide parents with answers to these questions. You will find suggestions and ideas to help prepare your child for success in kindergarten and beyond!

We welcome you as partners in the education of your child.

Dr. William R. Papallo Interim Superintendent of Schools Norwalk Public Schools Queridos Padres.

Si su hijo/a cumplirá 5 años antes del 2 de enero de 2011, su hijo/a puede entrar en kindergarten en Norwalk en septiembre de 2010. Es tiempo de alistarse y a su hijo para kindergarten!

Los estudiantes tienen mayor éxito cuando cuentan con el interés y el apoyo de sus padres, por lo que deben hacerle saber a sus hijo/a (s) que la escuela es muy importante.

Muchos padres se han preguntado, "¿Cómo puedo ayudar a mi hijo/a a estar listo/a para el kindergarten?" y "¿Qué necesito hacer para registar a mi hijo/s para Kindergarten en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk?"

El objetivo de este folleto es proveer a los padres las respuestas a sus preguntas. En él, usted encontrará sugerencias e ideas para ayudar a preparar a su hijo/a a tener éxito en el kindergarten y en el futuro!

Ustedes son bienvenidos a tomar parte en la educación de su hijo/a.

Dr. William R. Papallo Interin Superintendente de las Escuelas Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk

## Growing a 'Green Child'

#### By Craig W. Armstrong

Special to The Hour

Being "green" has become a prime issue in the last several years. The preservation of our planet falls to us and the next generation, so it is important we teach our children about the concept of being green. Here are few ideas for 'growing a green child.'

**Set a good example.** A preschool-aged child will follow your lead and emulate your behavior. If you are recycling and being ecologically responsible, they will do the same. Make sure they see examples of your work. Have them help you separate recyclables like cans, bottles, plastics, and paper. Make a game out of it as you put them in their bins. Children love games.

**Teach the beauty of nature.** Nature is amazing and a child can find its wonders fas-

cinating. Take your child hiking and let them see firsthand what nature has to offer. Read books to them about nature and animals. Check your local community for programs that accept preschool children. Get them involved in activities that promote recycling and being green.

**Encourage involvement.** Put your child in charge of an environmentally friendly task like making sure the lights are off. The more they feel involved, the more involved they will become. Get on the internet and find fun green activities you can do at home.

**Teaching a child to go green takes time.** The key is to set a good example and keep exposing them to new ideas and ways to be green. Children are the future of our planet and they need to be educated on how to conserve our resources. Starting them early is the best way to ensure that they accept the responsibility of protecting our planet.

#### **Sonshine Christian Children's Center**

718 West Avenue / 06850

**Contact:** Ellen Kraft **Phone:** 203-831-8349

**E-mail:** sonshine1@optonline.net

**Website:** www.norwalkunitedmethodistchurch.com

**Description:** Children from 6 weeks to 5 years old are nurtured and encouraged to learn through play and exploration. In addition to our classroom curriculum, we provide music and movement enrichment. We offer an extended pick-up option until 6:00PM.

**Hours:** Full-time 7:30AM-5:30PM

## **Toni's Day Care**

14 Park Hill Avenue / 06851

**Contact:** Toni Penna I Toni Murphy

**Phone:** 203-866-0766

**Description:** It's your child's home away from home.

**Hours:** Full-time 8:00AM-5:00PM

### **Tumble Bugs Day School**

11 Allen Road / 06851

**Contact:** Crissy Spallone **Phone:** 203-847-4994

**E-mail:** tumblebugsdayschool@gmail.com

Website: www.tumblebugsct.com

**Description:** Our curriculum is based upon active learning. We believe that the work of children is play and through play they learn best and most. Children are naturally curious and love to explore. They learn by doing and active learning fosters their need to do just that. Our goal is to create a love of learning.

**Hours:** Full and part-time 8:00AM-3:00PM or 8:00AM-6:00PM

two, three, or five days

## **Tutor Time Child Care Learning Center**

466 Main Avenue / 06851

Contact: Jennifer Clancy
Phone: 203-846-6046
E-mail: tutornorwalk@aol.com

**Description:** We have a safe and secure, warm, and caring environment while pro-

viding an educational program to prepare the children for a successful school experi-

nce.

**Hours:** Full and part-time 6:30AM-6:30PM

Three, four, five days: 8:00AM-12:30PM, 8:00AM-3:00PM

or 8:00AM-6:00pm

## **United Church Nursery School**

210 Rowayton Avenue / 06853

**Contact:** Paula Keller **Phone:** 203-853-3554

**Description:** We offer a developmentally appropriate school. Our main objective is

learning through play.

**Hours:** Part-time 9:15AM—1:30PM

### **West Norwalk Nursery School**

275 Richards Avenue / 06850

**Contact:** Brooke Mauro **Phone:** 203-853-9060 **Website:** www.uucnorwalk.com

**Description:** We have a child directed, developmentally appropriate curriculum that

meets each child's needs.

**Hours:** Part-time 9:00AM-12:00PM or 12:15-3:15PM

#### **YMCA of Norwalk – Little Wonders**

394 West Avenue / 06850

Contact: Joyce A. Murray
Phone: 203-866-4425, ext 338
E-mail: joyce@norwalkymca.org
Website: www.norwalkymca.org

**Description:** It is our mission to provide a fun, safe, enriching, and educational environment to ensure children are highly prepared to begin a lifetime of learning.

**Hours:** Full- and part-time 7:00AM-6:00PM or 9:15AM-1:45PM

two, three, or five days; toddlers/preschool

### **NEON** at Ben Franklin $\square$

165 Flax Hill Road / 06854

**Contact:** Magalez Martinez **Phone:** 203-899-8560

**E-mail:** mmartinez@neon-norwalk.org

Website: www.neon.org

**Description:** NEON offers Head Start, School Readiness, DSS, and toddler classes in a warm and caring atmosphere with a mission to meet the needs of the whole family. It is licensed by the State of Connecticut and accredited by NAEYC. The Ben Franklin Center provides nutritious snacks and meals at no additional cost.

**Hours:** 7:30AM-5:30PM full-day and part-day classes available

## **NEON, Inc. Head Start Program** at Ely School $\sqcap$

11 Ingalls Avenue / 06854

**Contact:** Sandra Samayoa **Phone:** 203-852-9625

**E-mail:** ssamayoa@neon-norwalk.org

Website: www.neon.org

**Description:** NEON offers Head Start, School Readiness, DSS, and toddler classes in a warm and caring atmosphere with a mission to meet the needs of the whole family. It is licensed by the State of Connecticut and accredited by NAEYC. The Ely Center provides nutritious snacks and meals at no additional cost.

**Hours:** 7:30AM-5:30PM full-day and part-day classes available

#### **Nitzan Nursery School**

109 East Avenue / 06851

**Contact:** Beverly Stein **Phone:** 203-838-6019

**E-mail:** nitzan@congbethel.org **Website:** www.congbethel.org

**Description:** Nitzan's warm and nurturing environment encourages curiosity and safely allows your child to explore his/her surroundings. Our goal is to help each child grow through social interaction with other children and by providing them with appropriate experiences and materials.

**Hours:** Part-time Two's: 9:30–11:45AM (2–3 days)

Three's: 9:15AM-12:00PM (3-5 days) Four's: 9:15AM –12:00PM (5 days)

## **Norwalk Community College Child Development Laboratory** $\square$

188 Richards Avenue / 06850

**Contact:** Catherine Neiswonger **Phone:** 203-857-7143

**E-mail:** cneiswonger@ncc.commnet.edu

**Website:** www.ncc.commnet.edu

**Description:** High quality child care where children are nurtured through learning opportunities designed for the whole child. Classrooms are a laboratory setting and an extension of the curriculum for Early Childhood Education course work at NCC.

**Hours:** Full day M-F, M/W/F, or Tu/Th 8:00AM-3:00PM M-Th 8:00am-3:00PM and Fridays 8:00AM-12:00PM

#### Room to Grow $\square$

208 East Avenue / 06855

**Contact:** Nancy Cook-Owens **Phone:** 203-831-8200 **E-mail:** nowens@ccfc-ct.org Website: www.ccfc-ct.org

**Description:** An accredited full day model lab school with credentialed teaching staff. We provide a quality education program in a warm nuturing environment with our philosophy that children learn through play and hands-on experience.

**Hours:** Full-time 7:30AM-6:00PM

## **Side-by-Side Community School**

10 Chestnut Street / 06854

**Contact:** Susan Arnold, Parent Coordinator

**Phone:** 203-857-0306

**E-mail:** info@sidebysideschool.org **Website:** www.sidebysideschool.org

**Description:** Our preschool promotes hands-on learning. Call for an application. Admission is by lottery. Lottery applications are distributed at the Open Houses. Please call for dates.

**Hours:** 9:00AM-3:30PM, School Year

## Five Mile River Nursery School [

5 Pennoyer Street / 06853

Contact: Lauriston Avery
Phone: 203-838-4266
E-mail: fmrns@snet.net

**Website:** www.fivemilerivernurseryschool.com

**Description:** We believe that all children are gifted. Our mission is to provide a warm, safe, nurturing environment for every child to successfully grow, learn, and discover.

**Hours:** Part-time, 9:30AM-5:30PM with morning and afternoon programs.

Two's: Thurs 9:30–11:30AM or 3:30–5:30PM or Fri 9:30–11:30AM

Three's: Thurs and Fri 9:30AM-12:00PM or Mon, Tues, Wed

9:30AM-12:00PM and 1:30-4:00PM

Four's: Mon-Fri 9:15AM-12:00PM, Mon-Thurs 1:30-4:00PM

## **Growing Seeds Child Development Center** [

2 Trinity Place / 06854

**Contact:** Stephanie Croswell **Phone:** 203-857-0708

**E-mail**: growingseeds@sbcglobal.net

**Description:** Here at Growing Seeds we have designed a program that will stimulate your child's imagination and at the same time increase his or her self-esteem and social skills.

**Hours:** Full-time 7:30AM-5:30PM

Before and after school program 7:00-9:00AM and

3:30-5:30PM

## **Happy Time Nursery School**

260 New Canaan Avenue / 06850

Contact: Patty Mariano
Phone: 203-847-9566
E-mail: revpattipkwy@aol.com

**Description:** We believe that education begins in the home and that the home—school relationship is vital to the child. We are a CHRISTIAN based preschool for children ages 8 weeks through 4 years, developing the child educationally, spiritually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

**Hours:** Full and part-time 7:30AM-5:30PM

Fulltime, Anything under 5 hours is part-time

#### Li'l Critters Preschool

10 Lewis Street / 06851

**Contact:** Gay Cavanagh **Phone:** 203-847-4220

**Description:** It's a quality childcare that is designed to foster self-awareness, inde-

pendence, and positive self-concept.

**Hours:** Full and part-time

Full time 7:30AM-6:00PM (preschool age) 8AM-5PM for infants and toddlers Part-time hours are - 8:00AM-1:00PM

#### The Marvin Children's Center $\square$

60 Gregory Boulevard / 06855

**Contact:** Annette Yarber-Crooks

**Phone:** 203-854-6781

**E-mail:** marv@brighthorizons.com

**Description:** An intergenerational program, owned by Under One Roof, Inc., managed by Bright Horizons Family Solutions. Children and seniors interact regularly.

**Hours:** Full-time 7:30AM-6:00PM

## Naramake Family Resource Center $\square$

16 King Street / 06851

**Contact:** Mary Oster

Phone: 203-899-2900, x123 E-mail: frcnaramake@yahoo.com

**Website:** www.norwalk.k12.ct.us/naramake/pages/frc.htm

**Description:** Naramake FRC Preschool stresses development through active play and exploration coupled with a low staff-to-child ratio. It provides a smooth transition

for preschoolers to kindergarten.

**Hours:** Part time: 5 days 9:00AM-12:00PM or 8:30AM-2:30PM

Before and after care available

### **Busy Bodies Child Care Center**

23 Half Mile Road / 06851

**Contact:** Lisa Tavella and Nicole Memoli

**Phone:** 203-849-7723

**Description:** We provide a warm and nurturing environment in which each child has

the ability to grow, learn, and discover.

**Hours:** Full and part-time, 7AM-5:30PM

## **Carousel Preschool Day Nursery** $\square$

25 France Street / 06851

**Contact:** Nicole Fagan **Phone:** 203-847-1276

**E-mail:** carouselkids 1234@aol.com **Website:** www.carouselpreschool.com

**Description:** An NAEYC accredited Early Care and Education Program. Carousel provides young children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years, with a nurturing environment in which each child is able to grow emotionally, socially, cognitively, creatively, and physically through developmentally appropriate activities and materials offered for each child as an individual and for children in groups, and through their interaction with each other and educated, professionally trained teachers and caregivers. We celebrate the uniqueness of each child and family and encourage positive reciprocal relationships with each family.

**Hours:** Full-time, 7:30AM-5:30PM

## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

Contact Mary Budrawich @ (203) 854-4147

Call 2-1-1

Or visit the 2-1-1 website: www.211childcare.org/ccparentresources.asp

## **Children's Playhouse** $\square$

112 Bouton Street / 06854

**Contact:** Rovitta Paul **Phone:** 203-855-9440 **E-mail:** tchidrenply@aol.com

**Website:** www.thechildrensplayhouseinc.com

**Description:** An accredited school with all teachers certified in early childhood. We

prepare all children for kindergarten. **Hours:** Full-time. 7:30AM-5:30PM

### Children's Playhouse Too ☐

31 West Avenue / 06854

**Contact:** Tasha Roper **Phone:** 203-855-0551

**E-mail:** tchidrenplytoo@aol.com

Website: www.thechildrensplayhouseinc.com

**Description**: A fun, safe, and loving environment where your children are pre-

pared for kindergarten.

**Hours:** Full-time, 7:30AM-5:30PM

## **Community Co-op Nursery School**

4 Trolley Place / 06853

**Contact:** Tracy King | Dana Gorman

**Phone:** 203-866-2184

**E-mail:** communitynursery@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.ccnsct.com

**Description:** Our philosophy is that children learn through play. We provide a secure, relaxed, and creative atmosphere in which each child can develop the physical and intellectual skills appropriate to their individual needs and can mature socially among their peers.

**Hours:** Part-time

Two's: 9:30AM-12:00PM (2 days) Three's: 9:30AM-12:00PM (4 days) Four's: 9:30AM-12:30PM (3 days) +

9:30AM-2:15PM (2 days) = 5 day program

#### A Kid's Place

10 Elmwood Avenue / 06854

**Contact**: Francine Mercer **Phone**: 203-899-0091

**Description:** An environment that encourages creativity and the imagination of children. Throughout the day children are given the opportunity to learn through exploration and play.

**Hours:** Full-time

7:30-5:30PM for 12 weeks -2 years 7:30-6:00PM for 3 years and 4 years

## **All Saints Daycare and Preschool**

139 West Rocks Road / 06851

Contact: Nancy Bardos
Phone: 203-847-3881, ext. 22
E-mail: nanja16@aol.com
Website: www.ascs.net

**Description:** Our program is one in which the child can feel loved, respected, and develop at their own pace. We are partners with you, the parents, in developing each child's special talents and personalities. We want the children to feel good about themselves and have a passion for knowledge.

#### Hours:

Daycare: 7:30AM-5:45PM for 8 weeks - 3 years

8:30-11:30AM | T/Th - 3 years 8:15AM-1:45PM | MWF - 4 years 8:15AM-1:45PM | M-F - 4 years

Afterschool: 1:45-5:45PM | M-F - 4 years

## **Apple Tree Preschool**

131 Strawberry Hill Avenue / 06851

**Contact:** Gerry Flewellyn **Phone:** 203-866-8933

**Description:** Apple Tree Pre-School offers a varied curriculum that includes academic and recreational activities, music, and arts and crafts for a most comprehensive program to benefit children during their formative years.

**Hours:** Full and part-time

7:00AM-5:30PM | 9:00-3:00PM or 9:00AM-1:00PM

Parents can choose from 2-5 days

#### **Bright Beginnings Academy**

244 East Avenue / 06855

**Contact:** Pamela Hinton **Phone:** 203-939-1144

**E-mail:** BBA244@hotmail.com

**Description:** We are committed to providing a safe, loving environment for your child and aspire to meet his/her needs while promoting their physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. We respect the strength of diversity and promote basic human values in our ever-changing world.

**Hours:** Full-time 7:00AM-6:00PM

Before / After School program 7:00-8:30AM and 3:30-6:00PM

## **Brookside Elementary Preschool**

382 Highland Avenue / 06854

**Contact:** Mary Budrawich **Phone:** 203-854-4147

**Description:** Brookside preschool provides children with play based learning experiences. Certified classroom teachers along with teacher assistants offer developmentally appropriate activities and materials that promote children's social, cognitive, physical, and creative development.

**Hours:** School Day | School Year

8:45AM-3:45PM | M-F | 3 & 4 years

## APPLE TREE PRESCHOOL

3 through 5 year old program
Register now for Fall & Summer 2010/2011

Flexible Hours: 9-1, 9-3, 7-5:30

Reasonable Rates
 Larger Outdoor Playground

Professional Staff Arts & Crafts State Licensed Special Visitors

• Accepts Care For Kids

"Your Child's Home Away From Home"

Gerri Calka Flewellyn • Operator/Director 131 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851  $(203)\ 866\text{-}8933$ 

#### **Time for Preschool!**

Is your child turning 3 or 4 years old soon? It's time to think about preschool for your child!

#### Why Preschool?

Childhood experts agree: Attending a high-quality preschool program prepares kids for Kindergarten and beyond. At preschool not only do children become exposed to numbers, letters, and shapes, but even more importantly, they learn how to get along with other children, share, and contribute in the classroom.

Finding the best option for your child takes time.

- Call each preschool you are considering and ask about its fees, admission policy, and what they teach.
- Usit the preschools that you think will best meet your needs and spend time in a classroom to observe the teachers.

#### What to Consider When Choosing a **Preschool for Your Child**

- □ Is it close to home or work?
- Do you need half-day or a full-day?
- Do you need two to three days a week or full time?
- □ Is the preschool clean and safe?
- Is there an outdoor play area?
- Are there different activity areas in the classroom?
- Are there lots of materials and books?
- Is there student artwork on the walls?
- What early childhood credentials do the staff have?
- Is the atmosphere friendly and fun?
- Are parents welcome to visit and observe their child?

Information adapted from Parents.com Why Preschool Matters

Va a cumplir 3 o 4 años su hijo/a? Debe comenzar a pensar en un programa preescolar para él/ella.

#### **Porque un Programa Preescolar?**

Los expertos de la niñez concuerdan que: Atender a un programa preescolar de alta calidad prepara a los niños para el jardín de la infancia y más allá. En preescolar no sólo los niños se familiarizan con los números, las letras y a las formas, pero aún más importante, aprenderán cómo convivir con otros niños, compartir y contribuir en el salón de clase.

Para encontrar la mejor opción para su niño/a toma tiempo.

- Llame a cada preescolar que usted está considerando y pregunte por sus honorarios, políticas de entrada y lo que enseñan.
- Usite el preescolar que usted piense que resolverá sus necesidades y pase tiempo en el salón de clase para observar a los profesores.

#### Qué Cosas Considerar a La Hora de Elegir un Preescolar para Su Niño?

- ¿Está cerca al hogar o al trabajo?
- ¿Usted necesita medio día o un día completo?
- ¿Usted necesita 2-3 días a la semana o a tiempo completo?
- ¿El preescolar es limpio y seguro?
- ☐ ¿Hay un área de jugar al aire libre?
- ¿Hay diversas áreas de actividades en el salón de clase?
- ¿Hay pinturas de los estudiantes en las paredes?
- ¿Qué credenciales de la temprana niñez tiene el personal?
- ¿Es el ambiente agradable y divertido?
- ¿Están bienvenidos los padres a visitar y observar a sus niños?

La información se adaptó de Parents.com: Porqué Importa el Preescolar

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# About the Guide to Preschool Programs in Norwalk

The Norwalk Early Childhood Council has compiled a list of all the licensed preschool programs in Norwalk. For each listing, you will find the contact information of each program, a brief description of their program, and the hours of operation. If you need additional information, you can also call 2-1-1.

#### NAEYC Accreditation

NAEYC is the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The NAEYC accreditation process examines all aspects of a program — including health and safety, teacher qualifications, and administration — and especially the quality of interactions between teachers and children and the nature of the child's experience.

#### School Readiness Programs

School Readiness is a state funded subsidy program that helps families afford a quality daycare program. School Readiness programs in Norwalk are closely monitored by the Norwalk Early Childhood Council for quality.

**Disclaimer:** The information in this guide is included for your convenience only and should not be considered an endorsement or recommendation.

## Información con respecto al Guia de Programas Preescolares en Norwalk

El Consejo de Niñez Temprana en Norwalk ha preparado una lista de todos los programas preescolares en Norwalk que tienen licencia del Estado de Connecticut. Para cada programa, se incluye la dirección, teléfono, contacto, una descripción breve del programa y las horas de operación. Si necesita más información en español, puede llama a 2-1-1.

#### ☐ Acreditación de NAEYC

NAEYC es la Asociación Nacional para la Educación de Niños Jóvenes. El proceso de la acreditación de NAEYC examina todos los aspectos de un programa — incluyendo salud y seguridad, las credenciales del profesor, y administración y especialmente la calidad de interacciones entre los profesores y los niños y la naturaleza de la experiencia del niño.

#### Programa de Preparación para la Escuela

El programa de preparación para escuela ("School Readiness Program") es un programa financiado y subsidiado por el estado de Connecticut que ayuda a las familias a pagar un programa de guardería de calidad. Los programas de preparación para la escuela en Norwalk son supervisados de cerca para la calidad por el Consejo de la Niñez Temprana de Norwalk.

**Aclaración:** La información en esta guía es incluida para su conveniencia solamente y no se debe considerar un endoso o una recomendación.

## **Letter from the Chair of the Norwalk Early Childhood Council**

March 2010

The Norwalk Early Childhood Council is pleased to provide families in Norwalk information about The Early Learning Years: Preschool and Kindergarten. Preschool and Kindergarten are an exciting time for young children and their families. We hope the information provided here will help you as you and your child make these important transitions.

If your child is about to turn three or four years old, it is time to get ready for preschool. A high quality preschool will prepare your child for Kindergarten and beyond. Some of the most important things your child will learn are how to play and work with others, how to express themselves, and to develop a love of reading. You will want to spend time looking for a high quality preschool that is right for you and your child. We recommend you start looking now.

If your child turns five on or before January 1, 2011, your child is eligible to enter Kindergarten in September 2010. While it might seem early, Kindergarten registration for next year begins on March 22 at your local elementary school. We urge you to register as early as possible, especially if your child has not gone to preschool.

The Norwalk Early Childhood Council is pleased to partner with you to get your child off to a strong start! We hope the information here will help you make plans early and make the transition to preschool or Kindergarten easier for you and your child.

> Betsy Bain Chair Norwalk Early Childhood Council

## **Norwalk Public Schools: Elementary Schools**

School/Escuela	Address/Dirección	Phone/Teléfono
Brookside		
Columbus		
Cranbury		
Fox Run		
Jefferson		
Kendall		
Marvin		
Naramake		
Rowayton		
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Tracey		
Wolfpit	Starlight Drive	