

**Little Hands  
Nursery and  
Kindergarten  
School  
Parent Handbook  
2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**



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**160 Red Mill Road  
For Information  
Call 932-2438  
or 932-2397**

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## LITTLE hANDS Mission Statement

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Little Hands Nursery & Kindergarten was established to provide a local educational experience for children aged 2 years 7 months to Kindergarten. The school's main objective is to provide a developmentally appropriate educational foundation for children while promoting a positive attitude and self image, cooperation and teamwork, as well as excitement for learning.

Each child will participate in an integrated approach to social, emotional, and physical growth. Learning will be individualized to promote achievement for all. A more specific curriculum is available for Kindergarten review, if desired for viewing.

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Program  
highlights  
from the  
curriculum



**Arts & Crafts** - Children will experience cutting, pasting, drawing, and painting with many different materials. They will experiment with various textures, and will just be creative individually.

**Free Play** - Children will have play time both indoors and outdoors, weather depending. Play may be in learning centers or thematic play areas. Puzzles, games, playdough and other textures, balls, transportation vehicles, and housekeeping centers will be used for children to make individual and group decisions and develop their own interests.

**Circle Time** - All children will daily experience a time where the class joins as a group in a circle to salute the flag, discuss the weather and the calendar, and any other activities pertinent to the weekly theme or author of the month. Each class will also learn songs, participate in fingerplays and sharing time, as well as hear a story. Classes will vary as to the length and number of times they gather for circle, depending on the readiness of the group.

**Music** - This element will be integrated into most of our other elements since music is so vital to a young child's development. We will incorporate songs and fingerplays



on a daily basis within all classrooms. Children will be given the opportunity to experience various instruments and styles of music. Should anyone have a talent in this area, we welcome visiting artists to perform, talk about and help the children to experience music in a new way.

**Field Trips** - Several field trips will be arranged throughout the year. All classes will experience places related to themes in which they are studying. You will be asked to assist in transportation and we hope you will enjoy the trips as much as we do. Please keep in mind that all parents must provide a car seat on trip days. Due to safety and travel time factors, in addition to skyrocketing fuel prices, several trips are now brought to the school for a super day of activities different from the normally scheduled day. You will be notified by calendar notation and daily teacher announcements.

## curriculum (cont.)

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**Large Motor Activities** - Little Hands is aware of the importance of exercise and large motor coordination in a young child's development, so we will be providing an assortment of these activities outside if the weather permits or in the large multi purpose room if necessary. Play houses, climbers, and teeter-totters will be provided, as well as a tunnel, a balance beam, hula-hoops, balls, and other fun activities to encourage large motor skill development. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather so that we may take advantage of our outdoor play. Children enrolled in the full day program will also have regularly scheduled ballet, yoga for kids, dancercise, tumbling/gymnastics, and Phys. Ed.

**Library** - Little Hands has a multitude of library books due to the generosity of our parents and by our participation in the Scholastic Reading Program. Children will be able to check out books on a weekly basis to encourage an interest in reading. Although most of the children cannot read, library is important to teach them proper care of books, to enable them to make individual choices, and for general responsibility of procedures. We encourage you to participate by reading to your child regularly, and to help them to remember to return their books as well. **Should a child forget his/her book, they will not be permitted to select another choice until it is returned.** Please also encourage care of their library name card.

**Language Arts** - Our program will begin with alphabet awareness in our youngest class and will progress through Kindergarten skills into beginning words and short stories. The children will be exposed to books, authors, letters, their sounds and how to write them. The students will be able to follow simple directions to create a project or to play a game.



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They will be expected to express ideas through pictures and with verbal descriptions. Kindergarten children will also work with weekly sight words and a reading program. The children will experience printed language all around them and all throughout the curriculum.

**Mathematics** - The children will be exposed to numerals both in their written form and with various manipulatives. They will experience counting and measuring as well as sorting objects into appropriate categories. Students will learn about shapes, colors, time and money. Older children will also do graphing activities.

**Science** - Children will be able to recognize different body parts, the colors of the rainbow, the five senses, living and non-living objects and the proper names of animals and their respective babies. Our weather discussions will also be part of our Science curriculum. The students will participate in various hands on experiments to engage in this learning.

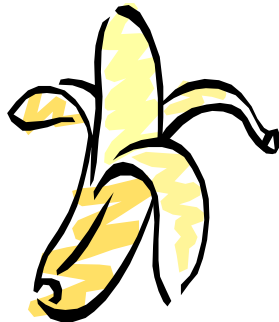
**Social Studies** - The students will be exposed to the physical differences between people as well as the different traditional holidays that different cultures celebrate. If your family has a tradition you would like to share, please consult with your teacher in advance so they can consider incorporation of your special tradition into their plans. The children will also learn about earth with its different land and water forms.

Most of this area will be achieved through books, projects, and games.

**Health & Safety** - The students will learn about and be expected to follow the basic safety rules both inside and outside. They will also learn fire and emergency procedures for school as well as for home. They will identify the five basic food groups and discover how to choose food wisely. Our snack time will include nutrition discussions. The children will learn good hygiene and be able to perform simple tasks that are required to dress themselves. We will also discuss appropriate dress for different weather.

**Snack** - Each child will be responsible on a rotating basis to provide a healthy snack and drink for his/her class. The schedule will come out monthly so that you may prepare. We like to stay away from sugary snacks except for a child's birthday. Some good ideas are fruit, pumpkin or banana bread, raw vegetables, cheese or peanut butter crackers, or pretzels. Your child may have a favorite that he/she could share with the class. Drinks should accompany the snack. Little Hands will provide cups and napkins. Please be attentive to food allergies as noted for your class. **\*\*Any child with a food allergy will not be permitted to eat homemade items, a prepackaged snack will be provided for their safety, where ingredients can be verified.**

munchies!



# Policies & procedures

## **Tuition & Payment Policy**

Tuition is paid on an annual basis in equal monthly installments. Payment can be made directly to your child’s teacher, in a labeled envelope placed in your child’s bucket, on the first day of each month. Payment does not change according to the number of days you child is present each month. Teacher’s will collect envelopes out of your child’s bucket during the school day and forward them to the administrator. Checks should be made to Little Hands.

Fees:

- 3 year           \$70/month (\$630)
- 4/5 year       \$95/month (\$855)
- 5 yr (4 day)\$135/month(\$1215)
- Kind. (5day) \$180/month(\$1620)
- Full day, 5day   \$125/week

**A \$5 LATE FEE will be assessed for late payments.**

### Our Goal

**Throughout our curriculum, we will encourage cooperation and teamwork. We will discourage aggressive behavior such as hitting, pinching, biting, or kicking. The teachers will be using time out to discipline the students in the classrooms. We wish to reinforce the positive behavior that you are teaching your child at home. This will provide for a better atmosphere for your child to learn academically as well as socially.**



**\*\*NEW\*\* FULL DAY PROGRAM (fee: \$125/Week.)**

This class will be limited in enrollment and will include four and five year old children. Children will receive our academic program and will continue their day with enhanced programming to include yoga for children, a regular nutrition and health class, tumbling and gymnastics, cooking, foreign language, and other activities you might register for above and beyond your preschool day. Why not get all wonderful activities at one place, save time and gas in the evening, and have more quality family time. Class runs Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Children will bring their own lunch, to ensure they are eating a lunch they will eat, and you are sure they have a meal they like to eat. We will then provide the morning and afternoon snacks.

An older three year old may be admitted at administrative discretion, and they would attend the three year old academic class while older children receive age appropriate instruction, as would they in a three year room. Enrollment is also available for any full day child for 3,4, or 5 days.

Also now Offering Full and Half Day Academic  
Programs for Wrap-Kindergarten

**WSSD Kindergarten ACADEMY WRAP with  
transportation included!\*\***