

Preschool Program

2025-2026

Welcome to Kids Garden's Preschool program! We are so thrilled that you are joining us!

Our Preschool program was designed with parents in mind. When I opened Kids Garden in January 2021, I knew that parents needed more supportive and flexible childcare options. The pandemic reshaped our lives, and I witnessed many working mothers pause or forego their career due to a lack of childcare. In the new work from home (or wherever!) age, parents need more convenient and flexible childcare without sacrificing quality of care or education for their child.

With a newborn in tow, I left a corporate career to address this gap - - developing a program that offers parents flexibility to choose a program that best fits their schedule throughout each season of life, all while feeling confident their child is in a safe and nurturing learning environment, where children learn through creative arts and hands-on play.

Now as a mother of two (that was fast! LOL), I personally rely on Kids Garden and the support of our amazing teachers. Watching my child's development after a year in Kids Garden's Preschool program has been an absolute joy and affirmation that Kids Garden truly provides parents flexibility AND peace of mind.

This school year, we look forward to supporting our parents and watching your children BLOOM in our growing garden!

Peace, Love, Play!



Our Learning Environment

Kids Garden's mission is to develop a sound, well-rounded foundation of lifelong learning for your child.

Backed by Reggio Emilia and Montessori educational theories, our diverse curriculum encourages learning through exploration, based strictly on the interests and needs of the children. In our mixed age Learning Center, children work together on projects and collaborate to solve problems. This approach to learning places an emphasis on creative expression, critical thinking, and a strong sense of self-confidence.

What you will find:

- Loose parts play fostering imaginative play and creativity
- Inviting art supplies at reach for children to create
- Natural materials, living plants, and wooden toys
- Rotating sensory bin and water table
- Fine motor and pre-writing activities
- Books and a comfortable reading/study area
- Practical Life Activities –kid-sized kitchen and cleaning utensils
- Indoor Playset
- Healthy and fresh, seasonal foods
- Non-toxic art and cleaning supplies
- Sensory play with materials like beans, sand, pant and slime!

What you will NOT find:

- iPads or Screens
- Overstimulating, noisy toys
- Sugary snacks and juices
- Harsh chemicals







Preschool Policies

Preschool Participation

Preschool is offered to children ages 2 to 5. Preschool packages are for Kids Garden members only. Potty training is not required.

Preschool Hours

Preschool is offered every weekday from 9:00~AM-3:00~PM; however, we do offer an 8:00~AM drop-off option. Please indicate whether you plan to drop-off at 8:00~or~9:00. Families who choose 9:00~AM drop-off are still welcome to drop-off earlier and will be charged the standard hourly rate.

What to Bring:

- Children are required to wear socks at all times. Socks can be purchased for \$2.00.
- Please bring a sippy cup or water bottle with only water, labeled with your child's name.
- Please bring extra diapers and wipes and a change of clothes, depending on whether your child is potty trained. Diapers can be purchased for \$1.00/diaper.
- Please bring your child's items in a small, labeled bag or backpack to avoid confusion for our teachers and other families.

Meals:

- We serve healthy (almost always organic) and fresh foods daily.
- We <u>DO NOT</u> allow any outside food or drink. For exceptions, please refer to our parent handbook available at our front desk and on our website.
- Snacks are served at 10:15 AM and 3:15 PM; Lunch is served at 12:00 PM
- Please notify us of any dietary and/or allergy restrictions. To learn more about our food options, please contact us
- For meal pricing, please refer to our packages and rates.

Preschool Packages & Rates

You can start preschool any day of the month, subject to availability.

All preschool packages are based on a 4-WEEK month

- 1. Choose a how many days of preschool you need in the given 4-week period:
 - 2 days/week = 8 days of preschool every 4 weeks
 - 3 days/week = 12 days of preschool every 4 weeks
 - 5 days/week = 20 days of preschool every 4 weeks
- 2. Notify us which days of the week your child will attend preschool
- 3. Choose the duration of time you need
- 4. Choose from two start times: 8:00 AM or 9:00 AM

Monthly Package Rates*

2 Days/Week	3 Days/Week	5 Days/Week
3 hours - \$330	3 hours - \$455	3 hours - \$700
4 hours - \$425	4 hours - \$585	4 hours - \$890
5 hours - \$520	5 hours - \$710	5 hours - \$1,075
6 hours - \$600	6 hours - \$820	6 hours - \$1,235

*Note:

- All rates include morning snacks each day.
- 4+ hour plans also include a healthy lunch each day. Otherwise, lunch is \$6.00
- 5+ hour packages are for ages 3 and up.
- We offer flexibility to change the days of the week within the same month (subject to availability); however, we do not allow changes to duration or start time within the same month. Those changes may be made prior to renewal (subject to availability).
- We allow a 10-minute grace period (Free of charge) before/after scheduled preschool hours. Any time consumed beyond 10 minutes of your scheduled hours will be charged at standard hourly rates.
- Preschool packages are honored during our seasonal camps (See schedule for Winter and Spring Break camps). Only children enrolled in preschool packages as of April 4 2025, may exercise the option to extend their preschool package during Summer Break (e.g., June, July & August).

Make-up Days:

- If you miss a day of preschool, you may reschedule within the current 4-week period. (*For 5 days/week plans, we will extend the plan one extra week to use any remaining make-up days). Make-up days may not be exchanged, transferred, or refunded.
- You MUST provide at least 24 hours notice of what date you plan to make it up.
- Make-up days must be used during the hours of preschool (9:00 AM 3:00 PM), and the hours cannot be split across multiple days.
- Make Up days are not available during summer months as availability is limited. If you plan on traveling in the Summer, a Camp package or drop-in reservation may be a better fit for your family.

Refunds:

Preschool packages are non-refundable under any circumstances, including circumstances in which any or all the days in the plan are not used.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to the above policies.

Parent/Guardian:	D - 1	
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Preschool Calendar Fall 2025

Dates marked ** indicate a week with a Federal holiday or other school closures, when Kids Garden experiences higher demand for drop-ins.

August-September

Theme: Building Our Community
Character trait: Curiosity and Wonder

Week 1 (Aug. 25-29) Back To School

Week 2 (Sept. 1-5) All About Me [9/1 Labor Day - KG CLOSED]

Week 3 (Sept. 8-12) Friendship and Kindness

Week 4 (Sept. 15-19) Five Senses

Week 5 (Sept. 22-26) Community Helpers

October

Theme: Falling into Fall
Character trait: Courage

Week 6 (Sept. 29-Oct. 3) Expressing Emotions

Week 7 (Oct. 6-10) Seasons

Week 8 (Oct. 13-17) Fall Harvest

Week 9 (Oct. 20-24) Pumpkins

Week 10 (Oct. 27-Oct. 31) Creepy Critters/Nocturnal Animals [Oct. 31st-Halloween

Party!]

November

Theme: Cultivating Gratitude Character trait: Gratefulness

Week 11 (Nov. 3-7) On the Farm

Week 12 (Nov. 10-14) Native Americans

Week 13 (Nov. 17-21) Weather

Week 14 (Nov. 24-28) Thanksgiving [11/26 - 1:00PM early closure; 11/27-28 KG CLOSED]

December

Theme: Around the World Character trait: Generosity

Week 15 (Dec. 1-5) The Water Cycle

Week 16 (Dec. 8-12) Holidays Around the World Week 17 (Dec. 15-19) Holidays Around the World

Week 18 (Dec. 22-26) ** Winter Camp ** [12/24-25 KG CLOSED]

Spring 2026

January

Theme: Winter Wonder Character trait: Peacefulness

Week 19 (Dec. 29- Jan. 2) **Ringing in the New Year Winter Camp** [1/1 New Years Day -

KG CLOSED]

Week 20 (Jan. 5-9) Winter

Week 21 (Jan. 12-16) Hibernation

Week 22 (Jan. 19-23) **Artic Animals** [1/19 MLK Day - KG OPEN]

Week 23 (Jan. 26-30) Nutrition

February

Theme: Health

Character trait: Kindness

Week 24 (Feb. 2-6) Health

Week 25 (Feb. 9-13) Manners and Sharing [2/13 Valentine's Day Party!]

Week 26 (Feb. 16-20) **Transportation** [2/16 President's Day - KG OPEN]

Week 27 (Feb. 23-27) Fairy Tales

March

Theme: Rhythm & Rhymes Character trait: Patience

Week 28 (March 2-6) Dr. Seuss

Week 29 (March 9-13)** Peace, Love, and Texas Camp **[Spring Break]

Week 30 (March 16-20) Ocean Animals [St. Patty's Day- KG OPEN]

Week 31 (March 23-27) Music and Rhythm

April

Theme: Earth

Character trait: Independence

Week 32 (March 30-April 3) Seeds --> Plants

Week 33 (April 6-10) Caterpillars --> Butterflies

Week 34 (April 13-17) **Insects** [4/18 Good Friday – KG OPEN]

Week 35 (April 20-24) Earth Day/Recycling [4/22 Earth Day]

Week 36 (April 27-May 1) Rainforest

May

Theme: Above & Beyond Character trait: Helpfulness

Week 37 (May 4-8) Outer Space [5/10 Mother's Day]

Week 38 (May 11-15) STEAM

Week 39 (May 18-22) **Eric Carle

Week 40 (May 25-29) **Summer** [5/25- Memorial Day - KG CLOSED]

[Friday, May 29 - Last Day of Preschool - -Summer Camps begin Monday, June 1]

Daily Schedule		
8:00 – 9:00	Arrive and thrive! – Children choose how to start their day, whether they opt for open play of their choice or snuggle up to a quiet book	
9:00 – 9:45	Independent stations – developing pre-writing and math skills, from threading and tracing to measuring and sorting	
9:45 – 10:00	Clean up – Teamwork to tidy our working spaces and develop practical life skills, like stowing toys, wiping down tables, and sweeping the floor	
10:00 – 10:15	Indoor Playset & Movement – Gross motor development comes in all types of forms; this is a time to climb, jump, and dance our wiggles out!	
10:15 – 10:25	Healthy Morning Snack	
10:30 – 11:00	Circle Time – We gather as a community to learn about our weekly theme in the form of storybooks, sharing the "news," and singing and dancing	
11:00 – 11:45	Explore theme-based independent stations; we focus on the letter and character trait of the week	
11:45 – 12:00	Indoor Playset & Movement	
12:00 – 12:30	Healthy Lunch	
12:30 – 1:00	Quiet play, reading, and pre-writing activities	
1:00 – 2:00*	Group Art Project Reading circle for 3- and 4-year-olds	
	*Extended Day - 3:00 PM pick-up option is available for Ages 3 and up.	

We <u>do not</u> offer a scheduled nap or rest period. If your child requires a nap, we highly encourage pick-up by 1:00 PM. Kids Garden is not a daycare facility.

Meet our Team



Mrs. Kimi Managing Owner

After a career in Human Resources, Kimi understands the stress and demands of a busy work and family schedule. As a mother herself, Kimi recognizes the need for the flexibility and peace of mind that Kids Garden provides. Kimi graduated from Mississippi State University with a degree in Marketing. Prior to opening Kids Garden Kimi worked at Oasis Petroleum. Kids Garden is her "second career" in which she has been able to fulfill her goals of helping other parents as they navigate work/life balance.

On occasion, you may see Kimi's husband, Paul, in the Learning Center handling IT issues and routine maintenance. When he is not standing in as our repairman or front desk clerk, Paul is a consultant with Alvarez & Marsal.



Mrs. Ruth Director

Ruth has been with Kids Garden since the very beginning and her leadership and love for teaching has blessed our center immensely. Prior to working at Kids Garden, Ruth nannied for 7 years while attending The University of Houston. While nannying, Mrs. Ruth began to adopt a Montessori approach in her children's homes and grew her interest in early education.

When she is not at Kids Garden, Ruth enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband and two "Fur Babies." Mrs. Ruth is always bringing the "outdoors in" at Kids Garden and enjoys sharing her collections of rocks and insects.

Our Teachers are qualified early childhood educators and caregivers, who provide a safe and nurturing environment for children to thrive, create, and discover. All staff are background checked and CPR/First aid certified. We are committed to continuing education and attend Reggio Emilia Conferences and Rice University's Early Literacy Conference, annually.