



Preschool Program

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday

5:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

President:

Alicia Rocker

Arockerwatchmegrow@gmail.com

Administrator:

Krystle Griffith

Krystlegwatchmegrow@gmail.com

2316 W. Sylvania

Toledo, Ohio 43613

419-214-0306

Welcome to Watch Me Grow Learning Academy Preschool!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am thrilled that your child will be joining us this year to explore the wonders that nature provides! Our students develop a foundation of skills while forming deep connections with nature.

Your child will learn many new concepts in the coming months through exploration, experimentation, creative arts, outdoor play, and kindergarten readiness. Most importantly, they will develop positive relationships with each other and our learning community. What could be a more amazing way to begin school? We hope you will also feel a sense of joy as your child grows up with us.

This handbook was created to help answer questions about our policies and procedures. Please feel free to contact me about your child's experience via krystlegwatchmegrow@gmail.com. Welcome to The Nature Preschool with a creative curriculum!

In Sunshine,

Ms. Alicia Rocker

President & CEO

Director of Watch Me Grow Nature Preschool

Mission Statement

The mission of Watch Me Grow Learning Academy is to foster appreciation for the natural world while providing children with hands-on experiences for skill development in all areas of learning.

PURPOSE

The Watch Me Grow Learning Academy Preschool Program provides children with a secure, comfortable, and developmentally appropriate preschool environment, fostering their emotional, academic, and social development. Our preschool classrooms are designed to enhance individual self-esteem and offer educational, recreational, nutritional, and creative learning opportunities. Our highly qualified staff is committed to engaging positively with the children and catering to the needs of all students.

We actively welcome and support parental involvement. Importantly, discrimination based on race, religion, gender, national origin, cultural heritage, political beliefs, sexual orientation, disability, or marital status is not tolerated within our program.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

"Watch Me Grow" is an educational center that integrates nature into all aspects of the curriculum, physical environment, and classroom design. Our small class sizes enable us to provide individual attention and facilitate effective communication between educators and students. We specialize in catering to the needs of children with special requirements, offering speech therapy for those experiencing difficulties with verbal communication. Our preschool program is designed to prepare children for the transition to kindergarten. We aim to deliver high-quality early childhood education that meets the unique needs of each child in our care as they develop.

VISION

Watch Me Grow is committed to providing children with the highest quality of care. We achieve this by obtaining and maintaining the highest level of SUTQ's keystones. Our approach to learning is focused on assisting children on their journey through exploration and play, providing both child-directed and teacher-directed activities. We create a stimulating and nurturing environment that balances social, emotional, and intellectual support equally. We offer a range of enrichment programs that include Computer Kids, Spanish Lessons, Physical Fitness Programs, Music, and Movement.

ENROLLMENT

To enroll in the Preschool Program, applications must be submitted. Applications received on or before June 30th of the enrollment year will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis for enrollment. Applications received after June 30th, once all available spots have been filled, will be placed on a waitlist.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT

At Watch Me Grow Learning Academy, we have a checklist for enrollment that must be followed to ensure your child's enrollment. All required paperwork must be submitted before your child can start. Before your child's first day, parents must complete and sign several forms that must be submitted to us without exception. These forms are essential for providing the best possible care for your child.:

- The Policy Handbook Signed
- Child Enrollment and Health information
- Medical Information Sheet (includes shot records)
- Administration of Medication Form filled out by a doctor.
- Child Profile and Information Sheet
- Emergency Information form/Pick-up Authorization sheet
- Consent for emergency treatment and transportation.

Please keep me informed of any changes in addresses, telephone numbers, and other pertinent information listed on any/all the above forms. If you have any questions regarding completing these forms, please ask.

SHOT RECORDS

Immunizations are required upon enrollment and must be attained before your start date. Immunizations must be kept up to date according to OHIO state law. Parents can decline immunizations on their child's medical form but still will need to get a physical.

REGISTRATION FEE

When acceptance into the center and signing the contract, there will be a \$150.00 registration fee.

SIGN IN/ SIGN OUT

Each day upon arriving, the parents must sign their children in, noting the time came. A sign-in/out pad, pens, and a clock are all by the door. For publicly funded there will be a tablet to sign your child in and out daily. No child will be accepted after 9:00 am

PAYMENT PROCEDURES

You can pay by cash or Brightwell.

ABSENCES

Childcare fees are based on enrollment, not attendance. To maintain a reserved space, tuition must be paid during your child's absence due to illness, holidays, vacation, or any other reason. We would also appreciate it if you could communicate with us via email or phone call if your child will be absent for the day or due to family vacation or emergency reasons. Each family will get 5 days a year not to pay tuition.

LATE POLICY

Children must be picked up within 15 minutes of class ending. Families who have not picked up by this time will be charged \$25 plus an additional \$1 per minute after that.

CLOSINGS:

The Dates will be available on the 1 st of the year or when you enroll your child.
Labor Day, Memorial Day, Columbus Day, Presidents Day MLK Day, Independence Day, June 19 th .
Parent Teacher Conference
Thanksgiving Day Day after Thanksgiving Christmas Break in December dates will be announced. New Years Eve Professional Development Days will be announced.

HOLIDAYS AND VACATION

Paid Holidays

We will be closed in observance of the following holidays.

- And up to 5 Professional Development days per year

If the holiday falls on a weekend day, Watch Me Grow will close during the week.

For example, if New Year's Day falls on a Saturday, Watch Me Grow may close on

Friday or Monday. Families will be given notice in the event of additional closings.

Paid holidays and professional development days are essential to ensuring the highest quality of care and education for your child.

VACATION DAYS

Each family who attends Watch Me Grow full-time and is current with payments will receive five days of vacation per calendar year. Please note vacation days are per family, not per child. Any vacation days not used by December 31 of each year will expire. Vacation days may not be used on a paid holiday. Please provide notice when you wish to use vacation days. Requests to use vacation days must be provided in writing.

Daily Schedule:

5:00 AM-6:30 AM	Center Open Quiet time
6:30 AM-7:00 AM	Greet Children/Free Play
7:00 AM-8:00 AM	Wash Hands Breakfast
8:00 AM-8:30 AM	Wash Hands Clean-up, Diaper Change/Potty
8:30-9:00 AM	ART/Music/Dramatic Play
9:00-9:30 AM	Center Time
9:30-10:00 AM	Snack
10:00-10:30 AM	Circle Time Stories/Songs
10:30-11:00 AM	Outside Time
11:30 AM -12:00 PM	Wash hands and clean up/Choice
12:00-12:30 PM	Lunch/ PreK dismissal/ PreK Arrival
12:30-12:45 PM	Diaper Change/Potty
12:45-2:45 PM	Nap Time
2:45-3:00 PM	Diaper Change/Potty
3:00-3:30 PM	Snack Time/PreK Dismissal
3:45-4:00 PM	Teacher's Choice
4:00-4:30 PM	Outside Time/Music Movement
4:30-5:00 PM	Diaper Change/Potty
5:00-5:30 PM	Clean Up/Free Play
5:30 PM-6:00 PM	Good-byes

Rates/Payment schedules

Pre-school: Full week: \$310.00
Preschool: Half-week: \$240.00

PRIVATE PAY *ATTENTION PARENTS

If you have private pay or have co-pays, you must pay every Monday, the week your child starts. Paying holds a spot for your child. If your child misses any days out that week you must still pay the full weekly balance.

WHY A NATURE-BASED CURRICULUM?

Nature-based learning has been linked to improved test scores, physical fitness, science and math understanding, reduced ADHD effects, and overall academic performance. Our curriculum fosters a strong connection to nature, engaging all senses to build lasting bonds. It provides the academic skills needed for kindergarten readiness and nurtures physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and creative development within a nature-centered framework.

CURRICULUM

The preschool program has a comprehensive creative curriculum with three main components: Readiness and Writing, Language and Literacy, and Numbers and Math. The program focuses on developing various skills such as body awareness, vocabulary, and mathematical concepts through hands-on activities.

ASSESSMENT

Ohio's Early Learning Assessment (ELA) is designed to help preschool teachers evaluate the skills, knowledge, and behaviors of young children in six key areas, including Social Foundations, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Physical well-being and Motor Development Teachers will share a report with families in the fall and spring that explains their findings.

Age & Stages-3 Questionnaire Student's growth in social-emotional, fine motor, gross motor, communication, and problem-solving are monitored through a questionnaire completed by parents once a school year in the fall. A follow-up screener will be given in the spring if there is an area of concern. Progress Reports and Report Cards will be given three times a year, in fall, winter, and spring.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- On-site Speech Therapy

Throughout the academic year, we will provide various specialized activities and services, including vision and speech/hearing screenings, as well as designated picture days. We have established a partnership with TPT to offer speech therapy for children encountering speech difficulties. These events will be scheduled periodically during the fall, winter, and spring terms. Kindly anticipate forthcoming notifications detailing specific dates and pertinent information.

- On-site music Therapy

Music therapy involves children in singing, listening, moving, playing, and creative activities that may help them become better learners. Music therapists work on developing a child's self-awareness, confidence, readiness skills, coping skills, and social behavior, and may also provide pain management techniques.

OUR STAFF

Our teachers come from diverse backgrounds, but they all share one thing in common: a love of nature and preschoolers! Teachers are knowledgeable about developmentally appropriate practices for early childhood learners and have a wealth of teaching experience.

CLASS STAFFING

Our classes are led by two co-teachers, and occasionally three or four teachers may work with a group of students. We are licensed by the Department of Children and Youth Development, and all staff and volunteers follow state guidelines, including fingerprinting, background checks, and First Aid/CPR training as required.

STEP UP TO QUALITY

The Step Up to Quality initiative serves as a voluntary quality rating system for early care and education programs. This system acknowledges programs that surpass Ohio's licensing standards and demonstrate exceptional quality. Watch Me Grow Learning Academy is presently distinguished as a GOLD AWARD center under Step Up to Quality. It is subject to annual reassessments conducted by a representative from ODJFS to ensure ongoing adherence to the program's high standards.

Programs can earn a bronze, silver, or gold star rating by meeting the quality benchmarks for the State of Ohio.

Step Up to Quality means:

- Fewer children per classroom
- Degree-trained teachers
- A more comprehensive early education experience for your child
- A focus on continuous improvement

A Day at Watch Me Grow

The Our days follow a flexible routine, embracing students' interests and promoting an emergent curriculum. Teachers act as learning facilitators, adapting to students' needs. Even in cold weather, outdoor activities continue, either briefly or supplemented with creative stations, special projects, or experiments, ensuring continuous engagement and learning.

INDOOR PLAY

Indoor Play constitutes most of our playtime (when the entire year is averaged). Watch Me Grow Learning Academy provides a variety of age-appropriate toys for your child to play with. It is preferred that no toys be brought from home, I will not be responsible for toys from home that get broken or lost at daycare. The responsibility remains with the child and the parents.

OUTDOOR PLAY

All children, infants through school age, will be given daily outdoor time, weather permitting. We use the Childcare Weather Watch Chart to determine if the weather conditions are too hot or too cold for outdoor play. If weather conditions do not permit outdoor play, we provide time for vigorous indoor activities. Please dress your child appropriately for the current weather, and in play clothes (with shoes that adequately protect the feet and are not slick-soled -- tennis shoes are

an excellent choice). When the weather cooperates, we will spend time outdoors, ranging from a walk to more time spent outside as the weather permits.

Outdoor play is incorporated into the daily schedule. Staff members actively engage in activities when prompted by the children. Outdoor play is an opportunity for children to run, jump, climb, and use their bodies in ways that would otherwise be unsafe in an indoor classroom. In addition, a large amount of social interaction takes place when children play outdoors. Because they are engaged in fewer teacher-directed activities and more child-directed play, children can choose their friends and who to interact with.

Children will go outside year-round, including winter. Only during extreme weather conditions will the children remain indoors. Our teachers refer to the Childcare Weather Watch poster from the OHIO Department of Public Health to determine if it is too hot or cold to play outdoors. Parents need to send their children in appropriate clothing and outerwear for the weather conditions (e.g., coat, snow pants, boots, gloves, etc.) Please ask your child's teacher if you have any questions about weather-appropriate clothing.

EMERGENCY CLOSING AND INCLEMENT

In the event of an emergency closing and/or inclement weather, Watch Me Grow, goes off Washington Local School. If there is a level 3, we will be closed. We will call or email our parents if we are closed. Should the school need to close in the middle of the day, the school staff will attempt to reach the child's parents first to arrange to pick it up.

Should the staff be unable to reach the parents, the people listed on the emergency contact form will be called until pick-up arrangements can be made. Staff will notify the parents or emergency contact person at the time of the call of the pick-up location should the children need to be evacuated from the childcare center. Parents or emergency contact persons should report directly to the alternate location if one is indicated.

The weather forecast may be confusing unless you know the meaning of the words.

Blizzard Warning: There will be snow and high winds that produce blinding snow, deep drifts, and life-threatening wind chills. Seek shelter immediately. **Heat Index Warning:** How hot it feels to the body when the air temperature (in Fahrenheit) and relative humidity are combined.

Wind Chill Warning: There will be sub-zero temperatures with moderate to intense winds expected which may cause hypothermia and great danger to people, pets, and livestock.

Winter Weather Advisory: Weather conditions may cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. If caution is exercised, these situations should not become life-threatening.

Winter Storm Warning: Severe winter conditions have begun in your area.

Winter Storm Watch: Severe winter conditions, like heavy snow and ice, are possible within the next day or two.

<u>Wind-Chill</u>	<u>Heat</u>
30 is chilly and generally uncomfortable 15 to 30 is cold 0 to 15 is very cold -20 to 0 is bitterly cold with a significant risk of frostbite -20 to -60 is extremely cold and frostbite is likely -60 is frigid and exposed skin will freeze in 1 minute	80 or below is considered comfortable 90 beginning to feel uncomfortable 100 uncomfortable and may be hazardous 110 considered dangerous. All temperatures are in degrees Fahrenheit

Class Options

- **Half Day Morning classes are offered from**
9 a.m.-12 p.m. for either 2 or 3 mornings per week (Tues./Thurs. OR Mon./Wed./Fri.)
- **Half-day afternoon classes are offered from** 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m. for 2 afternoons (Mon./ Wed. OR Tues./Thurs.)
- **Full-day classes are offered from** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for either 2 or 3 days per week (Tues./Thurs. OR Mon./Wed./Fri.).

Early Bird Care and After School Care What is it?

It is a before-care option that takes place from 4:45 a.m. -9 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., offered to students in our morning and after-school full-day classes. Children engage in quiet activities or games during this time.

Full-Day Class Information

Our full-day classes take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. After a busy morning at Watch Me Grow, children eat lunch, rest, and play! Outdoor time, or an enriching activity and closing circle concludes our day.

STAFF RATIOS/SIZE:

Age of children	Staff/Child Ratio
Preschool - three years	1 to 12 or
Preschool - four and five years of age	1 to 14

LUNCH

Watch Me Grow Learning Academy, provides a healthy lunch and two snacks every day. Meals and snacks are a daily opportunity for us to sit down together, eat, and socialize. Children are encouraged but never forced to eat. Our menu plan follows the Food Guide recommendations. Lunches are Catered. Snacks will be provided. The formula will have to be provided by parents. Whole milk and 1 % milk will be provided. Whole milk will be provided to 12 months to 2 1/2 years old.

We will do our best to incorporate some of your child's favorite foods into our meal plans. Please make sure that you include some of these items on the child profile/information sheet. It is also important that you provide updated information on anything your child has or has not had in terms of food. If any allergies develop, please tell me right away.

We will post weekly menu plans on our bulletin board. If your child is allergic to any food on our menu plan, please bring something in place of the meal or snack. Please do not include chips, chocolate, and candy at any time. Treats will be welcome at daycare on birthdays or special holiday events.

***Do not bring peanut products. Some children have life-threatening allergies to peanuts.**

NEW FAMILY ORIENTATION

Each family is strongly encouraged to schedule a time with the daycare to complete a "New Family Orientation." This orientation is a great time for parents to drop off routine care items (extra clothes, supplies,) as well as an opportunity to participate in a portion of classroom activities with their child, familiarizing themselves with their child's routines in preschool.

REST TIME

During this quiet time, children rest their bodies while listening to music or a story. They may also look at books and draw.

Your child will need the following:

A Blanket and an item to snuggle with.

NOTE:

Please label all items. Washable items must go home weekly to be laundered.

ADJUSTMENT TO THE NATURE PRESCHOOL

Starting preschool can be a big and exciting step for children! Every child reacts differently – some dive right in, while others take more time to warm up. It's all about finding what works best for your little one.

As a parent, you know your child best. There are lots of fun ways to prepare for preschool, like visiting the school and participating in summer camps. And when it's time to say goodbye at the classroom door, remind your child that you can't wait to hear all about their special day when you pick them up!

If your child is experiencing a very difficult transition, please share your concerns with the teacher so that she can help provide a happy, smooth transition.

SPECIAL NEEDS CARE

Our program is a commitment to inclusion of all children. Communication must be ongoing and responsive to the needs of all families. We want to assure you that confidentiality is respected and upheld by all children and families in our care. To meet the individual needs of the child, we ask that you communicate any special needs your child may have. We will always strive to maintain a barrier-free physical environment to enhance the educational experience of all children in our program. Parents of children with special needs may request a written daily record. We work with Harbor Behavior to work with us hand and hand to make sure that each child is getting the best care.

DAILY COMMUNICATION

Watch Me Grow, uses Bright Wheel to communicate, and share photos, notes, and incidents.

NEWSLETTERS

A newsletter will be posted on the bulletin board in your child's class. If you sign up for Bright Wheel a copy will be sent to you. This newsletter provides you with general information and announcements about the center and the detailed weekly themes and announcements.

CULTURAL COMPETENCE

Watch Me Grow Learning Academy, is committed to respecting each child's and family's culture and diverse needs. We recognize that culture influences every aspect of a child's development and is reflected in childrearing beliefs and practices. We believe it is important to support and

preserve the child's home language usage, faith and beliefs, and cultural traditions. We recognize that children can and will acquire the use of English even when their home language is used and respected.

Watch Me Grow Learning Academy, carries out this philosophy of cultural competence in the following ways:

1. Families are treated with respect and sensitivity from our first meeting.
2. Families' financial limitations are respected when planning for activities that could potentially result in additional costs, through the acceptance of JFS payments, and a clear understanding of payment expectations from the time of enrollment.
3. We attempt to learn accurate information about each family, their culture, faith and beliefs, and cultural traditions (we encourage each family if they feel comfortable, to share this information with us at the time of enrollment). This information is part of the child's daily plan as it relates to meals and snacks, holiday recognition, etc.
4. Families are encouraged to be actively involved in what their child is doing in our program through the family "homework", dress-up days, holiday parties, and volunteer opportunities such as chaperoning field trips.
5. Families are asked to inform us of the best way for them to receive communication (i.e. verbal, written, text, email, etc).
6. Watch Me Grow Learning, will continue to acquire training annually to further our knowledge of culture, language, and diversity.

DISCIPLINE

Our program focuses on fostering respect for others and property. We prohibit physical or verbal aggression and emphasize the proper use of toys and belongings. When a child behaves disrespectfully, we first remind them of expected conduct. If behavior persists, a "time out" method is used, with duration based on the child's age. Calm discussions follow, and if needed, temporary_separation is applied for continued agitation or defiance.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

If you have any restrictions or concerns, please feel free to address them to me. We also usually have parties at Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc. If you do not wish to have your child participate in these, please let the director know.



Clothing

Clothing Outdoor discovery requires freedom of movement in non-restrictive clothing that protects us from the weather. Please dress your child in clothing that can get messy so they will feel free to participate in messy projects and splash in mud puddles. We provide smocks for art projects however we will not force any child to wear a smock.

Expect that your child (and his/her clothing) will get dirty! If at any time your child's clothing becomes wet and uncomfortable, we will assist him/her in changing into their extra set of clothes. Please provide appropriate footwear for any weather to ensure your child can freely explore. Children need comfortable, protective shoes with gripping soles for running, jumping, and climbing.



TOILET TRAINING

Watch Me Grow Learning Academy is here to assist with your child's potty training. We encourage a collaborative approach between home and daycare to minimize confusion for the child. When your child is ready to start toilet training, please provide pull-ups and extra clothing. Wet clothing must be taken home by parents and replaced the following day.



ILLNESS

We ask that you have a backup (someone you can call if your child is sick). If your child is sick, we will call and let you know as quickly as possible so that you can make other arrangements for your child.

We will not care for a feverish child. If he has thrown up or had diarrhea within the last 24 hours, please keep him home. If he has a green discharge from his nose, he must be on an antibiotic for 24 hours before he can attend. If your child is not feeling well, do not give him Tylenol to mask his symptoms. If your child throws up the night before and seems fine the next day, he is more than likely still contagious to the others.

You must wait 24 hours. All the children use the same toilet and washroom and they often "mouth" the same toys. They are often very affectionate with each other, and it is exceedingly difficult to keep a sick child from infecting everyone else

ILLNESSES ARE DEFINED AS:

- Fever (101 F/39.5 C or higher)
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye) or "cold in the eye"
- Flu
- Unusual rash
- Severe cough, SERVE RUNNY NOSE
- Rapid breathing or labored breathing
- Severe cold
- Vomiting
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Diarrhea AFTER ONE CHANGE
- Head lice
- Contagious illness of any sort which results in the child being too ill to participate in daily activities.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

What are the symptoms of the coronavirus disease in children?

Temperatures will be checked daily

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Nasal congestion or runny nose.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Diarrhea. Nausea or vomiting, Stomachache.
- Tiredness. Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Poor appetite or poor feeding, especially in babies under 1 year old

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT

If your child has any of the symptoms or has been around someone with COVID-19, please keep your child at home for 14 days.

PARENTS HAVE ONE HOUR TO PICK UP

The child may return 24 hours after the temperature has returned to normal, 24 hours after the child is no longer vomiting, or 24-48 hours (depending on the illness) after the first dose of an antibiotic. If a child receives an antibiotic for an ear infection, he may return to daycare immediately if he has been free of other symptoms mentioned for at least 24 hours. The child is welcome when he has only a mild cold (e.g. runny nose or mild cough) but can participate in the day's activities.



FOOD ALLERGY

If your child has a food allergy, please complete the child enrollment form, available in the office. This form will be posted in your child's room, as well as in food preparation areas. If medication for an allergic reaction is provided, please have your physician sign the Food Allergy Action Plan as well.



MEDICATION

If your child needs medication during daycare, please provide it in the original container labeled with their name, doctor's name, medication details, and dosage. Your doctor will need to sign a consent form for us to administer the medication. We'll give the medication at the specified time or with a designated meal and keep a record.



MUD

We love to get messy and have fun while learning! Our activities might leave shoes muddy, pants grass-stained, and shirts covered in paint, clay, or glue. Sometimes, learning even gets into our hair! We encourage hands-on learning, so please dress your child in comfortable, non-restrictive clothes that can get messy. Our classes truly embody the idea of learning through experience!"

EMERGENCIES + SAFETY

Key staff members are trained in First Aid and CPR. In the event of an accident that requires medical attention, we will do one of the following:

- Call parents/guardians and emergency contacts to collect the child immediately to seek medical attention
- If severe and immediate help is deemed necessary, we will call 9-1-1 and a staff member will accompany the child to the emergency room until parents/guardians arrive.

All teachers carry walkie-talkies attendance sheets. Staff members in the building also use walkies to relay any important safety information to teachers.

SAFETY DRILLS

We conduct regular safety drills to help prepare students in case of an emergency. Every effort will be made to keep these activities straightforward. We do not want to frighten the children, but we do want them to feel prepared and calm in case of an emergency.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Open House is a major event to host a few weeks before school starts. It allows teachers to introduce themselves to teachers, tour the classroom, display student work, and go into detail about classroom systems and expectations. This is also a fantastic opportunity for the school leader to address parents and talk about school goals.

FIELD TRIP CHERPRONES

Field trips are typically planned far in advance, giving parents enough time to plan their attendance. With sufficient volunteers, parents can be responsible for small groups of students to help ensure that students are safe and able to have a wonderful time.

INVITE PARENTS TO EVENTS

It can be easy for a teacher or school leader to forget to inform parents about school events due to the busyness of the school week. Having a school calendar that is disseminated to parents at the beginning of the year gives parents the heads up when events are happening. Flyers, newsletters, phone calls/text messages, social media, and websites are all ways that parents can be invited to school events efficiently. Bake Sales, Parent Teacher Conference, Literacy Night, Christmas party, Easter party.

MAPLE MAGIC PANCAKE HIKE

Visit the snowy trails during class to see how maple syrup is made. Then enjoy tasty pancakes complete with maple syrup.

FAMILY SPRING SING-ALONG

Come join us for fun during class as we search for signs of spring. We'll take breaks along the way to sing the songs we've learned throughout the school year!

FLOWER GRADUATION CEREMONY

Each class will say their final goodbyes during a special flower ceremony. All participants will receive a gift from our Staff as thanks for a wonderful school year!

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

We greatly encourage and value your participation in our program! Your preschooler relies on your support and encouragement as they navigate the exciting world of learning. To stay well-informed and engaged, we recommend regularly checking your emails for updates and visiting our websites for additional resources and information. Your active involvement makes a meaningful difference in your child's educational journey.

SPECIAL GUESTS

We're super excited to invite you to join us for our first field trip of the year to the Secret Forest and lead an art project or activity at the Toledo Botanical Garden. We love it when parents get involved during class, so please share your ideas with the teacher. Let's make learning fun and memorable for our kids together!

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

Holidays are exciting for our little ones! At Watch Me Grow, we acknowledge holidays and cultural events through wholesome activities such as songs, stories, and food tasting. Please let us know how we can celebrate a holiday that is special to you.

BIRTHDAYS

In honor of your child's birthday, we will sing Happy Birthday and you can bring in a healthy Treat.

CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled to take place in November and May. We encourage you to take advantage of these dedicated time slots to engage with the teachers and engage in discussions about your child's academic progress. Should you desire to arrange a meeting with the teacher at any other point during the academic year, please do not hesitate to communicate your intentions directly to your child's teacher.

We strive to offer natural, healthy snacks such as fruits, vegetables, cheese, yogurt, whole grain cereals, or bread. We try to avoid food that contains dyes and preservatives or highly sugary snacks.

We cannot serve homemade products or peanut products to any child. We also cannot serve whole grapes, tree nuts, or peanuts.

WHAT IF IT SNOWS?

Weather-related closings and delays are based on concern for the safety of families and staff. If inclement conditions make driving dangerous, we will delay or cancel class.

Washington Local School system influences our decisions, however, Watch Me Grow Learning determines its closings and delays. Watch Me Grow reserves the right to adjust weather-related closings as we see fit. Safety will always be first in guiding our decisions. There will be no refunds in tuition, due to closures.

Please check your email or cell phone for a message from the preschool director regarding school delays or closures. As always, please do not come to school if your location is not yet safe for travel.

PARENT BULLETIN BOARD AND CUBBIES

We often post flyers or sign-ups on the parent board or cubbies. Please check these spaces to stay in the loop. If you do not regularly drop off/pick up your child and don't have an opportunity to see these items, please contact your child's teacher.

PARENT DROP-BOX

The drop boxes located near the cubbies in each classroom are a convenient way to return a form, make a payment, or leave a note for a staff member. Please make sure you are placing your item in the box and not behind it.

GRIEVANCES

If you would like to make a complaint regarding action taken by a staff member, please make direct, initial contact with that staff member to share your concern. If you are not comfortable speaking with that staff member or do not receive a satisfactory response, please contact the Director of Watch Me Grow, Krystle Griffith.

PETS & VISITING ANIMALS

Staff may introduce a class pet to the classroom. Please make sure you share any pet allergies with your students' teachers. Pets and visiting animals that are brought into the classroom must be carefully considered for their temperament, health risks, and appropriateness for young children. No animal may be brought into the preschool class without first notifying and receiving permission.

PRESCHOOLERS (3 years - 5 years)

Please bring the following supplies list from teacher, labeled with your child's first and last name:

- A complete change of seasonal clothing including socks and underwear.
- Please send a blanket or one will be provided. Each child's blanket will be sent home every Friday to be washed and returned on Monday.

TRANSITIONING TO KINDERGARTEN

We prepare your child for kindergarten by teaching personal care, motor skills, and emotional expression. At home, we encourage activities like daily reading, drawing, and providing small manipulatives for fine motor skills. When a transition is made, you will get a transition letter that includes information about the next room. There will be a transition period to ensure that the child feels comfortable with the change. We help and encourage parents to be involved in the process.

TRANSITIONS

As your child progresses through our school, they will move from one class to another with our support. We consider their age, development, and interest in classroom activities. You will receive a transition letter with information about the next class, and there will be a transition period to ensure your child feels comfortable with the change. We encourage parents to be involved in this process.

Where Great Minds Glow and Grow to the Fullest Potential



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