



Serra Preschool Newsletter - January 2015

a cooperative preschool in South Orange County where children and parents learn and love together

Please welcome our New Babies (future Serra Preschoolers)

- *Scarlett Helena Fee,*
born Jan 11, 2015
(Jameson's little sister!)
- *Addison Quinn Gales,*
born Jan 15, 2015
(Coralyn's little sister!)



San Clemente, California

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Kids Birthdays

Sophia Azzam turned 5 on 01/01
Coralyn Gales turned 4 on 1/14
Noah Lahr turned 5 on 1/18
Arjun Sheokand turns 5 on 2/03
Zayne Pillow turns 4 on 2/09
Andrea Trejo turns 5 on 2/11
Ella Wheeler turns 5 on 2/25

Upcoming Events

Thurs, Feb 5th – 12:00pm to 2:00pm - OPEN HOUSE. Early dismissal of 2-day class at 11am.
Wed, Feb 11th – 12:00pm - Valentine's Celebration (3-day Class)
Wed, Feb 11th – 12:30pm - Board Meeting
Wed, Feb 11th – 7:00pm – Prospective Parent Meeting
Thurs, Feb 12th – 11:45am - Valentine's Celebration (2-Day Class)
Fri, Feb 13th – No School (Lincoln's Birthday)
Mon, Feb 16th – No School (Washington's Birthday)
Sat, Feb 21st – 6 Week Clean-up
Sun, Feb 22nd – Trike-A-Thon
Wed, Feb 25th – General Meeting
Thurs, Feb 26th – Field Trip to San Diego Children's Museum (Both Classes)

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS OVERVIEW

NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM FIELD TRIP

<http://www.thinkplaycreate.org>

When: Thursday, February 26th from 10am to 2pm. Please arrive at 9:45am for check in. There will be a 12pm picnic lunch at the park.

What: Jump, climb, and rock your way through the Museum! The Museum Play-date tour is designed just for our littlest visitors. With our arts educator, our group will visit their most popular and engaging art spaces while also participating in open-ended sharing about what the kids do and see! After our tour, for those who want to have a picnic at the park, there is the Children's Park just diagonally across the street from the Museum.

Cost: \$5/ person. Cash or check made out to Cori Preisler OR bring payment the morning of field trip.

Bring: picnic lunch, if you would like.

Directions: 200 West Island Avenue, San Diego. Take the I-5 freeway south. Take exit 17, merge onto Front Street. Continue south on Front St. toward Convention Center. The Museum will be on the right at Island Avenue.

Parking: The Museum offers limited parking in their garage, which can be accessed from Front or Union Streets at a cost of \$10. In addition, metered parking is available in the surrounding neighborhood and there are numerous public parking lots in the vicinity of the Museum.

To Park in the Museum lot: Turn right on Island Avenue. Turn right on Union Street. Turn right at the parking entrance onto the plaza. Turn left into the underground parking garage

Sign-Up: mail CoriPreisler@hotmail.com

Director's Message

Play with Me Mommy!

When my kids were small they wanted to play with me all the time. Now that they are all grown up I often think back to the days when they were young. I often ask myself these questions, "Did I give them enough of my time? Did they have the carefree, magical childhood that I wanted them to have?" I never wonder if they had enough after school activities or homework or soccer and piano lessons. Yes those things are important but playing with them and being with them is so much more important.

We know that children thrive when they are given our full attention. But giving full attention isn't always easy. Parents often get so preoccupied with their tasks that they give only a partial encounter, if any at all.

When my kids were preschool age I tried a technique called "special time". Each day I set aside 15 or 20 minutes for each child. During that time I gave my child my full, undivided attention. Nothing short of a fire or earthquake took me away from our play and we played whatever my kids wanted to play. I set a timer and let the kids know that we could play whatever they wanted until the timer went off. You can play anything for 15 minutes. Sometimes we would play longer until I was taken away by a task or phone call. I played with one kid while the baby was napping and when the baby got older we had our special time while the older one was doing homework.

Giving your child time each day allows for a "genuine encounter" which directly impacts your child's self esteem and serves to strengthen the parent/child relationship that most hope will last a lifetime. Regular play times can unite you and your children, free you from stress, and enable you to truly love and appreciate each other.

Think about how you will feel when your kids are grown and gone. When you are wondering about the kind of time you did or did not spend with them. Everyone always told me that kids grow up so fast and its true they do. It happens in the blink of an eye.

So I encourage you to try and connect with your kids in a more meaningful way. You do not have to call it special time or even set a timer. Everyone will find his or her own way of playing and connecting. It's a habit worthy of developing.

Happy Playing,
Fondly Mrs. Nowicki

Everyday Shapes from Mrs. Macker

In the 2-day classroom the children are learning about square, circle and triangle shapes. You too can get involved in the fun by helping your child identify and discuss shapes while you are doing your daily activities. Here are some suggestions on how you can help your child focus on what makes shapes alike and different.

1. **AT HOME** - Note pads, photo frames, drinking glasses and a slice of pizza are a few items you can use to talk about shapes with your child. You can ask the question, "What shape is the photo frame? You're right, it's a square."
2. **ON THE ROAD** - When you see a yield sign, point out that it has three sides. You can look for other shapes such as square windows and count their four corners. While walking in San Clemente you can look for something circular like round manhole covers and doorknobs.
3. **AT THE STORE** - While shopping at the grocery store you can play the "I Spy" game. "I spy an orange circle." (An orange) "I spy a white triangle." (A wedge of cheese)

Sincerely,

Joan Macker

COUNTING POEM from Mrs. Macker's class

*Five little firefighters sitting very still
Until they see a fire on top of a hill
Number one rings the bell ding-dong ding-dong
Number two pulls his big boots on
Number three jumps on the fire engine red
Number four puts a red fire hat on her head
Number five drives the fire truck to the fire
As the big yellow flames go higher and higher
Wooooooo Hear the fire truck say
As all of the cars get out of the way
Shhhhhh goes the water from the fire hose spout
And quicker than a wink, the fire is (clap) out!*

If I were a bear, this is where I would hibernate and what I would bring with me..
(from a child's point of view)

Ryley Bailey – I would hibernate in a cave. If I was a bear I would bring fish with me. Bears eat fish you know. Bears hibernate in winter and actually when its not really winter they can come out of their caves and eat fish.

Noah – I would hibernate in a cave and bring a flashlight and my brother. If it were dark I could turn the flashlight on.

Ella – I would hibernate in a cave. I would bring flowers. I would get some fish when I woke up in the spring.

Maverick – I would bring food and hibernate in caves of darkness. Something like fish is what I would bring.

Miss Sue Song

Miss Sue, Miss Sue, Miss Sue from Alabama
Sitting in her rocker eating Betty Crocker,
Watching the clock go
Tick tock, tick tock banana rock
Tick tock, tick tock banana rock
ABCDEFGG
Wash those spots right off of me
Oosha Mama Oosha mama Oosha Mama FREEZE!

Sponsorship Rates

Business Card: \$5 per issue or \$30 for the year

¼ Page Ad: \$10 per issue or \$50 for the year

Email your ad to Claudia Rohm at claudhopper71@gmail.com

Serra Preschool does not endorse any advertisements listed.

Sponsors

Business card for Big Air Bouncers. The card is white with red and yellow text. At the top, it says "INFO@BIGAIR-BOUNCERS.COM". Below that, it lists "SCHOOL GROUPS", "CHURCH GROUPS", "ACTIVE MILITARY", and "SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS". To the right, it says "ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A DISCOUNT" and features a circular logo with a bouncer. At the bottom, it says "ASK ABOUT OUR FREQUENT OR LONG TERM RENTAL OPTIONS", "We are fully insured!", and "Your childs safety is our #1 concern".

Business card for Matt, Owner & Operator of Big Air Bouncers. The card is white with red and yellow text. At the top, it says "MATT" and "MATT@BIGAIR-BOUNCERS.COM". To the right, it says "OWNER & OPERATOR". In the center, there is a colorful illustration of two children jumping on a red and blue bouncer. Below the illustration, it says "BIG-AIR BOUNCERS" and "949-842-0494". At the bottom, it says "BIGAIR-BOUNCERS.COM" and features a circular logo with a bouncer.