



## About Our Preschool

The Preschool Laboratory Program at Pittsburg State University began in 1964.

## Philosophy

Our preschool is grounded in the principles of best practices in programs for young children. We believe in meeting children's individual and group needs. We support children to reach their potential as learners, as well as to help them enjoy their childhood. We believe that the family is the most important component of a child's life. We ask families to be partners with us as we work with their child.

## Application Procedure

### Waiting List

Our preschool is open to all families regardless of race, creed, disability, ethnic or cultural backgrounds. Children must be two years old to be placed on our waiting list. Children who are potty-trained, aged three to kindergarten eligibility who are currently on our waiting list are accepted. The children of students, faculty, staff and the community are eligible for our preschool. Parents are normally notified in March if their child will be in preschool the following fall and spring semester.

### Curriculum Approach

The curriculum approach is child centered. Curriculum is planned based on what we know young children are interested in. We intentionally organize the classroom so that it supports each child's development. We use evidence-based curriculum models to plan curriculum. Based on the curriculum models and guiding beliefs about children's development, the supervising teacher and other helpers work together to plan long-term projects with activities planned in all areas of development to further each child's growth.

## Preschool Sessions

Parents have the option of enrolling their child for either three or four days per week. Our preschool is contracted for the academic year, fall and spring. The preschool is closed on Fridays in addition to dates university classes are not held.

Morning Session 8:30am to 11:15am

Afternoon Session 1:00pm to 3:45pm

## Tuition Rates as of Fall 2009

Three-Day-Week \$450 per semester

Four-Day-Week \$500 per semester

A \$50 holding fee is required at the time the child is accepted for enrollment for the year. This is not an additional fee, but part of the spring tuition which reserves a spot for the child. The fall tuition is due in one or two payments prior to the start of preschool. Spring tuition, less the \$50 holding fee, is due in December.

## Transportation

Transportation to and from our preschool is not provided.

## Adult Supervision

The preschool lead teacher is assisted by a preschool director. In addition to at least one student employee, there are two to three early childhood or elementary education students enrolled who are completing their course requirements within the preschool lab. Therefore, we offer plenty of supervision for a maximum of 18 children per session, usually less.

## Discipline Policy

The overall discipline policy is aimed at helping children learn to develop internal behavior controls. Redirecting children to more appropriate behaviors is often used as a guidance strategy. Time-out is the ultimate discipline strategy used and is used sparingly. Teachers do not slap, spank or ridicule children in an effort to maintain order in the classroom.

## APPLICATION FOR LITTLE GORILLA'S PRESCHOOL WAITING LIST

Child's Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Does child: Live with both parents at this same address? \_\_\_\_\_

Have special characteristics/special needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Guardian's Full Name : First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Full Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Are either of the parents current, future or past PSU Students? Yes No Current - Future - Past?

"Print" parent e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the phone number which is the best **daytime** phone number.

Home \_\_\_\_\_ Mom's Work \_\_\_\_\_ Mom's Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Dad's Work \_\_\_\_\_ Dad's Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Other/List \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: PSU Family & Consumer Sciences  
1701 South Broadway  
Pittsburg, KS 66762  
or email to [hviets@pittstate.edu](mailto:hviets@pittstate.edu)

Daily Preschool Schedule. The daily schedule allows for a structured yet flexible environment for the children in which to play. Children have time through their day to play, make choices, interact with others, and practice budding independence.

Arrival/Sign-In: Children arrive, stack their backpacks by the door, get their nametags and sign their names with the assistance of a teacher (a way to foster emergent literacy).

Outside Activity: Besides a new garden, there are many learning opportunities on the playground as well as some planned large motor skill activities. (60 minutes)

Transition Time: Come indoors, use restroom and wash hands. (5 minutes)

Snack Time: Snack time provides an opportunity to encourage language and social skills through informal conversations and to indirectly introduce motor and math concepts to the children. To foster children's developing independence they pour their own drinks, count pieces of food, and clean up after themselves. (15 minutes)

Group Meeting with Teachers: We have two group meetings per session. Meetings provide time for conversation, sharing songs, creative movement, reading and telling stories, recalling the days events, and special guests. (25 minutes total)

Indoor Activity Time: The teacher and students plan activities in learning centers that target all areas of development such as physical experiences, literacy, mathematics, science, visual and musical arts and social interaction in their play. The planned curriculum determines which centers will be open each day and why. Activity time also includes opportunity for small group work. (50 minutes)

Small Group: Teachers work with small groups of children for more direct teaching and evaluating children's knowledge and skills.

Dismissal: Children are dismissed to their cubbies to get jackets, backpacks, and other belongings. The children return to the playground with their teachers to wait to be dismissed to their families. (5 minutes)

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Health Requirements: Upon enrollment each family must return a medical assessment from their child's physician stating that he/she is healthy and has been immunized.

# LITTLE GORILLA'S PRESCHOOL



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