

PANDA CLASS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Panda enrichment is in the form of an extended day on Tuesday, November through April. Tuesday hours are 9:15 – 1:15. Students bring a lunch from home that is eaten at 11:15 at our usual snack time. Lunches may not include peanut butter or other nut products.

Two participating parents are in the classroom from 9:00 – 11:15. Two other participating parents are in the classroom from 11:15 – 1:30. No snack or drink is needed as children bring their own lunch. There is an “early return” parent who arrives at 1:00 to begin cleanup with the participating parents. Dismissal is at 1:15.

Enrichment activities are organized and planned by Judy Barmann (Panda teacher) and Carla Bidwell (Koala teacher). Activities are in the form of four learning centers. Centers focus on science, math, reading, story telling, creative dramatics, art and large and small motor development. Our teachers present these centers in developmentally appropriate ways that include active, hands on learning with a large dose of fun. Students are divided into small groups and rotate through the centers at about twenty minute intervals. The afternoon ends with a whole group activity including games, music or large motor activity. Occasionally a field trip is scheduled. One special event that is always popular is a play written and performed by our students presented at the end of April. Families are invited to enjoy this celebration.

Through our enrichment program children will have the opportunity to try new things, receive more one-on-one guidance, develop skills and gain confidence in their abilities. We hope that by providing a wider variety of experiences, extending the length of the school day and having children eat lunch with classmates; our students will be better prepared for their future kindergarten experience.