

Playtime Press

December 2018

Around the World Open House at Playtime December 19th

Every year, Playtime classrooms transform for the holidays to represent different habitats from around the world. Your child will have the opportunity to visit and see all the classrooms with you. We invite parents to come to Playtime on Wednesday December 19th to accompany their children on a world tour within our school. It's an Open House type event with a holiday twist.

Please plan to join us Wednesday December 19th:

2nd floor classrooms - 9:00am-9:45am

1st floor classrooms— 10:00am-10:45am

We are looking forward to this fantastic 11th annual Around the World open house event. And we are excited to be sharing with you the fun and immersive learning environment that your children have created with their teachers. Thank you, in advance, for your support of this fun event at Playtime.

Classroom Teacher Names by Classroom

Around this time of year, the office often gets requests for names of teachers in each classroom for holiday cards. So, here is a complete list:

Twos Class: Rosie, Cassandra, Claudia

Threes Class: Ania, Cindy

PreK 3: Yadira, Jennie

T/Th Part Time PK3: Ali

VPK (A): Klotilda, Natashaia, Lauren

VPK (B): Susan, Yeiza

VPK Part Time: Kharene, Rita

School Age Aftercare: Natashaia, Christina, Kaylee, Melanie

Office: Julie, Emily, Ovita

Important Semester Dates

December 19th—
Holidays Around the
World at Playtime

December 24th-25th—
Closed for Christmas

January 31st—Playtime
closes **at 3:00pm**

January 1st—Closed for
New Year's

December 3rd-14th
VPK Community Service
Project

Our VPK Classes
are collecting new
books, for all ages, to
donate to Metropolitan
Ministries this holiday
season. Please bring
your donations to the
office by December 14th
to participate.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CINDY—DEC. 3RD

ANIA —DEC. 22ND

SCHOOL CLOSURE NOTES

** Hillsborough County Schools close for winter break December 24th-January 7th. Classes resume on January 8th. See school age teachers for activity schedules at Playtime. **

** Please note that our part time PK3 and VPK classes follow the Hillsborough county school calendar schedule. So, part time students usually do not have class on those days, even if Playtime is open. * However, our MWF part time VPK class does meet on Monday, January 7th.

CURRICULUM CORNER

The Importance of Play for Early Learning

Importance of Play

For young children, play is often a full body activity that helps them develop skills they will need later in life. Running, dancing, climbing, rolling—these activities all foster muscle development and help fine-tune motor skills. Children also build their mental and emotional muscles as they create elaborate, imaginative worlds that include a system of rules that develop social relationships and rules with friends.

Children teach themselves to control their emotions and to think before they act when they play. For example, if a child is pretending to be Olaf from Frozen, they may pretend they're melting when they come inside or insist that they "like warm hugs". They are considering how their actions are like the way Olaf should act. This role playing helps children build social skills and helps them become the kind of adults who will someday succeed in a wide range of personal and professional environments.

In an academic setting, play helps children learn and grow. Learning letters, reading, numbers, problem-solving, and basic skills are all achieved through play as children interact with their teachers, peers and their print-rich environment. At Playtime, our teachers ask children questions about the rules and processes that are observed during the play, and then encourage children to make connections to the wider world through what they already know and what they can predict or test. This is known as "inquiry-based learning". The best part about teacher-initiated play in lessons is that the children do not even realize they are learning. They are just having fun; which motivates them to continue the journey of learning for years to come.

Easy Ornament Craft or Gift

Fill a plastic ornament with candy kisses or M&M's candies for a simple craft or gift. Bows, snowman buttons or a Santa belt, made with colored tape, can add another level of creative flair.

Clear ornaments in the 100mm size work well for this project and can be found at craft stores, Wal-Mart, or on Amazon.com. Happy Holidays!



Virtue

"We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but rather we have those because we have acted rightly."

... Aristotle



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Look for pictures soon of our Holidays