

Nature Preschool at River Bend Information Sheet

Wichita Falls, Texas

Date and Location:

Nature Preschool is held at River Bend Nature Center located at 2200 3rd Street Wichita Falls, TX., at the corner of Sunset Drive and 3rd Street.

Nature Preschool will be held outdoors with some inside activities. For example, preschoolers will spend the majority of their time outside and then return inside for snacks, bathroom breaks, etc.

Nature Preschool will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am – 12:00 pm; Closed on major holidays

Nature Preschool requirements:

Children must be at least 3 years old and be able to use the bathroom independently. This means being able to articulate the need to use the restroom, pull pants up and down, getting on and off the toilet, and generally being familiar with the routine of using the restroom in a public building. Bathroom breaks are offered before moving to a new area.

All children will stay together as a group in the same area. For safety reasons and given the outdoor model of our school, your child must be able to stay with a group and must be able to acknowledge and respond to verbal instructions from trusted adults. Because learning and risk-taking often go hand in hand, we also support children's exploration of healthy risk-taking. This could be splashing in puddles, balancing on a log, or climbing a rock. Healthy risk taking encourages confidence and the ability to be able learn their capabilities in a healthy, safe environment. Campers must always be respectful toward fellow campers and teachers.

The preschool is nature-based with free play outside in all types of weather – except severe weather. The preschooler will be required to have appropriate clothing for the weather conditions for the day.

Nature Preschool registration:

Space is limited. The preschool will be filled on a first-enrolled basis and may fill up prior to the registration deadline. Preschool has a maximum of 12 preschoolers and a minimum of 10. If this minimum requirement is not met, that preschool session will be canceled.

You can complete registration and payment online at RiverBendNatureCenter.org. If you wish to fill out a paper copy of the registration form and make your payment in person, forms are available in the River Bend Gift Shop. Our hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 am - 5 pm, Sat. 9 am - 4 pm, and Sun. 12- 4 pm. Registration forms along with a \$100 Deposit that goes toward their first session is due at the first of the month of their first session.

Items to bring:

Water bottle- Write your child's name on it.

Snack- Write your child's name on it. **Snacks will not be provided by RBNC.**

Backpack- Will be used to carry water and snacks and to help carry activities home each day.

Comfortable clothes, jacket, and close-toed shoes- They will get dirty during outdoor adventures. Also, due to most of the time being outside, proper clothing for weather conditions will be required.

Change of Clothes- Please add a change of weather appropriate clothing to their backpack.

Insect repellent/sunscreen- We will not be providing insect repellent or sunscreen, please apply before your child arrives.

Drop off and pick up:

Nature Preschool is from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm; preschoolers may be dropped off no earlier than 8:45 am and must be picked up no later than 12:15 pm.

Parents will bring their preschoolers inside the Bryant Edwards Learning Center. Sign-in and sign-out will occur in the learning center each morning (drop-off) and noon (pick-up).

Only parents/guardians/designated adults listed on the preschooler's form will be allowed to pick up preschoolers. Please bring a photo ID.

No parents or guardians should visit the preschool during preschool sessions, except to drop off and pick up their child as it can be disruptive to the class.

If an early release of the preschooler is needed, parents or guardians must call ahead.

If you arrive later than 9 am, please check in at the Gift Shop.

Sanitization procedures:

Sanitization of all program areas and equipment will take place prior to use and at the end of each day.

Hand washing or hand sanitizing will be practiced before and after activities. Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap, and water, or similar disinfectant will be readily available throughout preschool.

If a preschooler becomes ill, the preschooler will be sent home. Please do not send your child to preschool if they feel sick. Thank you for helping us keep everyone healthy.

Additional information:

Two adult staff members will facilitate the preschool.

Nature Preschool sessions will be held inside during the event of severe weather.

Please contact River Bend Nature Center with any questions.

Call River Bend at 767-0843. Due to limited space, refunds will not be issued.

Thank you for allowing your child to join us at Nature Preschool!