



Dear Potential Wildflowers Parent,

Whether you already know about Waldorf education or are a new parent trying to figure out the best environment for your child, we're glad you found us. Our early childhood program provides a nurturing place that protects the simplicity of childhood. Based on the principles and practices of *Waldorf Early Childhood*, we are inspired by an educational movement that began 100+ years ago. We emphasize the joy of nature and "play-based ~ imagination-powered" child development. We are currently the only program in the Treasure Valley who are associate members of WECAN (Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America).

Our staff consists of trained, licensed nurturers who provide a high-quality experience for each child. Our low child to nurturer ratio (1:6 or less) allows us to build strong relationships with children. These relationships, along with a consistent rhythm to our days, weeks and seasons, give children the security needed to flourish. It's from this place of security and comfort that the children learn, discover and experience each day.

We believe children learn best from real-life experiences that are similar to home. We are not a large commercial center, but a small, private setting that provides a warm, magical and nurturing experience for young children. Children's eyes, fingers and imaginations enjoy the natural materials in a beautiful space dedicated solely to the preschool. The program's foundation is imaginative play which provides a strong foundation for abstract thinking which is crucial for future academic success. Wildflowers focus' on the child's social, emotional and physical development. Their creative and imaginative capacities are allowed to flourish as they discover and learn about the world through their experiences and interactions with those around them. We believe that this peaceful environment allows children to truly thrive. We are not a traditional academic preschool.

It is important to us that, together with you, we form a partnership of care for your child. We invite you to participate in our waitlist application process that is open year-round. We hope the following information will answer many of your questions.

Warmly,

Laura Henning

Founder/ Lead Nurturer

DAILY RHYTHMS

Incorporating principles of Waldorf Early Childhood Education, Wildflowers provides ample time and space for joyful and creative play, Spanish language, nature exploration, artistic expressions, and healthy snacks in a caring environment that nourishes the senses and evokes a reverence for the wonders of the world around them. Simple, natural materials are used to develop imagination, concentration, coordination, language and number skills that will be revisited in the elementary years.

Wildflowers is located in a beautiful Bench home with a lovely enclosed yard. We also enjoy easy access to Borah Park across the street. The blend of mixed ages (2.5-6) and temperaments creates a family-like atmosphere that enables children to develop social and life skills. Wildflowers is a wonderful stepping stone from home life to school. We are always media free to ensure the protection of early childhood. We are also all-weather people and are outside much of the day, every day!

MORNING PRESCHOOL

Welcome and Free play

Daily Activity

Clean-up, hand washing, bathroom breaks

Morning snack

Circle time (includes Spanish, finger games, songs, movement)

Outside play or walk

During the preschool years we seek to awaken and support the child's creative and playful nature and to nurture their sense of wonder and gratitude. The concept is fostered through the tasks of daily living which are fun and joyful. The children learn to become social beings, able to help and be helped by those around them. They gain an inner well-being as they feel part of their world.

With all this in mind, we offer children opportunities to participate in these creative and practical activities: painting, baking, coloring, gardening, free play, games, songs, puppetry, story-telling, crafts and seasonal festivals.

AFTERNOON CARE

Afternoon Care is available for those needing care for the full day. It consists of lunch time, nap or rest time, crafts and indoor and outdoor play.

**It is not recommended for children under 3 years old to start their day in the afternoon as it can be a difficult transition to nap.

YEARLY RHYTHM

Wildflowers strives to build strong relationships with our families and the community through gatherings that may include: festivals, field trips, and parent evenings throughout the year in tune with the seasons and holidays.

A complete calendar is provided each year by May. We observe most Federal Holidays and generally follow Peace Valley Charter's calendar for major breaks and Boise School District for weather closures.

We celebrate as a community a trip to an apple orchard in September and a pumpkin patch in October, Martinmas in November and Spiral of Lights in December and May Day Festival.

Our "Consistent Care" Philosophy

"Drop and go" childcare doesn't allow children, caregivers, and parents to build the relationships that are vital for children to feel safe and secure. Consistency is needed for these relationships to form and blossom so that children can truly thrive. Therefore, you'll notice some deliberate differences in our program in comparison with many traditional preschool facilities. We ask for a consistent schedule for our students and tuition rates are set with this in mind.

We do make exceptions from time to time, but in an ideal world, with the best interests of the school as a whole in mind, we prefer to hold to this scheduling consistency with consecutive days of care. For example, we don't offer M, W, F as a schedule option rather Th-F or Mon-Wed as an example.

Resources

Please take time to review these websites. They contain valuable information relevant to our values.

www.waldorfearlychildhood.org

www.whywaldorfworks.org

<https://www.simplicityparenting.com/>

Article on saying "good job" https://violetgardenpreschool.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Good_Job.pdf

This video is a good broad overview <https://youtu.be/B-ZSeepDmPE>

WILDFLOWERS APPLICATION PROCESS

Young children live in their senses; all that they learn comes from their direct and immediate experience of daily life. Our programs are designed to honor and to build healthy relationships with children and their families.

Wildflowers provides loving, Waldorf-inspired, relationship-based care for children 2.5 to 6 years old in a home environment with dedicated indoor and outdoor space located next to Borah Park where daily "life" is the curriculum. Our maximum preschool class size 12. Children must be able to independently use the bathroom before starting care.

We seek families who value our early childhood philosophy and who want an environment that provides a healthy, balanced and nurturing childhood experience. A limited number of openings are available for each age.

Preschool 8:30am to 12:15pm with an option for 2, 3 or 5 days a week.

Afternoon care is from 12:15 to 4pm

Extended Care past 4 pm is available for additional fee with prior arrangement.

APPLICATION STEPS

Step ① Complete Waitlist Application

Complete and return the application form along with the non-refundable \$65 waitlist application fee. Our waitlist is ongoing and applications are considered on a space available basis. Staff is available prior to applying for any questions or information via email or phone. To begin the process please submit completed waitlist application to:

Wildflowers Child Care
c/o Laura Henning
6420 W Randolph Dr
Boise, ID 83709

Cash or make check, cash or electronic payment to "Wildflowers Child Care"

You will receive a confirmation email upon receipt of your application and fee and be added to the waitlist. As we get to your spot on the list, you will be contacted for step 2 to schedule a tour and continue the process.

STEP ② Follow-Up Questionnaire, Schedule a Tour/Interview

The next step in the process is answering a more in-depth questionnaire prior to attending a family interview. The questionnaire will be emailed to you after receipt of your application. Upon receipt you will be contacted for a tour/interview that includes your child and hopefully both parents and generally lasts 45 minutes. It is a conversation between the parents and the teacher, as well as time for the nurturers to observe your child during play. This process is intended to help us become better acquainted with you and your child and for your family to ask questions. Tours are usually in the afternoons.

Step 3 Acceptance and Enrollment

Following step 2, if it appears that it will be a good fit for everyone and there is a space available for your child, you will be sent an email with an offer of enrollment. If you accept the enrollment offer, you will be emailed an enrollment packet and service contract. You will also be provided with the Family Handbook and calendar. These must be filled out and submitted by the due date stated on the letter, usually 5 days. Current immunization documentation, state exemption form or personal vaccine exemption statement must be provided to us at least a week before your child starts care.

Final Step: Fees

A place for your child is guaranteed upon receipt of the following by the deadline:

- All the enrollment documents
- service contract
- a non-refundable \$200 new child enrollment fee
- at least 25% of the materials fee are received by the deadline in your letter

Fees can be submitted by cash, Venmo, Zelle, check or money order payable to "Wildflowers Child Care" attached to your enrollment documents and are non-refundable. If you need a spot held for you, depending on circumstances like summer break, there is an additional ½ month tuition holding fee.



WAITLIST APPLICATION

Today's date: _____

Preferred Start Date: _____

Preferred enrollment options: ___ Morning Preschool ___ Full Day Care ___ Afternoon Care

Preferred number of days to attend _____ (2, 3 or 5 days)

Other information:

Child's Name: _____ Current Age: _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Child's Birthday: _____ Gender: _____

Mother's/Guardian Name: _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Occupation _____

Father's/Guardian Name: _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Occupation _____

Main Contact Person _____

Preferred method and time of contact _____

Siblings:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

1. How did you hear about Wildflowers and what brings you to apply?

2. Do you have any experience with Waldorf education? If yes, what? If not, what attracts you to it?

3. Describe the care your child has previously had. Where and how long? (Regular in-home caregiver other than a parent, preschool, family member?)

4. What interests your child? What does he/she like to do? How much media exposure does your child have?

5. What questions might you have for us?

Include \$65 Waitlist Application Fee (Application doesn't guarantee enrollment)



Tuition Rates 2022-2023

Tuition rates are based on an annual tuition and divided into equal monthly payments based on 4 weeks per month and between \$6 -\$10/hr. Cost per day decreases as the days of care increase. It is easier for everyone to have the same cost each month and take into account national holidays, spring, winter and summer breaks and in-service days that are necessary for teacher training each year.

Preschool Class - 8:30 am to 12:15 pm Afternoon Class 12:15 pm to 4:00 pm

2 days	3 days	5 days
\$320	\$420	\$640
Materials Fee \$150	Materials Fee \$170	Materials Fee \$200

Full Day Class 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

2 days	3 days	5 days
\$415	\$580	\$920
Materials Fee \$160	Materials Fee \$200	Materials Fee \$250

- Materials Fee is once per contract year.
- There is non-refundable, one-time enrollment fee \$200
- 3% sibling discount is gifted to families and is applied towards second enrolled child's tuition.
- Extra Day Drop-In Rate: Half-Day \$35, Full- Day \$50 per day, subject to space availability and prior approval