

★ Bunnell House

Lab School Calendar

September 4: Closed

Labor Day

September 8:

Open House

September 28-29: Closed

Professional Development

Friday, October 31:

Halloween Costume:
Trick or Treating

November 6 & 7:

Upstairs Parent-Teacher
Conferences

November 8 & 9:

Downstairs Parent-Teacher
Conferences

Friday, November 10: Closed

Professional Development

November 23 & 24: Closed

Thanksgiving Holiday



Need to Reach Us?

Call **907-474-6393**

♥ Director

Jenny Taylor
jmtaylor6@alaska.edu

♥ Upstairs Teacher

Lead: Chasity Evanow
crevanow@alaska.edu

♥ Downstairs Teachers

Lead: Pammy Fowler
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From Jenny

Welcome New Families! Welcome Returning Families!

Bunnell House is a child's world where we focus on helping the little ones feel comfortable, emotionally and physically, so they can learn and play. It's just as important to us that you feel comfortable, too. We seek to develop a collaborative relationship between home and school that benefits your child and confirms for you that you've made a good choice for your child when you chose Bunnell House. Open communication is important in that relationship and this newsletter is one way we keep you informed. In addition, the parent listserv, informal conversations at drop-off and pick-up, and Parent-Teacher conferences twice a year are invaluable.

Family input is always welcome. Suggestions from parents have resulted in field trips to listen to live music or use a real fire hose, building the shelter over the sandbox, and the parent listserv. Concerns and complaints may also arise—in fact, we've found improvements often grow out of complaints. We encourage you to communicate with us so we can adjust and improve.

We warmly welcome all of you to the lab school and hope that you and your children have an amazing semester. You are always welcome to visit me in the attic, call me (474-6393), or email me if you have questions, concerns or compliments to share.

Have a sensational September!

~ Jenny



Important

Taveling? Please let Jenny and your child's teacher know of any absences. Knowing ahead of time about attendance numbers allows us to plan our staffing levels, planning time and our own time-off. We appreciate it so much, thank you!

Phone In Absent Children: 474-6393

The best way to get a message to your child's teacher is by phone. A voice message may be left at any time.♦



Transitions: Advice from a Seasoned Parent

(or consistency and follow-through)

(or don't be afraid of a scene)

(or don't feel bad if you need the teacher's help)

Dropping Off

Many of us have experienced the painful tug at our heart when our child sobs, clings, wails, flops and stomps when we drop them off at preschool.

We return for one more hug, one more kiss...okay, another kiss, an extra huggy-bear hug, butterfly kisses, another hug...okay, c'mon a *lot* of us have been there! And those little ones see our pain and they take that pain and twist it around their little bitty pinky fingers.

The best thing to do is to keep it warm and simple with "have a wonderful day—I love you and I'll be thinking of you! I'll see you after work!" and then a smile, kiss, hug, and walk confidently out the door. Pause only at the window outside to wave, then keep on going. Note the emphasis on pause. If you need to cry, do so out of your child's view. A sobbing parent in the parking lot does little to reassure a child that all is well and that they will have a great day.

If your child is impeding your ability to leave (has you in a stranglehold or has attached to your ankles), signal a teacher for help—they want to end the agony as much as you do. Only ask for help if you mean it—taking your child back from the teacher only worsens the transition.



It was an exciting August at Lab School...

- ★ We are learning to recognize our written names!
- ★ We met new friends!
- ★ We played in the sandbox!
- ★ We made art!
- ★ We began learning the routines of the classroom!
- ★ We ran up the yellow slide!
- ★ We went on adventures in the boat!
- ★ We had our first fire drill!
- ★ We built so many structures!
- ★ We learned new songs and dances!



~Family Photos~

If you haven't already, please bring in or email a family photo! We love to display our families around the classrooms and it can also help the children if they are having a tough moment.
Thank you!



~Toys from Home~

Here at Bunnell House we work hard on creating a supportive, inclusive learning environment. We ask that the children don't bring toys from home unless specifically requested by the teacher for show and tell or other classroom activities. Special books, or objects from a trip are fun to share together but make sure to check with the teacher. Thank you!



Vaccination Records

If you haven't already, please email/fax/hand deliver a copy of your child's vaccination record. We are required by the State of Alaska to have these on-hand. Email reminders will be sent out early September!
Thank you :)



Quote to Note



Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. It is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace that is right for each individual child. Earlier is not better.
-Magda Gerber



A Guide for Lunch Packers

It can be hard to know how much food to send in your young child's lunch box. A general guide is one (1) tablespoon per year of age.

Below is a chart you can use when packing lunches.

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>1-3 Year Olds</u>	<u>4-6 Years Olds</u>
Vegetables	2-3 tbsp	1/3 cup
Fruit (canned)	2-3 tbsp	1/3 cup
Fruit (fresh or frozen)	1/4—1/2 small	1/2—1 small
Juice	1/4—1/3 cup	1/2 cup

Heating Lunches

It is preferred that you send food you wish to be served warm in a thermos. If you need to send food that requires heating, please send it in a container that can be used in the microwave. A few seconds of heating can be done quickly, but cooking food or having to transfer food to a microwave safe dish takes the teachers away from the children as well as from their own lunch.

Thank you!



Your Child's First Teacher

That's you! You may have read or heard that before. Now that your child is attending preschool there are other teachers to help you with that big job. Still, parents are a child's most influential teachers and in the long run what you say and do, your values and beliefs, and the emphasis you put or neglect to put on things has more of an impact on your child than his or her preschool teachers do. They are just the first in a long line of teachers your child will have—you are the constant influence, with daily reinforcement of what you are teaching.

Children love to have your undivided attention, so indulge them! Seize the opportunity to teach your children your values as you lavish your attention on them. Below are a variety of websites which offer activities, ideas and inspiration for parents and children to enjoy together. I hope you will take the precious time to explore them and share them with your wonderful little students! ♦

childfun.com
creativekidsathome.com
fairbanksfamilies.com
familytlc.net
pbskids.org
travelforkids.com

10 Signs of a Great Preschool

Printed with permission from the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

1. Children spend most of their time playing and working with materials or other children. They do not wander aimlessly, and they are not expected to sit quietly for long periods of time.
2. Children have access to various activities throughout the day. Look for assorted building blocks and other construction materials, props for pretend play, picture books, paints and other art materials, and table toys such as matching games, pegboards, and puzzles. Children should not all be doing the same thing at the same time.
3. Teachers work with individual children, small groups, and the whole group at different times during the day. They do not spend all their time with the whole group.
4. The classroom is decorated with children's original artwork, their own writing with invented spelling, and stories dictated by children to teachers.
5. Children learn numbers and the alphabet in the context of their everyday experiences. The natural world of plants and animals and meaningful activities like cooking, taking attendance, or serving snack provide the basis for learning activities.
6. Children work on projects and have long periods of time (at least one hour) to play and explore. Worksheets are used little if at all.
7. Children have an opportunity to play outside every day. Outdoor play is never sacrificed for more instructional time.
8. Teachers read books to children individually or in small groups throughout the day, not just at group story time.
9. Curriculum is adapted for those who are ahead as well as those who need additional help. Teachers recognize that children's different background and experiences mean that they do not learn the same things at the same time in the same way.
10. Children and their parents look forward to school. Parents feel secure about sending their child to the program. Children are happy to attend; they do not cry regularly or complain of feeling sick. ♥



Tuition Payment:

Tuition is due by the 1st of the month. A late fee of 10% will be applied after the 10th of the month. Tuition can be via cash, check or be paid online at the University of Alaska EPay Site:

[UAF Bunnell House Lab School \(alaska.edu\)](https://uaf.bunnellhouselab.school.alaska.edu)

Monthly Fees

MTWRF \$985
Late Pick up—\$5/minute

Fees are due by the 10th of each month. A late fee of 10% of the account balance will be added after the 10th.

♦Note: Your balance due will appear at the bottom of your ProCare check-in screen.