

★ Bunnell House ★

Lab School Calendar

December 9th @ 3:30 pm

Children's Holiday
Concert in the Great Hall

**December 21 (at noon)-
January 8: Closed**

Winter Break

January 9

Spring Program Begins

January 16: Closed

Alaska Civil Rights Day

January 16: Closed

Valentine's Day Pajama
Party

February 20: Closed

Professional Development

March 13-17: Closed

Spring Break

From Jenny

Gratefulness is a very important concept. It means feeling appreciation: for life, other people, what you have, and what others do for you.

~Jessica Schrader

November flew by so fast, and we're well near the end of the semester and 2022 here! November is one of my favorite months. Not just because I love to eat and Thanksgiving is a holiday where there's usually a lot of food involved. I enjoy November, because it's a month with a Holiday that emphasizes being thankful, being grateful and showing gratitude. Learning about and practicing these emotions and attitudes is so important for young children (and adults too)! It is important to incorporate gratefulness into your children's daily life because it will help them to manage their desires: It's OK to want things but you can't have everything you want, and it is important to appreciate what you have and what is given to you. In many ways, gratefulness is a way of life that helps people function better in relationships and feel happier in life. We strive to teach this everyday, but especially during the month of November. We here at Bunnell House are so very thankful that we get to share each day with these children to help them learn and grow! We're thankful you all chose our program to be a part of.

~Jenny



Need to Reach Us?

Call **907-474-6393**

♥ **Director**

Jenny Taylor
jmtaylor6@alaska.edu

♥ **Upstairs Teachers**

Lead: Chasity Evanow
crevanow@alaska.edu

♥ **Downstairs Teachers**

Lead: Pammy Fowler
pdfowler@alaska.edu
Assist: Lizzy Potis
ejpotis@alaska.edu

♥ **Floating Assistant Teachers**

Stacy Brottem
Sarita Arya
Sarah Cropper

We Welcome Parents

We invite you to share your talents with the children!

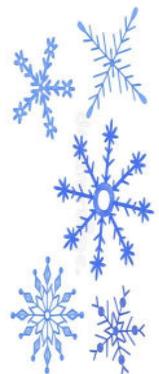
Ways parents have shared with us in the past include:

- drumming
- making pizza
- arranging field trips
- reading to children
- dog mushing
- hibernating squirrel visit
- sea life visit
- printmaking

We'd love to have you visit, so talk to your child's teacher to schedule a good time to come!

Winter Closure

◆Bunnell House will be closed from noon on December 21, through January 8◆



The Value of High Quality Early Education Learning Begins Before Kindergarten

High quality early education programs construct a foundation for academic learning that benefits children throughout their formal school experience. Such programs capitalize on the time when a child's brain is developing rapidly, creating a groundwork of social skills, knowledge and self confidence that paves the way for success in kindergarten and the grades that follow.

In addition, research indicates that children who participate in high quality early education programs are less likely to be held back a grade or to need special education. They are also more likely to graduate from high school and continue on to further education.

How do the activities your preschooler participates in at Bunnell House set the stage for formal academic learning?

- Learning to take turns, resolve conflicts with others, share materials, play cooperatively and console peers develops social skills necessary for success in a classroom setting.
- Listening to stories, poetry and songs provides the building blocks your child needs to grasp phonics and reading skills when it is developmentally appropriate.
- Playing with sand, water and containers as well as matching, sequencing and one-to-one correspondence activities form the foundation for understanding basic math concepts.
- Making observations and predictions provide a basis for scientific inquiry. Gardening, cooking, mixing colors, pedaling a tricycle and bouncing a ball are opportunities for scientific discovery and discussion.

Often we hear or read that preschool gets children ready to learn when, in fact, preschoolers are already well down the path of learning. Quality early education augments the journey and contributes to a smooth transition into the formal academic classroom.

Bunnell House staff are honored and delighted to be part of your child's journey. We look forward to seeing you at parent-teacher conferences...and all year long!♦



Wellness Policy

Children who are not feeling well will not have a pleasant experience and may expose other children to illness. Please do not bring your child if there is any sign of sore throat, rash, fever, headache, or stomach pain. Children who are not well enough to go outside should remain home. Parents will be notified to pick up their child if the child suddenly becomes ill or has a temperature of 100°F or higher. **Fever, diarrhea or vomiting must be absent for 24 hours prior to return.**♦



Playground Use

Our outside play space is an extension of our classrooms.

One of my favorite areas of Bunnell House is our outdoor play space. Even in winter it provides opportunity for fun and discovery. I love to watch the children enjoying it—learning and not even realizing it. I hope that long after they leave here they will have amazing memories of the time spent playing there with friends.

You've seen the signs on the fence that say No Trespassing to deter snowboarders from building ramps and using our railings and equipment to do tricks. You've seen the signs on the gates that say children must be supervised by lab school staff to deter residents from using it as a playground on evenings and weekends.

Part of the reason for the signage is that equipment has been damaged and ruined in the past. The other part, and of greater concern, is that children playing here could be injured. That is never good and it is also a liability for the university. Parents have varying views on what is appropriate supervision, so the verbiage on the sign was specifically chosen, with the guidance of the university general counsel office, to state that lab school staff must supervise play.

If your child's class is not outside, please do not allow him or her to play on the equipment and grounds. Children should only be exploring on the playground when their class is out and/or lab school staff are present.

Thank you! ♥

Quote to Note

The deepest craving of human nature is the need to be appreciated.





It was an exciting day at Lab School...

- ★ We played in our pajamas!
- ★ We popped popcorn
- ★ We learned about being grateful!
- ★ We made snowflakes
- ★ We shoveled snow!
- ★ We had a fire drill!
- ★ We observed that mixing blue and yellow creates green!
- ★ We practiced for our concert!



Teacher Love

“An important part of our work is to build relationships with each child who comes to spend time in our program, deep and real relationships in which love is an essential ingredient,” write Bethica Quinn and Rosalina Rodriguez in their popular new book, *Treasures in the Thicket*. “Asking children to spend their childhood in environments without love is unthinkable. If we are not going to love children in preschool, then we need to close all preschools.

Teacher love is different from parent love, however, and has its own limits and boundaries. Teacher love says to a child: *I see you and I delight in who you are today, and I take joy in the chance to help you grow into the person who you will be tomorrow, even though I may never have the opportunity to know that person.* We are called upon to form this loving bond with each child, year after year, and to do that we need strategies for seeing each child with delight. Opening our eyes and our hearts to what they can tell us through their art is a powerful strategy.”♥

Reprinted from ExchangeEveryday



Please Sign In... and Out!

Please make it your routine to sign your child in and out! It's important that the system shows that a designated adult is signing each child in and out rather than a staff member. If you have problems, let a staff person know. If you have consistent difficulty with your fingerprint, you can re-register to use passcodes instead. Just let Jenny know to run a new registration number. Thank you!♦

Do You Have Questions or Concerns?

About your child or the classroom, contact **your child's teacher**.
About the program, billing, or vacation notification, contact **Jenny**.
Thank you!♦

Cell Phones

Please end cell phone conversations prior to entering Bunnell House or the playground. Your child deserves your undivided attention and teachers may need to speak

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 Procure check-in screen.

Late Pick Up Fees

Bunnell House hours:7:30-5:30

Late pick up fees are \$5 per minute. Fees will be added to your account based on the time recorded when you check out your child on Procure.♦



"I played!"

When you ask your child, "What did you do at school today?" and their answer is, "I played." Please know this is what they are really telling you ...

"I learned many new things and it was fun!!!!"

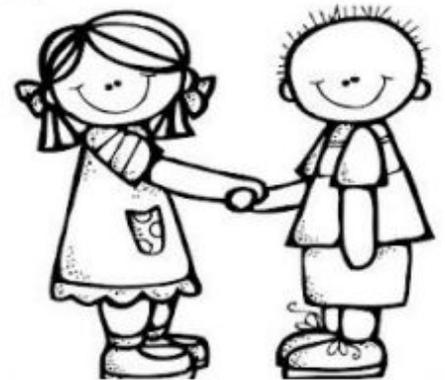
Look at just **SOME** of the things a child learns through **PLAY**...

In the LANGUAGE & LITERACY center, the child:

- Learns to recognize and identify the letters of the alphabet and their sounds
- Learns respect and care for books
- Expands interest in words and books
- Develops an understanding of concepts about books and print

In the MATH center, the child:

- Practices counting
- Learns to identify numbers
- Understands number order and quantities
- Creates patterns
- Distinguishes shapes by their attributes



In the BLOCK center, the child:

- Develops large and small muscle control
- Improves eye-hand coordination
- Explores spatial relationships and comparisons of sizes and shapes
- Plans and solves problems while working with other children

In the DRAMATIC PLAY center, the child:

- Makes decisions
- Explores adult roles
- Practices expressive language
- Develops problem solving skills like sharing and taking turns
- Uses their imagination

In the ART center, the child:

- Develops eye-hand coordination and refines small muscle control
- Learns a proper pencil grip
- Expresses unique ideas and feelings
- Develops their creativity
- Learns to respect the artistic expression of others



In the SCIENCE center, the child:

- Develops their five senses
- Learns to be a good observer
- Formulates and evaluates predictions
- Begins to classify
- Begins to collect data

These are just some of the fantastic things your child will learn this year in preschool!