



Outdoor Early Childhood Education

Check out the [Learning in nature: Washington becomes first in the country to license outdoor preschools](#), to learn more about Washington State becoming the first in the country to license outdoor preschools, and the movement we are a part of.

It is such an exciting time to be involved in outdoor early childhood education. We are truly on the forefront of one of the most important innovations in education of our era.

As everyone involved with Pisgah Collective understands, the benefits of allowing children to be outside as much as possible are innumerable. Some obvious advantages include their love of it as well as the ease of rest which ensues after a full gross motor experience. The chemical effects on the brain of this joy and exertion last a lifetime.

Less apparent are the developmental and philosophical interests which outdoor education serves. As we learn more and more about the human brain, we are primarily discovering how much we do not understand about our selves.

Books along the lines of Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv (a MUST read for anyone interested in this topic) abound. The effects of nature deficit disorder are as abundant as they are alarming.

The complexity of the functions of an adult brain are dwarfed by the complexity of the developing brain. The concept of neural plasticity is fraught with controversy, but even skeptics cannot deny the

incredible fluidity of a developing brain.

We evolved in nature and our ability to fully develop is intricately connected with our environment. By providing a natural setting to such young children, we are confident that our students will benefit throughout their lives from increased brain connectivity and integration.

We know nature has positive effects on development and learning even if we aren't sure how or why. We at Pisgah Collective suspect that as we learn more about this correlation, the true array of the benefits of educating young children outside will astound even us.

Everyday we get to experience the positivity our students feel in our natural setting. While our program offers many important activities that are not specific to the outdoors, we consider our unique setting to be the most important component. The endless, spontaneous intrigues of nature inspire unanticipated learning opportunities all the time.

We invite everyone to explore the national conversation around early childhood education in general and outdoor education specifically. The community we have all been building is extremely impressive and we would love for our experience to encourage more children, families and educators to have the opportunity to enjoy learning as much as we all do!



SPRING BREAK EARLY ENROLLMENT



APRIL 14-17 (TUESDAY-FRIDAY)

8:30-12:15

SIGN-UPS ARE OPEN FOR FAMILIES CURRENTLY ENROLLED WITH US. SIGN-UPS WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

Parents Morning Out

Drop your kiddos off at the barn anytime between 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, February 15! You must sign-up by February 7 to participate. This is a free offering for any student currently enrolled with us in Sprouts or Seedlings. Any additional siblings (must be 18 months+) will be \$15.

Fill out the form in your email to sign-up!

STAND UP DIAPER CHANGES

In our programs, we utilize the stand-up diaper change method. This promotes muscle memory that will allow independence in potty training and dressing themselves in the future. If you would ever like a tutorial, please let us know at pick-up time!



SUMMER PROGRAM

Be on the lookout for Summer 2020 program information in the coming weeks.

SPRING CONFERENCES

We are looking forward to Spring conferences with our Sprout program families. Please remember to sign up by Wednesday, January 29 to schedule a time.

Parent Group

Meet & Greet Interest Meeting

Come to Silvermont playground this Monday to learn more! We will be there to keep an eye on the kiddos while the parents get together.

January 20 | 3 - 4 p.m.

Important Dates

■ CLOSED

January 20 | MLK Day

■ Parent Group Meeting

January 20 | 3 - 4 p.m.

Join us at Silvermont playground for an interest meeting about starting a Pisgah Collective parent group. Ms. Julia and Ms. Thea will be present to hang out with kiddos while you meet with Elaine Entenza.

■ Parents Morning Out

February 15 | 9 - 12 p.m.

We are looking forward to providing childcare while our parents have a morning to themselves.

Sign-up is required.

■ CLOSED: Spring Break

April 6 - 17

■ SPRING BREAK CAMP

April 14 - 17

Our regular programs are also closed this week and we will be running a Spring Break Camp. This is a separate program from our regular semester that you will be able to sign-up for or opt out of.

■ Last Day of Spring Seedlings

May 13

■ Last Day of Spring Sprouts

May 22

Spring Payment #2 Due:
Wednesday, February 5
Spring Payment #3 Due:
Wednesday, March 4