



Dear Goldfish Families,

We would like to welcome you and your child to our kindergarten program (Kindergarten begins on September 3rd). Some of your children will be riding the school bus to half-day kindergarten, while others will spend the entire school day at Appleseeds. Students who attend afternoon kindergarten, will eat lunch in our classroom before taking the bus to school.

Friends who attend Appleseeds in the morning will take part in our morning meeting, *Everyday Math* program, journaling, Science experiments on Wednesdays, center/project time, recess, and lunch. Friends who attend in the afternoon - will have outside time, lunch, they will listen to *The Magic Tree House* series with us, have rest time, and go to centers in the afternoon. We will follow a monthly theme (depending on child interest) and post curriculum webs outside of our classroom on the bulletin board.

After lunch each day, we will read a chapter from Mary Pope Osborne's, *The Magic Tree house Series*. After we explore with Jack and Annie in our Magic Tree House, each student will be asked to have quiet time. After each child rests, they will be given books - followed by a choice of quiet activities. Students will be offered pattern blocks, paper & crayons, puzzles, lacing beads, sorters, etc. We will provide the children with activities during this time. We would like to ask that your child keep his or her toys at home. Please honor this request. The only exceptions are items that correspond with our monthly theme. We encourage your child to share educational treasures with the class (dinosaur fossils, a bee hive, seashells, a birds nest, etc).

We would also like to note that books are *always* welcome in our classroom (books corresponding with our curriculum or other fun books that your child would like to share with the group)! We can not promise that we will ALWAYS be able to read the story that your child brings to school, however, they are more than welcome.

As for items that your child will need - we ask that your child bring in a pencil box (it helps to get your child excited about writing)! Thank you!! Their pencil boxes will come in handy each morning during journal time. Journals are filled with pictures, letters, words, and eventually sentences that cover topics that your child chooses. We encourage creativity and this helps to keep them interested and motivated. Please feel free to flip

through their journals at drop off or pick up. We would also appreciate it - if your child could have some spare clothes in his or her cubbie (tucked away in a backpack or plastic bin).

We are very excited to start the school year! We will kick off our learning adventure by taking a close look at the life cycle of Monarch Caterpillars. This hands-on experience will get your Kindergartner excited about their new classroom. It may also help your child transition into our classroom if he/she has something to check on each morning. If you find any Monarch Caterpillars, feel free to bring them in (you can find them hanging out on Milkweed)! We will create a cozy habitat for them so that your children can observe them - and eventually set them free!

If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns...please let us know. You are always welcome to check in during the day, write us a note, or schedule a meeting.

Sincerely, Ali & Jayne



Welcome to the Goldfish Classroom!



Kindergarten Schedule

- 6:30-7:30 Drop off in pre-k room (The Butterfly Classroom)
- 7:30-8:30 Outside/Free choice & Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00 Journaling
- 9:00-9:30 Morning Circle
- 9:30-9:45 Snack (we provide morning & afternoon snack)
- 9:45-10:45 Learning Centers/Projects
- 10:45-12:00 Outside Time/Music and Movement
- 12:00-12:30 Lunch
- 12:35-12:45 Chapter Book (Magic Tree House Series)
- 12:45-3:00 Rest Time
- 3:00-3:20 Read Aloud/Books on Tape
- 3:20-3:35 Snack
- 3:40-4:15 Playground Time
- 4:15-5:30 Centers

*We follow the Exeter Benchmarks

*We use Everyday Math

*Writing happens EVERYDAY!

*We will be conducting science experiments on Wednesdays.