

Great Neck/Manhasset Community Child Care Partnership

Preschool & Early Education Guide 2015





Founded in 1995
by early education advocates
Lilo Leeds and Ruddy-Ann Friedman,
**The Great Neck/Manhasset
Community Child Care Partnership**
has been promoting the healthy growth and early
educational development of children through the
provision of parenting/caregiver education and
need-based scholarships for families who live and
work in the Great Neck/Manhasset communities.

The Partnership's envisions a community where
every child receives the early educational
opportunities he/she deserves to ensure
emotional growth and future academic success.

Longtime supporters of the Partnership include
friends, community leaders, business owners,
educators, child advocates, local legislators
and religious institutions.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to each
and every one of you!

Overview

Sending your child to preschool is an important milestone in his/her life that will provide a solid foundation for future academic success and healthy emotional growth. Adequate research and preparation will not only enable you to find the best environment for your child but will also make you more comfortable and confident in your decision.

Before you begin this step into your child's first school experience, consider carefully his/her personality, temperament, and readiness for preschool; your needs regarding hours and location; your philosophy of child development, social interaction, and education; and your desire to participate and be involved with your child in school and with other parents.

Once you have reviewed the information about programs that interest you and speak to your friends regarding their children's experiences, a visit to the school(s) in which you are interested will help you make the final decision. This guide includes characteristics of a quality preschool program, suggested questions to ask the director, and what to look for when visiting. Many of the questions outlined in this guide can be asked and answered during your visit. Keep in mind that no question is insignificant when it comes to your child. When you are observing classes in progress, remember actions speak louder than words. Trust your judgment and intuition about whether a particular program is suitable for your child's needs.

This guide is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all preschool programs available in the Great Neck/Manhasset communities and surrounding areas. Participating educational organizations listed in this guide are supporting members of the Partnership. Inclusion in this guide does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of any program listed. The Partnership conducts no investigation of any kind of any of the preschool programs listed in this guide and assumes no responsibility with respect to the suitability or competency of any such preschool program for your child. The Partnership strongly urges you to conduct your own thorough research and investigation of any preschool program in which you may be considering enrolling your child.

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When Selecting a Preschool



Characteristics of a High Quality Preschool Program

From National Association for the Education of Young Children

www.naeyc.org

Are the children in the program generally comfortable, relaxed, happy, and involved in play and other activities?

Happy relaxed children who are enjoying themselves as they play and learn are one of the best signs of a good program. Is there an ample variety of material for children of this age group? Would your child enjoy this setting?

Are there sufficient adults with specialized training in early childhood development and education?

The younger the child, the more individualized attention is needed. It is recommended that all groups have at least two teachers. Infants should be in groups of no more than six to eight children. Two to three year olds should be in groups of 10-14 children, and four to five year olds in groups of 16-20. Specialized training in child development and early education helps to assure that educators understand how children grow and learn so that they can be more effective teachers and caregivers.

Do adult expectations vary appropriately for children of differing ages and interests?

Toys and materials should vary by age as should teachers' expectations for children. In addition, teachers and caregivers should recognize and respect individual differences in children's abilities, interests, and preferences.

Are all areas of children's development stressed equally, with time and attention devoted to cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development?

High quality early childhood programs do much more than help children learn numbers, shapes, and colors. Good programs help children to learn how to learn; to question why and discover alternative answers; to get along with others; and to use their developing language, thinking, and motor skills.

Does staff meet regularly to plan and evaluate the program?

Planning should reflect a balance of all activities between vigorous outdoor play and quiet indoor play. Activities should allow ample time for children to work and play individually or in small groups, with the focus on activities that are child initiated as opposed to teacher directed. Flexibility is also important. Staff should be willing to adjust to daily activities to meet children's needs and interests.

Are the parents welcome to observe, discuss policies, make suggestions, and participate in the work of the program?

Close communication among parents and staff is vital. Staff should regularly discuss highlights of the child's experiences with parents and show respect for families regarding cultures and backgrounds.

Caring Questions to Ask

- How long have you been in operation?
- What is your teacher/child ratio?
- What are your hours, tuition, and calendar?
- Are the teachers certified and/or have a degree in early childhood education?
- Will the teacher provide information to parents on a regular basis about their child's activities and progress?
- Describe your program philosophy. Is there a strong emphasis on academics? Play? Creativity? Socialization?
- Is there a time for free play and group activities?
- Are there enrichment activities?
- Do you serve nutritional meals/snacks?
- How are children's birthdays celebrated?
- What holidays do you celebrate?
- Do you go on class trips? How are children supervised? What is the child/adult ratio? Will I receive a permission slip for all class trips? How are children transported?
- How does the school handle the separation process?
- Do all ages need to be toilet trained?
- As a parent, what are my responsibilities and financial obligations other than tuition?
- Do you have a list of references I can call?
- Can I visit the program any time?

Health & Safety Concerns

- What is the procedure for a fire drill?
- Are emergency exits clearly marked? Is a safety inspection certificate displayed?
- How do you handle medical emergencies?
- Are emergency numbers posted by the telephone?
- Is at least one staff member trained in infant and child first aid and CPR?
- Do you use eco friendly products to sanitize the center?
- Are you a peanut free or nut free center?
- Are disposable gloves used when changing diapers?
- Are changing areas disinfected after diaper changes?
- What are policies and procedures regarding sick children? Contagious diseases?
- Do staff and children practice frequent hand washing?
- Are outside doors securely locked during school hours?
- How is arrival and dismissal handled?
- Are indoor and outdoor areas safe from hazard? Are electrical outlets covered with safety caps, radiators covered, windows and stairways protected?
- Are outdoor play areas safely away from traffic?
- Does the playground look safe?
- Does the playground meet the safety standards of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission?

What To Look For When Visiting

- Are program and facilities developmentally appropriate?
- Is there a balance of free play and guided learning?
- Do the teachers show patience, warmth, and a sense of humor?
- Do the teachers give praise and encouragement?
- Is discipline handled in a positive manner?
- Do the children seem to be happy, relaxed, and playing cooperatively?
- Are the rooms bright, clean, cheery, and organized?
- Is the program well supplied with toys, blocks, games, books, dramatic play props (i.e. puppets, dress up clothes, kitchen area, etc.), creative art materials, sand and water play?
- Do you see children's artwork displayed?
- Can the children reach the sink and toilet easily?
- Is there room for physical exercise and play on large equipment indoors and outdoors?
- Can you imagine your child being happy and comfortable here?

Preparing Your Child For School

Excerpt from Doris Herman's Preschool Primer for Parents: A Question and Answer Guide To Your Child's First School Experience

- Begin using the word “school” in everyday conversation.
- Read books to your child about preschool (see *Resources for Children* section of this guide).
- Point out children on their way to or from school as you are taking walks with your child.
- Talk about friends and relatives who go to school.
- Tell your child that when he gets bigger, he may go to school and play.
- Take your child to visit the school you have selected.
- Talk about your child's class and teachers by name.
- Don't overdo it! Your child will pick up on your anxious feelings.

Great Neck Preschool Programs



Please note that all tuition information provided to this guide is subject to change.

CLASP
80 Grace Avenue
Great Neck, NY 11021

CLASP Children's Center offers quality childcare for working parents. This full day and year-round program provides a caring, nurturing environment that fosters individual growth within a group setting. Our experienced staff, sensitive to the needs of young children (12 weeks to 5 years), offers an ideal first step in early childhood education. Emphasis is placed on enhancing children's social & emotional, physical, language and cognitive development.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Childcare

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 7:30 am to 6:30 pm

Student Age Criteria: 12 weeks – 5 years

Facilities Description: N/A

Transportation Details: Individual

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: N/A

Child/Teacher Ratio: 4:1 - 12 weeks – 18 months.

5:1 - 18 – 36 months. 7:1 – three year olds. 8:1 – 4 year olds.

Enrichment Programs: Licensed "Music Together" Program

Class Trips: Grace Plaza Nursing Home (3's and 4's only)

Summer Programs: Year-round programs

Tuition Details: Call for tuition pricing

Scholarships Available: DSS families accepted

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Rolling admissions

Contact Information:

Arpi Arukian & Stacey Rosenblatt, Co-Executive Directors

Ph: (516) 482-8090

Email: staceyrosenblatt@claspinc.org

Website: www.claspinc.org

Great Neck Preschool

855 Middle Neck Rd
Great Neck, NY 11024

Great Neck Pre-School provides a safe, loving environment for children to grow and develop in their own way. The school offers a wide selection of fun and rewarding hands on activities. It is a place where children have fun and grow intellectually as well as socially. We have a dedicated, experienced, qualified staff. We offer programs for children aged 2-4 years old. Our classes are small with low child to teacher ratios. The classrooms are bright and spacious. There is an enclosed playground right outside the classroom for the 2 year olds. The school runs from September through June with an optional summer program. Registration is ongoing with tuition adjusted accordingly.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery/Preschool

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian

Hours of Operation: Monday thru Friday 8am to 3pm

Student Age Criteria: 2, 3 and 4 year olds

Facilities Description: (see above)

Transportation Details: Individual

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: transportation

Child/Teacher Ratio: 5:1 - 2 year olds. 7:1 - 3 year olds.

Enrichment Programs: Baking in 3 year old class

Class Trips: none

Summer Programs: 6 week program

Tuition Details: We have half day, full day and part time programs. Please call for tuition details.

Scholarships Available: We accept DSS and GNMCCCP scholarships.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Registration is ongoing

Contact Information:

Lisa Adams, Director

Ph: (516) 487 5326 Fax: (516) 482 5481

Email: ladam113@yahoo.com

Website: N/A

Great Neck Community School

225 Schenck Avenue
Great Neck, NY 11021

Great Neck Community School is an accredited, non-profit, non-sectarian, multicultural cooperative nursery school. We are the oldest cooperative nursery school on Long Island, incorporated in 1932. And, we are the only Universal Pre-Kindergarten Collaborative Agency approved in Great Neck. GNCS nurtures students who will move on to kindergarten with confidence and enthusiasm. Our year-round programs encourage creativity, exploration, independence, and friendship as well as early academic skills. We take pride in our experienced teachers, home-like atmosphere, and beautiful playground. During the summer, we provide continuity for the children and peace-of-mind for the parents as the curriculum continues in the same, familiar, air-conditioned rooms.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Preschool/Day Care Center

Religious Affiliation: None

Hours of Operation: 9:00 am – 3:45 pm

Student Age Criteria: Twos, Threes, and Fours

Facilities Description: Large converted Tudor style home

Transportation Details: Individual/parent-arranged carpool.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parent Cooperative- Families contribute 6 hours of voluntary participation/service yearly

Child/Teacher Ratio: 4:1 or 5:1 for twos. 5:1 or 6:1 for threes. 5:1 for fours.

Enrichment Programs: Art, Cooking, Drama, Literature, etc.

Class Trips: Age appropriate by arrangement

Summer Programs: Program is designed to meet the intellectual, physical, social, creative and emotional needs of 3, 4, and 5 year olds. Contact directly for more information.

Tuition Details: Please contact school office.

Scholarships Available: Please contact school office.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Posted on our gncommunityschool.org.

Contact Information:

Victor Caliman, Ed.D./Interim Educational Director

Ph: (516) 482-5005 Fax: (516) 482-5053

Email: Director@gncommunityschool.org

Website: www.gncommunityschool.org

Romper Room Nursery School

133 Hillside Avenue
Williston Park, NY 11596

For over 40 years Romper Room has offered a unique learning experience and is renowned for its “confidence-building program” and individualized attention. Dedicated, long-term teachers nurture each child to reach his/her fullest potential. The curriculum includes reading readiness, other languages, basic science and math, social sciences, arts and crafts, music, and story time. “Dream to Build Self-Esteem” field trips are planned for children to explore the world around them. A ROMP with MOM program, where mom or caregiver participates with teachers and a See-U-Later separation class are also offered.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery and Pre-K.

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian.

Hours of Operation: 9 – 11:30 or 12:30 – 3; 2, 3, or 5 days.

Student Age Criteria: 2 ½ to 5 years.

Facilities Description: Large motor area. Indoors and Outdoors.

Transportation Details: Private buses driven by assistant teachers.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Conferences upon request.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 5:1. Certified teacher and two assistants in classes with 15 children.

Enrichment Programs: “Dream to Build Self-Esteem” field trips. See below.

Class Trips: Parks, dentist, firehouse, museums, Hicks Nursery, and Fish Hatchery.

Summer Programs: Yes.

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: N/A.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Rolling.

Contact Information:

Jeanie Holland and Meg Zack/Co-Executive Directors
Ph: (516) 746-8606 Fax: N/A
Email: romperroomschool@verizon.net
Website: www.romperroomschool.com

2nd Location: 275 Lakeville Road, Great Neck, NY 11020
(516) 466-8906

Temple Beth-El/Early Childhood Education Center

5 Old Mill Road
Great Neck, NY 11023

At Temple Beth-El's Early Childhood Center, we are committed to building an inclusive and diverse community of Jewish learners. We serve 14 months to 5 years in a nurturing environment, recognizing and respecting each child and family as valued and active participants in their social emotional, and educational development. We emphasize the richness and joy of Judaism in a diverse and multi-cultured world and value each family as individuals as they begin to explore their own family's relationship to Jewish life. Celebration, joy and connection to Jewish life in the community are a fundamental part of our curriculum. Our school benefits from being housed in one of the nation's most prominent synagogues, and Jewish community values underpin our approaches.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Parent-Child, Toddler, Nursery, Pre-K, and Extended Day.

Religious Affiliation: Jewish

Hours of Operation: 7:30 am – 6:00 pm/Flexible hours

Student Age Criteria: 18 months – 5 years old

Facilities Description: Beautiful and well-lit classrooms with large windows; large outdoor state-of-the-art playground, indoor gym, and outdoor garden

Transportation Details: Car service available.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parent involvement is welcome.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 5:1 - twos. 7:1 - threes. 8-1 - fours.

Enrichment Programs: Music and creative movement, field trips, special programs, visits and stories with the Rabbi.

Class Trips: Yes.

Summer Programs: Yes.

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: No.

Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Licensed by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Dec. 1-3. Early Bird Deadline Dec. 19

Contact Information:

Vicki Perler/Director of Early Childhood Education

Ph: (516) 487-0900 Fax: (516) 487-6941

Email: vperler@tbegreatneck.org

Website: www.tbe-ecec.org

Manhasset/Plandome Preschool Programs



Please note that all tuition information provided to this guide is subject to change.

Gan Shalom Nursery School

1001 Plandome Road
Plandome, NY 11030

Our high quality early childhood program provides a safe, cozy, relaxed and nurturing environment where certified teachers are sensitive to the development requirements of young children and to each child as an individual. With many varied age appropriate materials available, the children learn to play through socialization. Jewish activities are integrated into the program through stories, music, art, cooking, Shabbat and holiday celebrations that encourage the development of a positive Jewish identity. At Gan Shalom we strive to create a PARTNERSHIP between home and school. Families are invited to participate in their child's classroom throughout the year, thereby having the opportunity to see their child in the context of the school environment. We are licensed by the Office of Child and Family Services; registered by the NYS Education Department and a participant in Quality Stars, NY.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery, Mommy & Me, Extended hours.

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian: Jewish

Hours of Operation: 7:30 am – 6:30 pm

Student Age Criteria: Child must be 2,3. or 4 by Dec. 1st

Facilities Description: Our beautiful building houses six nursery classrooms, two playgrounds, and outdoor classroom and gym.

Transportation Details: Carpools and individual.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parents are part of our parent council, serve on committees, and participate in classrooms.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 5:1 – toddlers. 6:1 - threes. 7:1 - fours.

Enrichment Programs: Science, Pee Wee Pros, Music, Movement, Gymnastics, and Super Soccer Stars.

Class Trips: Threes and fours go to local pumpkin farm and other places of interest.

Summer Programs: Non separating "Come Play With Me", twos, threes, and fours classes

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: On a need basis.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Registration begins Nov. 1 and is ongoing.

Contact Information:

Laura Reich/Director

Ph: (516)627-0257

Fax: (516) 627-6349

Email: ganshalom@optonline.net

Website: www.rsns.org

Congregational Nursery School

1845 Northern Blvd
Manhasset, NY 11030

Children need time to laugh, explore, experiment and create as they begin to make sense of the world around them. The natural approach to learning through play is the cornerstone of our school. Our program celebrates individual growth through self-exploration, socialization and a flexible classroom environment. Activities are designed to promote creative thinking, self-respect, responsibility and good citizenship. Socialization develops as children learn the important concepts of sharing, respect and the recognition of each other's feelings. Language development is encouraged through storytelling about drawings/projects. Reading and writing is encouraged via daily reviews of job and weather charts accompanied by words and pictures. Early concepts of math/science are developed with block building/measuring ingredients for cooking. Music is enjoyed in the classroom and during our weekly movement/motion program. Art is celebrated daily using a wide range of craft materials. Children are engaged and having fun learning while playing!

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery/Preschool

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian

Hours of Operation: Twos: T/W/TH/F 9-11 am (Mon opt.)
Threes and Fours: 9-12 or 12:30 -3:30. Young Fives: 9-12.

Student Age Criteria: Must be two by 9/1, three or four by 11/30, and five from 12/1 to 2/28.

Facilities Description: Located in the Congregational Church of Manhasset (across from the Apple Store).

Transportation Details: Carpools and individual.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parents welcome and assist with driving to field trips and parties.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 5:1 – twos. 7:1 – threes. 10:1 fours/ fives.

Enrichment Programs: Open to fours/fives/Tu-Th/1-3 pm.

Class Trips: Yes.

Summer Programs: Yes. Open to incoming threes/fours.

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: N/A

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: New students accepted Nov. before start of program.

Contact Information:

Joyce Domanico/Director

Ph: (516) 365-9616 Fax: N/A

Email: congons9616@gmail.com

Website: www.uccmanhasset.org

North Shore Early Childhood Center

48 Shelter Rock Road
Manhasset, NY 11030

North Shore Early Childcare Center (“NSECC”) is a nonprofit, governed by a volunteer, board of directors, established in 1994. NSECC provides early childcare for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old and is licensed by New York State Office of Children & Family Services. We offer a safe, nurturing and dependable environment that prioritizes children’s emotional/physical growth. The Center implements the award winning, Creative Curriculum by Teaching Strategies. The curriculum offers detailed day-to-day guidance, individualized learning experiences, 38 research-based objectives, and exploration and discovery as a way of learning. The Center also provides age appropriate additional electives such as Mandarin, Spanish, Science, Art, Music with Matt Marshak, Literacy, Sports Unlimited and the FUN BUS. A summer program is available for graduating pre-kindergarteners and school age children. NSECC is a year round program, with the exception of center holidays which are listed on the holiday tab. We provide nutritious breakfast, lunch and snacks in a nut-free environment. So come and join us at North Shore Early Childhood Center as we “reach the stars, one child at a time”.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Childcare/Preschool

Religious Affiliation: Non denominational

Hours of Operation: 7:30 am – 6:30 pm

Student Age Criteria: 6 weeks to 5 years of age

Facilities Description: N/A

Transportation Details: N/A

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: N/A

Child/Teacher Ratio: 3:1 – Infants. 5:1 – Toddlers.
7:1 – Preschool.

Enrichment Programs: (Offered) Art, Science, Math, Spanish, Literacy, Dance, Mandarin, Sports, Zumba & Yoga, Music with Mr. Matt & The Fun Bus.

Class Trips: Yes.

Summer Programs: Yes.

Tuition Details: Please call for information.

Scholarships Available: T.A.P. application on website.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: N/A

Contact Information:

Teresa Colamarino/Executive Director

Ph: (516) 365-7944

Fax: (516) 365-0597

Email: colamarinoteresa@gmail.com

Website: www.northshorechild.org

North Shore Nursery School

90 Plandome Road
Manhasset, NY 11030

Morning classes for 2,3, and 4 year olds emphasize **social** and **spiritual** development as well as **academic** skills. **Language arts, pre-writing skills, math, music, sports** and **science enrichment classes** are an integral part of the program. **Physical activity** is provided daily in a large **outdoor play** area. In inclement weather, the children enjoy a large **indoor playroom**. Experienced, nurturing state **certified** teachers implement a well-rounded curriculum that balances essential social skills with a solid foundation in academic readiness. The individual and age-appropriate needs of each child are the focus of daily activities. Children have fun learning through hands on play experiences carefully selected for educational value. For more than 50 years NSNS has provided the highest quality early education and we now welcome back many of our former students with their own children! Enjoy time in the classroom with your child and build strong friendships and support systems. **Christian Education** further enriches our program. Children learn to love God and one another through sharing, songs, and simple, age appropriate Bible stories.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Private. Non-profit. Parent Cooperative.

Religious Affiliation: Nondenominational Christian.

Hours of Operation: Threes and Pre-K: 9:15 – 12. Twos Separation: 9:30-11:30. Twos w/caregiver: 9:30-11.

Student Age Criteria: 2, 3, or 4 by Dec. 1st of school year.

Facilities Description: Large indoor playroom/Spacious outdoor playground.

Transportation Details: Carpools encouraged.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Participate in threes - Pre-K classrooms. Assist with events/projects.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 8:1 plus parent – Threes - Pre-K. 4:1 – Twos.

Enrichment Programs: Science, Music and Sports specialists.

Class Trips: Manhasset Public Library and local venues.

Summer Programs: Four weeks in July.

Tuition Details: Please call for information.

Scholarships Available: Yes. Limited, need based.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Ongoing. Early application ensures space.

Contact Information:

Dale O'Brien Director

Ph: (516) 365-7244

Fax: (516) 869-5788

Email: nsnurseryschool@verizon.net

Website: www.nsnurseryschool.com

Our Lady of Grace Montessori School

29 Shelter Rock Road
Manhasset, NY 11030

Our Lady of Grace Montessori School is a nurturing environment within a Catholic/Christian atmosphere. By preparing the environment and practicing Dr. Maria Montessori's theories of self-direction and auto education, teachers encourage children to develop a spirit of independence, a sense of curiosity, and an intrinsic satisfaction with learning. Parents are recognized as the child's first educators and as an integral part of the education process. Through observation, parent education, and interaction with teachers, they are led to discover and apply Montessori philosophy. Accredited by American Montessori Society and Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Montessori

Religious Affiliation: Catholic

Hours of Operation: Mon – Fri: 9 am - 3 pm. Sessions differ for three, four, and five year olds.

Student Age Criteria: Child must be three by November 30.

Facilities Description: N/A

Transportation Details: Car pools, individual, and bus.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parent-Teacher Conferences. Annual Fundraiser.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 10:1

Enrichment Programs: French in Kindergarten. Programs brought in.

Class Trips: N/A

Summer Programs: Yes

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: Yes.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Ongoing. Interviews conducted in January.

Contact Information:

Sister Kelly Quinn/Principal

Ph: (516) 365-9832 Fax: N/A.

Email: sisterkelly@olgmanhasset.com

Website: www.olgamanhasset.com

Once Upon A Time Nursery School

1901 Northern Blvd
Manhasset, NY 11030

Once Upon A Time provides a fun, nurturing, safe, learning environment. We are a traditional nursery school that focuses on socialization, creativity, and learning through play. We provide children with a wide variety of activities that are multi-sensory, multi-disciplinary, sometimes technological, and sometimes basic. Through these activities, we hope to accommodate children's unique learning styles and abilities. Opportunities for play and learning are provided both inside the classroom and outside the playground. Ultimately, a child's imagination, creativity, and intellectual abilities are strengthened. Our certified teachers play a vital role in providing a rich environment of relevant experiences and facilitating the children so they can learn to live with others, resolve conflicts, and gain a sense of competence.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery School.

Religious Affiliation: Non denominational

Hours of Operation: Twos: 2, 3, or 4 day programs/9-11:30

Threes: Mon – Fri/9-12 or 9-2 pm (no after school on Fri)

Fours: Mon – Fri/9-12 or 9-2 pm (no after school on Fri)

Student Age Criteria: Twos, Threes, and Fours

Facilities Description: Indoor gym, playground, weekly computer and music classes.

Transportation Details: Individual transportation.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: N/A

Child/Teacher Ratio: 6:2 – Twos. 12:2 – Threes. 15:2 – Fours.

Threes classes are capped at 12 and fours at 15 children.

Enrichment Programs: Happily Ever After School program includes lunch, science, movement, and literacy. Computer class for Threes and Fours. Music class offers singing, dancing, movement games and instruments. Two concerts are performed.

Class Trips: Several annually with parent drivers.

Summer Programs: June, July, and August ½ and full day.

Tuition Details: Please call for information.

Scholarships Available: N/A.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: \$100 discount with early registration –
Dec. 1st -30th.

Contact Information:

Fran DeCarolis/Enrollment Director

Ph: (516) 627-0045 Fax: N/A

Email: ouatns@gmail.com

Website: www.onceuponatimenurseryschool.org

Preschool Programs in Neighboring Areas



Please note that all tuition information
provided to this guide is subject to change.

Buckley Country Day School

2 IU Willets Road
Roslyn, NY 11576

Toddler program emphasizes independence, creativity, imagination, and early language skills fostered through socialization/play. Nursery program provides dramatic play/creative expression through art and music. Developmentally appropriate literacy, math, art and science is incorporated. Pre-K children enjoy shared reading, interactive writing, and learning about letters, sounds and words with an introduction to Spanish and Mandarin. Kindergarten curriculum provides creative play and socialization while being exposed to more formal instruction, guided by the Columbia University Teachers College Reading and Writing Project.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Independent elementary day school.

Religious Affiliation: None.

Hours of Operation: Toddler: Mon-Fri/8:25-12; Nursery: Mon – Fri/8:25 – 12 (after class playgroup option Mon-Th)

Pre-K: 8:25 – 1:30 pm (after class playgroup option Mon – Th)

For 2015-2016 Pre-K hours will be from 825 am – 3 pm (no playgroup offered)

Student Age Criteria: By September 1st. Toddler: 2 ½, Nursery: 3 years, Pre-K: 4 years, and Kindergarten: 5 years.

Facilities Description: Early childhood program is set on a 28-acre campus with three gymnasiums, three playgrounds, storybook room with Library, music room, and a science room.

Transportation Details: Busing from local school districts beginning in kindergarten.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Parents are members of our Parents' Association and participates in school activities.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 7:1 for all ages.

Enrichment Programs: See above description.

Class Trips: Pre-K farm visit/Kindergarten Old Bethpage Village.

Summer Programs: <http://buckleycamp.com>

Tuition Details: Ranges with age group. Visit website.

Scholarships Available: Need-based financial aid available.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Rolling admissions. Applications accepted in fall preceding September entry.

Contact Information:

Dr. Jean-Marc Juhel/Headmaster

Ann Duffy/Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

Ph: (516) 627-1910 Ext. 2701 Fax: (516) 627-8627

Email: aduffy@buckleycountryday.com

Website: www.buckleycountryday.com

The Green Vale School
250 Valentine's Lane
Old Brookville, NY 11545

In a vibrant program of academics, arts, athletics, and character education, the Green Vale School inspires challenges and inspires all students to be their best. A Green Vale education instills confidence and competence, while promoting while promoting respect and responsibility as cornerstones for a lifetime of learning and global citizenship. Sincere consideration for each child fosters a love of learning and teaches children to excel, succeed, and care.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Elementary School

Religious Affiliation: Independent/Non Sectarian

Hours of Operation: 8:25 – 4:20 pm

Student Age Criteria: 2-14 (PN – 8th Grade)

Facilities Description: 3 divisions; 15 sq. ft. athletic building, 40 acres.

Transportation Details: Busing by individual district (15 miles radius).

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: N/A

Child/Teacher Ratio: 8-15:1 – (average 1st – 8th grade).
12-16: 2 (early childhood).

Enrichment Programs: After school program offerings.

Class Trips: Two per year/per grade.

Summer Programs: Two week GV Camp – June.
Other Camps – July.

Tuition Details: Pre-Nursery: 3-day/\$7200, 5-day \$11,900.
Nursery: \$14,400. Pre-K: \$16,500. Call for other grades.

Scholarships Available: Yes. (Financial Aid)

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Rolling Admissions.

Contact Information:

Alexis Morledge/Director of Admissions

Ph: (516) 628-5121 Fax: N/A

Email: sellis@greenvaleschool.org

Website: www.greenvaleschool.org

Happy Montessori School

40 Pleasant Avenue
Port Washington, NY 11050

Our mission is to provide the essentials of quality education for children: support, predictability, warmth, and acceptance in the context of intellectuality –stimulating, energizing activities. We are influenced by the Montessori philosophy, which recommends a structured environment for children to develop to their full potential.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Preschool and accredited kindergarten.

Religious Affiliation: None.

Hours of Operation: 9-3

Student Age Criteria: 2 years, 8 months to 6 years.

Facilities Description: Housed in a renovated century-old inn, sitting atop a hill with views of the bay, sun-filled classrooms and indoor and outdoor play areas.

Transportation Details: Transportation available in Port Washington and parts of Manhasset/Plandome.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: None, though parents are welcome.

Child/Teacher Ratio: Dependent upon age of child.

Enrichment Programs: Incorporated into general program.

Class Trips: For older children.

Summer Programs: 6-week program with flexible scheduling.

Tuition Details: Dependent upon schedule – visit website.

Scholarships Available: No.

Application Information:

Deadline Date: None.

Contact Information:

Anita Sethi/Director

Ph: (516) 883-1131 Fax: (516) 883-8525

Email: HappyMontessori@aol.com

Website: www.HappyMontessori.com

Red Robin Country Day School

878 Jericho Tpke.
Westbury, NY 11590

The Robin Hood Country Day School Nursery School Program was established in 1957. The school runs from September to June, for three and four year olds. We are registered by the New York State Department of Education and have an absolute charter from them to operate a nursery school during the year and a summer program for 3-14 year olds during July and August. The three and four year olds have a choice of a 5-day morning session. The afternoon session is offered on a three or five day basis. The rates for these sessions are on the enrollment application.

To date, no profile information has been received by this provider. Please contact Robin Hood Country Day School directly for more complete information.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery.

Religious Affiliation: N/A.

Hours of Operation: N/A.

Student Age Criteria: N/A.

Facilities Description: N/A.

Transportation Details: N/A.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: N/A.

Child/Teacher Ratio: N/A.

Enrichment Programs:

Class Trips: N/A.

Summer Programs: Yes. Ages 3-14 years.

Tuition Details: Call for information.

Scholarships Available: N/A

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Call for information.

Contact Information:

Michael Cohn & Sheryl Schwartz/Co-Directors

Ph: (516) 334-1144 Fax: N/A

Email: vmxcamper@aol.com/disneymom819@aol.com

Website: www.redrobincountrydayschoolandcamp.com

Roslyn Trinity Cooperative Preschool

1579 Northern Blvd
Roslyn, NY 11576

We provide a warm, nurturing environment where children grow emotionally, socially, intellectually, and physically. A hands-on approach to learning is offered. Children are actively involved in developmentally appropriate activities. Literacy, math, science, social studies, language development, cooking, art, gross motor development, music and movement are all part of the curriculum. Goals include kindergarten readiness and fostering a positive self-esteem, strong sense of self, curiosity and a love of learning. Teachers are respectful of the children and their individual needs. NYS Office of Children and Family Services licensed. Voluntarily registered with the NYS Education Department to provide Universal Pre-K for the Port Washington School District. NYS Pre-K Standards and the Common Core are followed.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nonprofit, Non-Sectarian,
Parent Cooperative Nursery School.

Religious Affiliation: None.

Hours of Operation: 9 am – 3:30 pm. Please check
<http://www.roslynttrinityco-op.org> for more detailed schedule.

Student Age Criteria: Twos, threes, and fours. Call for details.

Facilities Description: Bright, spacious well-equipped classrooms with defined learning centers, two outdoor playgrounds, and large indoor gym area.

Transportation Details: Individual/Carpooling when possible.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Threes and fours once a month in class, two hours annually for classroom maintenance, and parent's committee. Pay fee in lieu of service.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 3:1 – Separating twos. 7: 1 – Threes.
8:1 Fours.

Enrichment Programs: Threes and Fours: Alvin Ailey Creative Dance Movement, Yoga, Lunch Bunch, Gardening and Cooking.

Class Trips: No. However, guest speakers come to Co-Op.

Summer Programs: Yes –six week program for 2's, 3's, and 4's.

Tuition Details: Threes and Fours: \$4,939 - \$8,511. Two's Company: \$1,902 - \$4,004. Two's for Me: \$4,004.

Scholarships Available: Yes, partial.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Ongoing, register by Oct. for following year.

Contact Information:

Lindi Nubel, M.S./Director

Ph: (516) 621-3380

Fax: (516) 621-3258

Email: rtcoop6@gmail.com

Website: www.roslynttrinityco-op.org

Subsidized Programs



Preschool programs available to families living in the Great Neck and Manhasset communities are funded either by the school district and/or local state or federal government. Programs such as **Head Start** and the **Parkville Early Childhood School** (only for Great Neck residents) provide a comprehensive child development program, including parent education and social services, and are designed to meet the needs of low-income families. They have an extended day that benefits working parents. The **Great Neck/Manhasset Parent-Child Program**, sponsored by the school district, provides a parent-child experience for 16 month to 3-year old young children and includes home visits.

Great Neck/Manhasset Parent-Child Home Program

30 Cumberland Avenue
Great Neck, NY 11020

We believe that the family, rather than an outside expert, can and should play the most important role in helping a child become a successful learner. Our primary goal is to prevent educational disadvantage through early intervention and empowerment of the parent in his/her role as the child's first teacher. Individualized parent-child home visits, parent groups, and a children's playgroup fortifies our philosophy.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Nursery: Parent/Child

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian

Hours of Operation: October – May.

Playgroups: Tu/Wed/Fri: 9:30 – 11:15 am.

Home visits: Mon-Fri am or pm/once to twice a week.

Student Age Criteria: 16 months to age 3.

Facilities Description: Large indoor motor area.

Transportation Details: School bus. No fee.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Conferences as needed. Attend parent group and participate during home visit as needed.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 16:7. Certified teachers in every classroom.

Enrichment Programs: The stimulating materials of books and toys used during the parent/child home visit remain with the child as a permanent "library" in each home.

Class Trips: Annual farm trip for families.

Summer Programs: No.

Tuition Details: Subsidized program.

Scholarships Available: N/A

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Admittance throughout school year – space permitting.

Contact Information:

Mary Costagliola/Coordinator

Ph: (516) 441-4930 Fax: N/A

Email: mcostagliola@greatneck.k12.ny.us

Website: www.parent-child.org

Great Neck/Manhasset Head Start Program

65 High Street
Manhasset, NY 11030

It is Head Start's philosophy that young children learn best through play. Classrooms are divided into interest areas including blocks, family area, library, sand and water play, computer, and manipulative materials. Activities, some child initiated and some teacher initiated, take place throughout the day to support the children's social, emotional, physical, and cognitive growth and development. The curriculum is individualized to meet the needs of each and every child. Licensed by NY State Office of Children and Family Services. Children with disabilities are welcome. Some children divide their day between Head Start and a special education program. Others receive services at Head Start. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are provided.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Preschool.

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian.

Hours of Operation: Mon. – Fri.: 8:00 am –5:00 pm.

Student Age Criteria: Child must be age 3 by Dec. 1st.

Facilities Description:

Transportation Details:

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Annual fundraising; committee member; class participation; curriculum and menu planning; selection of personnel. Two home visits and two parent-teacher conferences are scheduled.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 18:1 teacher, 1 assistant teacher, and 1 foster grandparent.

Enrichment Programs: A lending library of approximately 150 books in both Spanish and English. Each classroom has a touch-screen computer with a variety of developmentally appropriate software.

Class Trips: Science Museum in Plandome; the Tilles Center; the Hall of Science in Flushing; Westbury Music Fair, etc.

Summer Programs: Yes.

Tuition Details: No tuition. Families must meet Federal income guidelines. DSS families accepted.

Scholarships Available: N/A.

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Ongoing.

Contact Information:

Stephanie Chenault/Director

Ph: (516) 627- 6385

Fax: N/A

Email: N/A

Website: N/A

Parkville Early Childhood Center

(Great Neck Residents Only)

10 Campbell Street

New Hyde Park, NY 11040

At Parkville, our goal is to provide a nurturing, stimulating learning environment where young children can thrive. Our commitment is to help children achieve their full potential by meeting individual needs and building on strengths. The early years of a child's life are an important time for the development of social, emotional, and cognitive skills. Preschool helps build the foundation for future learning. The Pre-K curriculum is geared towards developing readiness skills that address the interest levels and needs of each child. Students are introduced to the basics of literacy that help them build a solid reading foundation. Youngsters are actively involved in learning and provided with developmentally appropriate tasks, hands-on experiences, and time for play in a stimulating environment. We teach children kindness, empathy, and social skills to build a caring community of learners in every classroom.

General Organization Information:

Organization Type: Universal Pre-K.

Religious Affiliation: Nonsectarian.

Hours of Operation: Mon. – Fri./9:15 – 12:45/12:45 – 3:20 pm

Student Age Criteria: Child must be 4 by Dec. 1st.

Facilities Description: Large gym and outdoor playground.

Transportation Details: School bus – no fee.

Program Information:

Parent Responsibilities: Scheduled for morning or evening to best accommodate working families.

Child/Teacher Ratio: 18:1 teacher/1 aide.

Certified teacher in every classroom.

Enrichment Programs: Music, library/computer, and physical education classes.

Class Trips: Walking trips throughout the community to discover nature and the surrounding environment.

Summer Programs: No.

Tuition Details: State funded –district subsidized. None.

Scholarships Available:

Application Information:

Deadline Dates: Applications accepted beginning in October.

Contact Information:

Debra Shalom/Principal

Ph: (516) 441-4350

Fax: N/A

Email: Dshalom@greatneck.k12.ny.us

Website: www.greatneck.k12.ny.us

Child Advocacy Agencies



Child Advocacy Agencies

Child Care Council of Nassau County, Inc.

925 Hempstead Turnpike
Franklin Square, NY 11010
Ph: (516) 358-9250 Fax: N/A
Email: info@childcarecouncil.org
Website: www.childcarenassau.org

Jan Barbieri/Executive Director

Provides childcare counseling and referrals to parents, offers training and technical assistance to child care providers, conducts research, advocates for quality, affordable childcare, and addresses public policy issues.

Community Resource Database of Long Island

Website: www.crdli.org

This computerized director profiles 8500+ community services and resources available in the Long Island area. Current information about health, human service, education agencies and programs serving all ages and persons with disabilities; education and training opportunities; health facilities; hotlines; housing; and food pantries can be found.

COPAY

21 North Station Plaza
Great Neck, NY 11021
Ph: (516) 466- 2509 Fax: N/A
Email: copayincgn@aol.com
Website: www.copayinc.org

Maria Cuadra/Executive Director

Community-based bilingual human services agency with a primary focus on the professional treatment and prevention of drug addiction and alcoholism. It offers a variety of family-centered services including domestic violence intervention, services to children at risk, and parent support groups.

Family Support Program

65 High Street
Manhasset, NY 11030
Ph: (516) 365-0869 Fax: N/A
Email: N/A
Website: N/A

Through referral and outreach, caring professionals provide a personal response to family concerns and connect families to community resources.

Child Advocacy Agencies

North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center

480 Old Westbury Road
Roslyn Heights, NY 11577
Ph: (516) 626-1971 Fax: (516) 626-8043
Email: info@northshorechildguidance.org
Website: www.northshorechildguidance.org

Andrew Malekoff/Executive Director

Diagnostic and clinical services available for infants, toddlers, and parents for child development and growth. Parent-child interaction guidance for parents having difficulties with infants and toddlers is available. Teams consist of child psychiatrist, clinical social worker, and psychologist. Referrals made.

Manhasset Coalition Against Substance Abuse (CASA)

PO Box 392
Manhasset, NY 11030
Ph: (516) 267-7548 Fax: (516) 267-7548
Email: casa_org@manhasset.k12.ny.us
csawyercasa@gmail.com
Website: www.manhassetcasa.org

Caryn Sawyer/Executive Director
Cathy Samuels/Project Director

The Manhasset Community Coalition Against Substance Abuse (CASA) aims to reduce substance abuse among youth and establishes collaboration among different facets of the community to prevent and reduce substance abuse. CASA works to reach youth before they are in trouble. We accomplish this by connecting parents, school and the community as partners in this common goal. We are a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization housed in the Manhasset Secondary School.

Resources for Children with Special Needs



Resources for Children with Special Needs

Community Resource Database of Long Island

Website: www.crdli.org

This computerized director profiles 8500+ community services and resources available in the Long Island area. Current information about health, human service, education agencies and programs serving all ages and persons with disabilities; education and training opportunities; health facilities; hotlines; housing; and food pantries can be found.

Nassau Early Childhood Direction Center

Variety Child Learning Center

47 Humphrey Drive

Syosset, NY 11791

Ph: (516) 921-7171 Fax: (516) 921-8130

Email: Via website.

Website: www.vclc.org

Stacey Ratner/School Principal

Provides information and referral assistance for families and professionals regarding children, birth to five years of age, who are experiencing developmental delays or are disabled. The ECDC links families and children to community resources. Services are free and confidential.

Resources for Parents & Children



Books for Parents

Choosing Child Care Or A Nursery School:

Auerbach, Stevanne. Keys to Choosing Child Care, Barron's, 1991.

Berezin, Judith. The Complete Guide to Choosing Child Care, Random House, 1990.

Goldberg, Stan. Ready to Learn: How to Help Your Preschooler Succeed. Oxford University Press, 2005.

Herman, Doris. Doris Herman's Preschool Primer for Parents: A Question-and-Answer Guide to Your Child's First School Experience, J.P. Tarcher/Putnam, 1998.

Wana, Jennifer. How to Choose the Best Preschool for Your Child: The Ultimate Guide to Finding, Getting Into, and Preparing for Nursery School. Sourcebooks, 2010.

Parent's Role in Child's Education:

Bennett, William John. The Educated Child: A Parents Guide, Free Press, 1999.

Brenner, Barbara. The Preschool Handbook: Making the Most of Your Child's Education, Pantheon Books, 1990.

Burns, Susan et al. Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children's Reading Success. National Academy Press, 1999.

Calkins, Lucy McCormick. Raising Lifelong Learners: A Parents Guide, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1997.

Children's Television Workshop. Parent's Guide to Raising Kids Who Love to Learn: Infant to Grade School. Prentice Hall Press, 1989.

Codell, Esme Rajii. How to get Your Child to Love Reading, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2003.

Goldberg, Stan. Ready to Learn: How to Help your Preschooler Succeed, Oxford University Press, 2005.

Hearne, Betsy. Choosing Books for Children: A Common Sense Guide, University of Illinois Press, 1999.

Hirsh-Pasek, Kathy. Einstein Never Used Flash Cards: How Our Children Really Learn – and Why They Need to Play More and Memorize Less. St. Martin's Press, 2003.

Rath, Linda K., Ed. D. and Louise Kennedy. The Between the Lines book for Parents, Harper Resource, 2004.

Schulman, Nancy. Practical Wisdom for Parents: Demystifying for the Preschool Years, A. A. Knopf, 2007.

Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children's Reading Success, National Academy Press, 1999.

Townsend-Butterworth, Diana. Preschool and Your Child: What You Should Know. Walker and Company, 1995.

Head Start:

Mills, Kay. Something Better for My Children: The History and People of Head Start, Dutton, 1998.

Zigler, Edward. Head Start: The Inside Story of America's Most Successful Educational Experiment, Basic Books, 1992.

Zigler, Edward and Valentine, Jeanette. Project Head Start: A Legacy of the War on Poverty. Free Press, 1979.

Books for Parents

Montessori:

Gettman, David. Basic Montessori: Learning Activities For Under-Fives. St. Martin Press, 1987.

Lillard, Paula Polk. Montessori. A Modern Approach. Schocken Books, 1972.

Lillard, Paula Polk. Montessori from the Start: The Child at Home from Birth to Age Three, Schocken Books, 2003.

Lillard, Paula Polk. Montessori Today: A Comprehensive Approach to Education from Birth to Adulthood, Schocken Books, 1996.

Malloy, Terry. Montessori and Your Child: A Primer for Parents, Niehuis Montessori USA, 1992.

Getting Your Child to Eat:

Ludwig, David. Ending the Food Fight: Guide Your Child to a Healthy Weight in a Fast Food/Fake Food World, Houghton Mifflin Co., 2007.

Piette, Linda D. Just Two More Bites: Helping Picky Eaters Say "Yes" to Food, Three Rivers Press, 2006.

Lansky, Vicki. Fee Me. I'm Yours: Baby Food Made Easy, Simon & Schuster, 2004.

Houts, Amy. Cooking Around the Calendar with Kids: Holiday and Seasonal Food and Fun, Snaptail Press, 2001.

Universal Pre-K:

Steps to Universal Prekindergarten Guidebook: A Resource for Superintendants, School Boards, Prekindergarten Policy Advisory Boards, Teachers, Early Childhood Professionals, Policymakers, Parents and Citizens. Vols 1 and II. State Communities Aid Association, 1998.

Books for Children

Nonfiction:

Demuth, Patricia. Busy at Day Care Head to Toe. Dutton Children's Books, 1996.

Kuklin, Susan. Going to My Nursery School. Bradbury Press, 1990.

Murkoff, Heidi Eisenberg. What to Expect in Preschool. Harper Festival, 2001.

Picture Books:

**Antoine, Heloise. Curious Kids Go to Preschool: Another Big Book of Words. Peachtree Publishers, 1996. *Presents vocabulary and accompanying illustrations that identify objects and activities related to preschool and daycare.*

Ashley, Bernard. Cleversticks. Crown Publishers, 1992. *Wishing he had something to be clever at, like each of the other children in his class, Ling Sung unexpectedly and happily discovers that his classmates all admire his prowess with chopsticks.*

Ballard, Robin. My Day, Your Day. Greenwillow Books, 2001. *Children have a busy day at daycare; their parents have a busy day at work.*

*Blake, Stephanie. I Don't Want to Go to School! Random House Children's Books, 2009. *Simon the rabbit doesn't want to go to his first day of school, but by the time his mother comes to take him home, he is having such a good time that he does not want to leave.*

Boelts, Maribeth. Little Bunny's Preschool Countdown. Albert Whitman & Co. 1996. *Little Bunny will soon be four, the summer will be over, and he will start preschool. He has doubts. His schemes to avoid school by burying his calendar and schoolbag don't work. Mom reassures him that new things can be scary. On the first day, he observes lots of exciting activities and makes new friends.*

*Bridwell, Norman. Clifford's First School Day. Scholastic, 1999. *As a small puppy, Clifford goes to school with Emily Elizabeth and gets into mischievous trouble during finger painting, cookie baking, and snack time.*

*Brown, Marc. D.W. Goes to Preschool. Little Brown, 2011. *D.W., Arthur's little sister, tells what it is like to be in preschool, including essential information such as bathroom breaks, storing things in a cubbie, and sharing at play time.*

*Carlstrom, Nancy White. Giggle-Wiggle Wake Up! Alfred A. Knopf, 2003. *It's time to go to school! Fast-paced verse describes Sammy getting ready for his first day of preschool.*

*Child, Lauren. I Am Too Absolutely Small for School. Candlewick Press, 2003. *When Lola is worried about starting school, her older brother Charlie reassures her.*

Cooney, Nancy Evans. Chatterbox Jamie. Putnam, 1993. *Jamie enjoys all the activities at his nursery school, but he doesn't talk until just the right time for him.*

*Cousins, Lucy. Maisy Goes to Preschool. Candlewick Press, 2009. *Join Maisy and her friends for a busy day at preschool!*

**Crews, Donald. School Bus. Greenwillow Books, 1984. *Big and little bright yellow school buses drive through the town, picking children up, taking them to school, and bringing them home again.*

Books for Children

Picture Books:

*Dewdney, Anna. Llama Llama Misses Mama. Viking, 2009. *Llama Llama experiences separation anxiety on his first day of nursery school, but learns that mama will always come back for him.*

**Edwards, Becky. My First Day of Nursery School. Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2002. *On the first day of preschool, a little girl misses her mother, but on the second day she is excited to go back.*

Goodman, Joan. Bernard Goes to School. Boyds Mill Press, 2001. *When a little elephant is apprehensive about his first day of school, his parents show him how much fun school can be.*

Harris, Robie. I Am Not Going to School Today. Margaret K. McElderry Book, 2003. *A little boy decides to skip his very first day of school because on the first day one doesn't know anything, but on the second, one knows everything.*

**Hays, Anna Jane. Ready, Set, Preschool: Stories, Poems, Picture Games and Educational Guide for Parents. Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. *A collection of simple stories, poems, picture games designed to prepare children for preschool.*

**Henkes, Kevin. Wemberly Worried. Greenwillow Press, 1999. *A mouse named Wemberly, who worries about everything, worries about the many new things she will experience in nursery school. On her first day, she befriends a fellow worrier, and decides she likes preschool.*

*Hest, Amy. Off to School, Baby Duck! Candlewick Press, 1999. *Grampa and her new teacher dispel Baby Duck's many fears about starting school.*

*Hill, Eric. Spot Goes to School. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1984. *Spot the dog enjoys his first day at school in this simple lift-the-flap book.*

Hoffman, Phyllis. We Play. Harper & Row, 1990. *A child's fun-filled day at nursery school, told in rhyme.*

*Hunter, Jana Novotny. I Can Do It! Francis Lincoln Children's Books, 2006. *With vibrant illustrations and a lively story, this book explores the many things that Little Guinea Pig does at nursery school.*

Hurwitz, Johanna. Russell's Secret. Harper Collins Publishers, 2001. *When Russell decides to stay home from nursery school and be a baby like his new sister, he discovers that being treated like a baby when you are a big boy is not fun.*

*London, Jonathan. Froggy Goes to School. Viking, 1996. *Froggy is nervous about his first day of school, but, even though it's hard to sit still, he has a wonderful time.*

Moss, Mirium. Don't Forget I Love You. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2004. *After spending too much time playing with his favorite toy, Billy and his mother are very late for nursery school and his mother forgets some crucial things as she rushes to work.*

*Neubecker, Robert. Wow! School! Hyperion Books for Children, 2007. *Izzy finds many things to be excited about on the first day of school. Preschoolers learn what to expect in this colorful, engaging book.*

Ovenell-Carter, Julie. Adam's Daycare. Annick Press, 1997. *Adam spends the day at Ina's house with his friends Anna and Molly and Ina's child while his mother is at work.*

Books for Children

Picture Books:

Rankin, Joan. *First Day*. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2002. *Little Haybillybun is not the only one who is worried about the first day of preschool.*

Reynolds, Adrian. *Pete and Polo's Big School Adventure*. Orchard Books, 2000. *Pete and his polar bear are nervous on their first day of school, especially when they discover Polo is the only bear who isn't brown.*

*Rockwell, Anne. *My Preschool*. Henry Holt, 2008. *This picture book follows a little boy during his day at preschool, from cheerful hellos in circle time, to painting colorful pictures, to passing out paper cups for snacks.*

*Rosenberry, Vera. *Vera's First Day of School*. Henry Holt, 1999. *Vera cannot wait for the first day when she starts school, but the first day does not go exactly as she has anticipated.*

*Schaefer, Carole Lexa. *Someone Says*. Viking 2003. *A day at preschool has leaping frogs, dancing ponies, flapping wings, eating like tigers, and all the things children can imagine.*

Senderak, Carol Hunt. *Mommy in My Pocket*. Hyperion, 2006. *A little girl gets anxious about separation from her mommy when she goes to school.*

*Strauss, Linda Leopold. *Preschool Day Hooray!* Cartwheel Books, 2010. *Rhyming text and illustrations describe a young child's activities during the day at nursery school.*

*Thompson, Lauren. *Mouse's First Day of School*. Simon and Schuster Books, 2003. *In this colorful book, mouse goes to school in a backpack and finds blocks, a drum, books, snacks, and friendly children.*

Tompert, Ann. *Will You Come Back for Me?* Albert Whitman and Company, 1988. *Four-year-old Suki works through her fears about starting daycare by dreaming about her teddy bear going to the School for Teddies and sharing her dream with her mom. Her mother reassures Suki that she will come back for her every day by making a paper heart and leaving part of it with Suki.*

**Wells, Rosemary. *Timothy Goes to School*. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1981. *Timothy learns about being accepted and making friends during the first week of his first year at school. A must-read.*

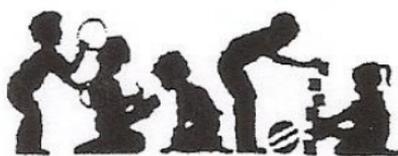
*Wilhelm, Hans. *I Love School!* Cartwheel Books, 2009. *On his first visit to school, Noodles the dog feels scared until he meets a nice teacher and makes new friends.*

*Wing, Natasha. *The Night Before Preschool*. Grosset & Dunlap, 2011. *In rhyming text based on "The Night Before Christmas," Billy is too nervous to sleep the night before he begins preschool, but a kind teacher and new friends fill the day with fun.*

*Zalbin, Jane Breskin. *Don't Go*. Clarion Books, 2001. *On the first day of preschool, Daniel overcomes his nervousness as he plays in the sandbox, collects leaves, and bakes cookies. Includes tips for parents on preparing children for preschool.*

***A Selected List Compiled by Cheryl Kallberg, Manhasset Public Library (MPL), Children's Librarian. Books and/or video format can be found in the MPL.**

****Book and/or video can be found in both the Great Neck Library (GNL) and MPL. All others listed can be found in the GNL.**



A hundred years from now
it will not matter what my bank account was,
the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove...
but the world may be different
because I was important in the life of a child.

Forest E. Witcraft Teacher, Scholar

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