

Welcome Discovery II Families!

We are excited to be your child's teachers this year. Here is a little bit about us to help you get to know us better.

My name is Ms. Catherine! I'm going to be one of your child's teachers this year and would like to introduce myself. I have been in the early childcare field for 25+ years and have loved every minute of it. I have been married for 30 years, have 4 beautiful children and 2 grandchildren. Please feel free to contact me at any time. I can't wait to watch your child grow!

My name is Ms. Kim. I am brand new at Mother's Day Out, however, I have been teaching childcare for a little over 15 years now. I also have four children of my own, as well as a one-year-old grandson. I recently re-enrolled into school to obtain my associates degree in early childhood education. I started back last semester after taking a 6-year break to focus on raising my family. Since I am taking more classes this fall, I will only be part time, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Over my many years of teaching I have found a great passion for the two-year-old classroom. Their curiosity to explore combined with their eagerness to learn about the world around them is what makes teaching this age group so rewarding. I look forward to begin my journey here at MDO and I am extremely excited to get to know you and your children.

We are very excited to be your child's teacher this year! We want you to know we have a fun year planned with lots of learning and activities. Your child's safety and happiness is the focus of our agenda.

**Please bring these LABELED items to the first day of school for your child (to keep at school):**

- Package of diapers (we have room to store an extra pack) and also any ointment you may use
- Sleeping bag (and small pillow, if desired)
- Pacifier or comfort item
- Extra change of clothes
- 4x6 picture of your child
- Reusable water bottle
- All MDO forms, completed
- Helpful Information Form About Your Child, completed

Every child has their own cubby to keep their things in, but it is best to **LABEL** all of your items. We do not always remember who came in which jacket.

**Snack:** Please bring a two-part snack at the start of each month. You should bring enough for 16 kids. Please label your snack so we know who has brought it in.

Snacks should consist of two food groups - fruit or vegetable, grain or dairy.

Fruits or vegetable: fresh fruit or vegetable, jarred, pouch or raisins

Grain: granola bar, graham crackers, cheese crackers

Dairy: cheese, yogurt

We have access to a refrigerator. Whatever your child enjoys is fine to bring as long as it is a healthy option. 2% milk is provided at lunch time. If you want your child to have a different type of milk, we ask that you please bring this to school. Again, we can store it, **LABELED** for your child in our refrigerator.

**Our daily schedule for the Discovery II class:**

7:00-9:00	Before Care
9-9:15	Arrival, free play (new activities and toys set out daily)
9:15-9:35	Diaper change and/ or potty time
9:35-10	Gym or outside play
10-10:20	Snack time, read stories, sing songs, finger plays
10:20-10:30	Circle time
	-songs
	-weather
	-calendar
10:30-11	Group activity
	-sensory exploration
	-craft
	-centers
11-11:15	Music and movement
11:15-11:45	Gym or outside play
11:45-12	Diaper change or potty time
12-12:20	Lunch
12:30-2	Nap
2:00	Departure
2-5	After care

You will receive information and pictures about your child's day when you access Parent Engagement app. Please be reminded this is a loose schedule, as we are more focused on the needs of each child. Especially in the beginning of the year when all are learning to adapt and transition to new routines and a new environment.

Please feel free to check our website [www.mdoracine.com](http://www.mdoracine.com) for information pertaining to our class. Just look for Discovery I. We have different topics every week and talk about these things throughout the day with children. Our songs, stories and art projects usually reflect the week's theme.

We are looking forward to helping your child grow both physically and spiritually.

Ms. Catherine Higginbottom

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Ms. Kim Wirtz

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