

Early Childhood Family Education/School Readiness
Preschool fun and
learning for your child ...
Parenting information and support for you!

Bemidji's Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) and School Readiness (SR) programs are for all families in the Bemidji School District who have pre-school age children. We recognize that parents are a child's first and most important teachers -- and that sometimes parents need support and encouragement for this responsibility. ECFE/SR offers a variety of classes for you and your child -- infants to pre-kindergarten.

ECFE/SR classes are held at the Community Services Center
616 America Avenue - First Floor and on the BSU campus
You can learn more about ECFE/SR on the web site:
www.bemidjicommunityed.com or call 333-8329

We have class space available for all ages. Call 333-8329 for information and to register. We will find a class for you!

Infants

As soon as you have your baby, please feel free to join this class! We offer a chance to connect with other new parents and answer questions you have about your new role as parent! We will discuss parenting issues, learn about baby's development and talk about what you can do at home to encourage and appreciate your wonderful child.

Monday 12:30-1:30 from Oct.7-Nov.25 OR Wednesday 6:00-7:00 from Sept.25-Nov.13
(There is a suggested \$25 fee for these 8 week sessions and your first baby class is free!)

One Year Olds

(1-year-old by 9/1/13)

Your toddler is busy exploring the world! Come for fun: riding toys, rolling balls, tossing bean bags, climbing, sliding and running. Parents and kids gather for short group times with songs and fingerplays. Parents share the joys and challenges of living with a toddler.

Tuesday 8:45-9:45 OR Wednesday 9:00-10:00 OR Wednesday 5:00-6:00

Two Year Olds

(2-years-old by 9/1/13)

Learn to appreciate the energy and emotions of your terrific two-year-old. We plan lots of active fun for you and your little one in a safe yet stimulating classroom. Parents separate to discuss two year old development, guidance, and more while the kids continue to play and learn.

Monday 10:15-12:00 OR Wednesday 10:15-12:00 OR Thursday 8:30-10:15

Three Year Olds

(3 by 9/1/13)

Your child is 3 now. For many this is a time of new changes and challenges. Some parents wonder what happened to their cooperative 2 year olds! Join other parents for discussion about this new age. Your children will have time for activities with you, and while you are out of the room for your parent group.

Thursday 10:15-12:00

Mixed Ages

(2-5 years by 9/1/13)

These classes mix the preschool ages in a more family style setting. Bring more than one child to class if you wish. Parents and kids share activities together, have a circle time with stories, songs and games. Parents will then leave for a discussion group while children continue to enjoy a variety of activities with

classroom teachers. Sibling childcare is available during the classes if there are many families needing this.

Monday 8:30 -10:15 OR Monday 4:30-6:00 OR Monday 6:00-7:30 OR Wednesday 6:00-7:30

Parents of Children with Special Needs

Being the parent of a child with special needs adds many facets to your role ... from financial to emotional. Join this group of parents for discussion concerning YOUR special needs as a parent. Call Vicki at 333-8334 for more information. There is no fee for attending this group. Childcare is available.

1st Tuesday of each month

10:30 – 11:30

Single Parents & Kids

We know that being a single parent is a special challenge. Enjoy activities with your child, and a time for parental discussion. The parent group will deal with issues related to parenting – and being single. Call Sue at 333-8329 for more information.

Thursday 6:00 – 7:30 PM

School Readiness

School Readiness/ECFE offers preschool classes for children who will attend Kindergarten in the fall of 2014 or 2015. (Children must be 3 or 4 years old by Sept.1, 2013) Classes are offered one, two, or three days per week. Full day classes, are offered, as well as half day classes. Activities are designed to prepare children for their move to Kindergarten.

Call 333-8329 for class times and availability.

FALL SPECIAL EVENT

“An Evening at Buena Vista”

Tuesday, September 24

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Buena Vista Ski Area

Bring the whole family to this fun evening of activities at Buena Vista. There will be a meal served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. From 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. we will offer rides in covered wagons. You can also climb the highest hill and wonder at the beautiful fall colors! Dress for the weather and bring your camera. Cost is \$4 per person for the meal and ride, \$2 if doing the wagon ride only.

SIBLING CHILD CARE AVAILABLE

Child care is available during some class times for siblings of a child in class. We can care for children ages infant to 7 yrs. Fees for child care are \$3 per day or \$30 per semester.

Fall Semester

Begins Sept. 3

Registration is ongoing-contact us any time throughout the year.

ECFE/SR Class Fees:

The suggested fee is on a sliding scale based on income and family size. Call 333-8329 for details.

Special payment plans can be arranged for any of our classes. No one is turned away for inability to pay.

Early Childhood Screening

In order for your child to start kindergarten in any Minnesota public school (s)he must participate in early childhood screening. Screening includes vision, hearing, height, weight, speech/language and developmental observations. We offer these screenings throughout the year at various locations. Ideally children are screened between the ages of 3 1/2-4 years old or earlier, if parents have concerns about their child's development. There is no cost for the screening. Please call Sue at 333-8329 to schedule an appointment for your child.