

SHEFFIELD PRESCHOOL PROGRAM



Engaging Children and Parents Since 1983

2347 Stuart Street
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SHEFFIELD PRESCHOOL

- Creative curriculum
- Low teacher-student ratio
- Developmentally based
- Daily musical circle
- Cultural diversity
- Conflict resolution
- Parent conferences
- Healthy snacks
- Field trips
- State licensed
- Earthquake prepared
- Parent involvement welcomed

“When I think of the Sheffield Preschool Program, the first word that comes to mind is rich: rich in equipment and supplies, rich in nurturing, rich in curriculum, music, and creativity.”

– Margie Albers-Friel

A GUIDED TOUR

Since 1983, the Sheffield Preschool Program has brought a warm, rich, nurturing, and safe learning environment to families from Berkeley, Oakland, Albany, Piedmont, El Cerrito, Orinda, and Montclair. Our home-based program in the Le Conte District of Berkeley is small enough to provide individual attention to your child and large enough to develop the social skills so important for your child’s success in elementary school — and beyond.

We focus on getting to know our children and families very well. We help with separation and individuation issues, using empathy and conflict resolution to help young children feel safe and become independent. Most children stay with us for three full years of preschool and then move on quite successfully to kindergarten.

*Licensed by the California Department of Social Services,
Community Care Licensing Division.*



YEARLY CURRICULUM

When planning the curriculum and daily schedule each year, we take into account the needs and interests of each of the children in our program. For example, some years we might have two circles, instead of one, a day. We design a monthly activity calendar to tell you generally what your child will be doing each day. The calendar also includes holidays, seasonal activities, sharing days, field trips, birthdays, and school parties.

“What’s most important to me about June’s program has been that she takes the time to get to know each child as an individual, and it has really benefited my son”

– Chris Holey

LEARNING BY DOING

We celebrate all the major holidays (in a secular way) each year because it’s fun *and* a learning experience for the children. We decorate the preschool — which was earthquake proofed in 1990 and renovated in 1998 — differently each week or two, depending upon the learning theme or the holiday.

We coordinate our projects with events: pumpkin carving and “scary” storytelling for Halloween, peace signs and songs for Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday, and acting out being born for Mother’s or Father’s Day. Each year we include additional celebrations from around the world.

“Our curriculum is developmentally based, responsive to a wide range of ages, and designed to help young children enjoy the world around them and prepare them for kindergarten.”

– June Sheffield, Director

A FUN PLACE TO LEARN & PLAY

The living room and dining room abound with beautiful toys, games, and tapes of all descriptions that are rotated frequently to match the curriculum. Our library has more than 1,000 books for kids. Twice daily, nutritious snacks are served in the kitchen or outside. The backyard is the school's crown jewel, with a playground-sized redwood climbing structure (complete with slide and monkey bars), a flower and vegetable garden, a large concrete bike path, a sandbox, a basketball hoop, a sand-and-water table, and easels and paints for drawing. We play outside at least two hours each morning and each afternoon, weather permitting.

"After having had my children at June's preschool for the past six years, what has impressed me most is her ability to use problem solving and conflict resolution with children. The school also has great toys!"

– Jill Martinucci

THE STAFF



The teaching staff brings a diversity of backgrounds, interests, and strengths to the Sheffield Preschool Program, such as storytelling, drama, art, science, gardening, and music.

Credentialed Preschool Program Director June Sheffield, the mother of two Ivy League college graduates, has a B.A. degree in Anthropology from UC Berkeley. All staff members are experienced Early Childhood educators and participate in a continuous program of education and advancement.

"The Sheffield Preschool Program makes the preschool process enjoyable and rewarding, especially the history of caring staff who are stable and committed. The low turnover rate of June's assistants is an especially important benefit of our daughter's preschool experience."

– Bill Wright