

## Our mission is to

...provide staff and families a safe, diverse childcare environment dedicated to respectful communication, problem solving, creative learning and the freedom to play!

### About our program

Blazing Trails, located at Pathfinder K - 8 in West Seattle, is a non-profit before and after school childcare program for school-age children ages five through twelve. We also offer summer enrichment programs.

### Blazing Trails Clans

Children of different ages are organized into clans. For the summer, Koalas are Kindergarteners entering in the 2010 – 2011 school year. Although we are housed at Pathfinder K-8, our program welcomes students who will attend other schools in the fall. Other BT clans are Raccoons entering 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, Geckos entering 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade and Bison entering 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders. Clan assignments will shift when school starts. Koalas will have their own schedule and space during the summer, though there will be some opportunities for mixed clan activities and fieldtrips.

### Blazing Trails Philosophy

We are dedicated to supporting families in our community as we help each child develop good communication skills and celebrate his or her own uniqueness. We maintain an environment that encourages intellectual, physical and social growth with respect for others and the natural environment. People relate to each other peacefully and we joyfully appreciate our rich diversity.

Staff training is a crucial component to accomplishing our goals. We support our staff, both professionally and personally, through respect for each other's personal differences and unique teaching styles. We provide opportunities for shared leadership, professional growth and development and an environment that encourages mutual support and care.

## Blazing Trails Childcare

### Inclusion Policy

Our Statement of Anti-discrimination,  
Anti-bias & Cultural Sensitivity

We foster an understanding of diversity among people, expecting and modeling unconditional respect for self and others. We enjoy celebrating and exploring our community's rich cultural diversity.

All children and their families are accepted according to our policies without regard to race, color, religion or belief structure, creed, ancestry, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical challenges. We have no religious affiliation and we respect each person's right to observe the tenets of his or her personal faith.



## OUR SUMMER

“KOALA”

PROGRAM



for incoming 2010 Kindergarteners

July 6 – August 27, 2010

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Check us out at ...

[www.blazingtrails.org](http://www.blazingtrails.org)

# Blazing Trails Childcare

## Information

- We are open from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. during the eight weeks of the summer program.
- Blazing Trails is a non-profit organization with its own governing council and is run through the Pathfinder PTSA.
- Blazing Trails maintains at least an 11 to 1 student/adult ratio, varying due to activity type.
- We have use of Pathfinder's playground, outdoor fields, play court, cafeteria and gym facilities.
- We provide healthy snacks.
- Our goal is to inspire positive self-esteem, respect for self and others, a sense of responsibility for one's own behavior and a respectful caring for our environment.
- Parents/Guardians are always welcome and encouraged to volunteer or to drop by just to "hang out"!
- Blazing Trails accepts DSHS and City subsidies and has limited scholarships or work-trade at the Director's discretion.
- Drop-in days are \$53.00 each and subject to availability.
- State regulations mandate that children may be in childcare a maximum of 10 hours/day.

### OUR FIVE CORE VALUES

**RESPECT** means following the **Golden Rule\*** by treating others and yourself with value and dignity.

**RESPONSIBILITY** means accepting accountability for your actions and your role in the community.

**HONESTY** means being trustworthy and truthful.

**CARING** means considering the needs and feelings of others with yours.

**FUN** means experiencing joy and including play as an integral part of life.

\* **THE GOLDEN RULE** – Always treat others as you expect to be treated.

### Summer Tuition per Week

1 day/wk	2 days/wk	3 days/wk	4 days/wk	5 days/wk
\$53.00	\$88.00	\$122.00	\$152.00	\$175.00

## 2010 Summer Weeks for the KOALA CLAN

WEEK	DATES	THEME
1	July 6 – 9	It's a Small World
2	July 12 – 16	Come by Land, Sea & Air
3	July 19 – 23	Land of Make Believe
4	July 26 – 30	Animal Antics
5	Aug. 2 – 6	Crazy Science
6	Aug. 9 – 13	Koala Olympics
7	Aug. 16 – 20	Rah! Rah! Rah!
8	Aug. 23 – 27	Ready, Set, School!

BT will be CLOSED on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

### Koala Summer for 2010 Kindergarteners

Incoming **Kindergarteners** will enjoy a program designed to prepare them socially & emotionally for school while having fun with their peers. Please, see the **Koala Clan Schedule** for more information.

### SUMMER CURRICULUM

This summer, projects and activities will stretch across the week based around the general theme. Project choices are designed to encourage creativity, develop skills, practice math & literacy and have lots of fun! Centers are student directed choices and projects are teacher led curriculum. To help your child prepare for Kindergarten, other subjects such as group behavior expectations, good hygiene practice, friendship & problem solving skills and more, will be part of every day. Quiet Choices are always an option, too. These include: Library Corner, Puzzles/games, drawing and coloring. The daily schedule below mirrors what they may experience in a Pathfinder Kindergarten classroom. Our goal is to help them be comfortable and confident during this amazing transition time.

#### Daily Schedule

6:30 – 9:00	Quiet Choices/Movement with larger group
7:00	Early morning snack
9:00 – 9:15	Koala Circle Time – AM snack – Intro to day
9:15 – 9:30	"Letter of the Day"
9:30 – 11:00	Choice Time
	Outdoor Play – Centers – Project Time
11:00 – 11:15	Story – wash hands for lunch
11:15 – 12:15	Lunch & Recess
12:15 – 1:00	Quiet Reading or Rest Time
1:00 – 1:15	Clean-up & Quick Circle
1:15 – 3:00	Indoor or Outdoor Choices – finish projects
3:00 – 3:15	Clean-up – story – wash hands
3:15 – 4:15	PM Snack & Recess
4:15 – 5:30	Quiet Choices –
5:30 – 6:00	Clean-up & go home.

PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD BE PREPARED

REQUIRED FOR FIELD TRIPS:

RECOMMENDED EVERY DAY:



**FIELDTRIP INFO:** The costs of most fieldtrips are included in tuition although some special fieldtrips will cost an extra fee based on special bus rental and admission fees. These fieldtrips are marked with an "\$" on the **Koala Summer Schedule**. Specific information will be available at least one week in advance and charges will be assessed based on actual attendance on the next month's bill.

**NOTE:** Any students new to Blazing Trails are required to schedule at least one full day remaining at Blazing Trails site before he/she attends a fieldtrip. It's important that your child get to know our teachers and become familiar with our ways. It is equally important for our staff to learn about your child. This policy is for your child's comfort and safety.