

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 entering Kindergarteners (Please, see the Koala specific flyer & summer schedule for more information.), Raccoons are entering 1st and 2nd graders, Geckos are entering 3rd through 4th grade and Bison are entering 5th - 7th graders. Clan assignments will shift when school starts. Certain projects and fieldtrips will be clan based and other activities including field trips will be mixed ages.

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 PROGRAM

for 1st through 7th grade
(ages 5 to 12 years)

at Pathfinder K - 8

July 6 - August 27, 2010



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Check us out at ...

www.blazingtrails.org

Blazing Trails Childcare

Information

- We are open from 6:30 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, lower field, kitchen, 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, City and U.W. subsidies and has limited scholarships or work-trade at the Director's discretion.
- Drop-in days are \$55.00 each and subject to availability.

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
\$55.00	\$89.00	\$125.00	\$155.00	\$179.00

2010 Summer Weeks for Raccoons, Geckos & Bison*

WEEK	DATES	THEME
1	July 6 – 9	Explore Science
2	July 12 – 16	Puppets, Skits & Performance
3	July 19 – 23	Fabric, Yarn & Thread
4	July 26 – 30	2-D Art
5	Aug. 2 – 6	Building Many Things
6	Aug. 9 – 13	Beads, String & Wire
7	Aug. 16 – 20	3-D Art
8	Aug. 23 – 27	Leather Crafts

BT will be CLOSED on the 5th 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** & the **Koala Summer Flyer** for more schedule & curriculum 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, set goals, track progress, apply core subjects practically to everyday tasks and have fun! Starting with the simplest choices, children will build their skills at their own pace as they choose to move on to more difficult and challenging projects. Please, see the **Summer Schedule** for more curriculum details.

Movement is always an option for all clans during the three Choice Times throughout the day. Movement games will use various approaches designed to build skills and expand understanding of rule concepts and applications. For example: when the calendar says "Basketball", it means they will "explore" basketball. They might play HORSE, Steal the Bacon or 21. They might practice some skill building exercise based on basketball or play by their own rules. ☺ Please, see the **Summer Schedule** for more information.

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 **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.