

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' CoRs

Children of different ages are organized into Communities of Respect (CoRs). For the summer, **DUCKS** are entering Kindergarteners as of September, 2017. Other BT CoRs are **RACCOONS**, entering 1st-2nd graders and **BADGERS**, entering 3rd grade and up. Also, incoming 5th - 6th graders who are interested are invited to apply to join the **LYNX** CoR. CoR assignments will shift when school starts. Although we are housed at Pathfinder K-8, our program welcomes students who will attend other schools in the fall. **The DUCK CoR and special LYNX CoR will have their own time each day for CoR specific activities, though there will be many opportunities for mixed CoR activities.**

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.



OUR



SUMMER



PROGRAM

...for students entering K-7th grade

Duck ☉ Raccoon ☺ Badger ☉ Lynx

June 26 – August 25, 2017



Pathfinder K-8 School
1901 SW. Genesee Street
Seattle, WA 98106

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Check us out at ...

www.blazingtrails.org

Blazing Trails Childcare

Information

- We are open from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM. during the 9 weeks of the 2017 summer program.
- Blazing Trails is a non-profit organization with its own governing council and is run through the Pathfinder PTSA.
- Blazing Trails maintains, on average, at least an 11 to 1 student/teacher ratio, varying with different activity types, i.e. more kids per teacher with gym/playground activities and less with directed projects. No group is ever larger than 15:1.
- Blazing Trails' "roving teacher" and office staff are not included when figuring the student/teacher ratio and are available to support our teachers and students. They help with problem solving and any other possible challenges.
- We have use of Pathfinder's playground, playfields, play-court, cafeteria and gym facilities.
- We provide healthy snacks and include many organic and home-cooked options. Check with Chelsea for more info.
- Students must arrive by 10:00 AM to fully participate in enrichment classes. Underlined classes can only be chosen if your child registers for at least 3 of the 4 days each week.
- Parents/Guardians are always welcome to volunteer or to drop by just to "hang out"!
- Blazing Trails accepts DSHS and City subsidies and has some scholarships (limited) at the Director's discretion.
- Drop-in days are \$59.00 each and subject to availability.
- State law mandates that school-age children be in childcare a maximum of 10 hours/day.

OUR FIVE CORE VALUES

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

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 along with your own.

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

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

Summer Tuition per Week

1 day/wk	2 days/wk	3 days/wk	4 days/wk	5 days/wk
\$59.00	\$108.00	\$148.00	\$185.00	\$215.00

2017 Summer Weeks

Basic Daily Schedule – All CoRs

6:30 – 8:30	Open Den - all CoRs
7:00 – 7:30	Early Morning Snack
8:00 – 9:00	<i>Gym Time or East Burrow option</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Hand washing & Morning Snack
9:15 – 10:00	Morning Movement
	Wheels
10:00 – 12:00	Enrichment Options
11:00 – 11:15	Break
12:00-1:00	Hand washing, Lunch and Recess
1:00 – 1:45	Duck Time – Ducks
1:00 – 1:45	E & E – Raccoons & Badgers
1:00 – 1:45	Discussion Circle – Lynx
1:45 – 2:00	All CoR Meeting
2:00 – 3:00	Water Play or Open Den Choices
2:00 – 3:00	Lynx Lair
3:00 – 3:30	Snack & Outdoor Recess
3:30 – 4:00	Rest & Recharge – Raccoons & Badgers
3:30 – 4:00	Duck Doze - Ducks
3:30 – 5:45	Lynx Lair
4:00 – 5:00	Read, Rest, Relax – Lynx
4:00 – 5:00	Open Den, Open Burrow & Movement
5:45 – 6:00	Quiet Choices - Den, Movement, Clean Up

DUCK CoR for 2017 Kindergarteners

Incoming **Kindergarteners** will enjoy a program designed to prepare them socially & emotionally for school while having fun with their peers. The Ducks will be able to choose Enrichment options with the Raccoons as well as enjoy special time each day by themselves. See daily schedule above for more details.

NEW SUMMER ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

Enrichment is a new format we're starting this summer. We've expanded our "clubs" idea from past years and created more in-depth curriculum that can span one or two weeks. Students will pick their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices and then will be assigned to an enrichment class. Adding the larger time block to our schedule will facilitate exploration, discovery and a more child-centered approach to learning. Students will have the time and attention to really build skills and explore interests. Please, see the Summer Games/Enrichment Schedule specific to your child's CoR for more information about enrichment choices. Underlined choices are an option for students who are enrolled in at least 3 of the 4 days/week for that choice. They are more in depth and require that level of attendance. **REMEMBER - You must arrive at BT by 10:00 AM for enrichment classes. Late arrivals might have to make other choices.**

LYNX CoR: The Lynx CoR is designed for incoming 5th & 6th graders who have displayed competence with self-direction, making positive choices and following directions. Curriculum is student designed, driven and includes student selected science explorations, art and design, community involvement and other special adventures. Inclusion is by permission only – See LYNX Schedule and McKinsey for more information.

PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD BE PREPARED

REQUIRED
FOR FIELD TRIPS:

RECOMMENDED
EVERY DAY:



FIELDTRIP INFO: Students **MUST** arrive by **9:00 AM** to attend fieldtrips. For safety, late arrivals may not join the trip. Unless otherwise posted, fieldtrips will be over by **5:30 PM**. The costs of most fieldtrips are included in tuition, although some special fieldtrips may cost an extra fee based on yellow bus rental and admission fees. These fieldtrips are marked with an "\$" on the Summer Games Schedule or the Sum Reg. form. 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. (Some scholarships are available based on need.)

NOTE: Any students new to Blazing Trails are required to schedule at least one full day remaining at the 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.