









Preschool Classes

<i>Class Name</i>	 Ladybugs	Ladybugs 'n Lunch 	 Expanded-Day Dragonflies	Half-Day Dragonflies 
<i>Definition</i>	Morning Preschool	Morning Preschool + Lunch	Expanded-Day Pre-Kindergarten	Half-Day Pre-Kindergarten
<i>Age (as of Sept. 1st)</i>	3-5 years	3-5 years	4-5 years	4-5 years
<i>Toilet Trained</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Teacher-Child Ratio</i>	8 : 1	8 : 1	8 : 1	8 : 1
<i>Class Description</i>	<p>A traditional Montessori preschool class for the child who is ready to handle more choice, additional classmates, and more transitions in a larger learning environment. Children are learning academics through self-organizing Montessori materials that teach math, language, reading/writing with whole-body experiences. They are also learning the social-regulation skills necessary for school success: how to take initiative with peers, engage in cooperative play, manage emotions, follow directions, share thoughts/ feelings, & negotiate conflict. Character-building is a key feature.</p>	<p>An ideal option for the preschooler who is ready to slightly extend their day and spend more time interacting with peers. Ladybugs in this class participate in the morning preschool program, bring their lunch, and stay at school for an additional 45 minutes where they benefit from important social skills practice with friends. Ladybugs who lunch end their day with some extra playground time!</p>	<p>A perfect class for the pre-Kindergartener who is ready for a longer school day. It is best suited for mature preschool children who are eager to explore the classroom more fully and are able to handle an extended day. The class builds on the social, emotional, and academic skills that children are acquiring in the Ladybug classes. The Dragonfly day includes lunch where students have the opportunity to practice important social skills. The afternoon portion of the day provides an opportunity for expanded activities, teacher-led presentations, and additional time for working with the advanced Montessori materials.</p>	<p>This modified Dragonfly class is ideal for those students who are going off to Kindergarten next year, but who are not quite ready for the longer, expanded preschool day. It may also be a fit for those children who would benefit from the consistency of a daily class, but without the longer hours. The class builds on the social, emotional, and academic skills that children are acquiring in the Ladybug classes, but with peers who are a bit older and materials that are more advanced. Dragonfly students stay for lunch at school so that they benefit from this time of important social skills practice.</p>
<i>Times</i>	T/TH, MWF & M-F 9:00-12:00 3 hours	T/TH, MWF & M-F 9:00-12:45 3 ¾ hours	T/TH, MWF & M-F 9:00-2:45 5 ¾ hours	T/TH, MWF & M-F 9:00-12:45 3 ¾ hours

We offer class options to meet the unique developmental needs of EACH child. Class placements are made by the Administrative staff in close collaboration with parents.


Mandala Children's House
 2018-2019 Class Descriptions

	Early Preschool		Special Enrichment Classes	
<i>Class Name</i>	 Cocoons	 Caterpillars	 Social Butterflies	 Squiggles & Wiggles
<i>Definition</i>	Introductory Preschool	Transitional Preschool	Social Skills Friendship Class	Sensory Exploration and Play
<i>Recommended Age (as of Sept. 1st)</i>	2 years	2½-3 years	3-5 years	3-5 years
<i>Toilet Trained</i>	No	No	Yes	Yes
<i>Teacher-Child Ratio</i>	4 : 1	5 : 1	2 Teachers w/ 4-6 Children	1 Occupational Therapist w/ 4 Children
<i>Class Description</i>	<p>A highly nurturing beginning class for toddlers with a focus on mastering separation, early socialization, and language acquisition. Music, movement, and floor time play are strongly emphasized. Activities are simple and fun. Transitions are limited. Children are learning turn-taking, how to listen, how to use gentle hands, and to let adults comfort them. Toilet-teaching is offered as a natural part of the day. Teachers follow the lead of individual children. Some children start with a shorter day to facilitate their adjustment to school.</p>	<p>A preparatory preschool class for the young preschooler who will benefit from a smaller environment with closer teacher attention. The classroom is enriched with hands-on learning activities, as well as age-appropriate Montessori materials that encourage curiosity and creativity with many opportunities for interactive play. Much focus is given to enhancing communication. Children are learning to share, follow rules, participate in a group, build self-control, establish relationships, communicate their needs, and strengthen their independence.</p>	<p>A special enrichment class for children who can benefit from extra support in making connections with peers and establishing friendship skills. Teachers coach children to play collaboratively and cooperatively. Children relate to one another through interactive play activities. Children are learning about their thoughts and feelings and working as part of a group. Teachers promote mental flexibility, conversational turn-taking, problem-solving, “body-reading” awareness, and emotional regulation. This is a great class for building play skills and confidence in the social realm.</p>	<p>A kid-friendly time filled with active fun that is building important brain skills. This is especially helpful for children needing to learn self-regulation. Activities guided by our OT consultant teach kids to use their whole body and become comfortable with new and different sensory experiences. Activities include trampoline jumping, obstacle courses, scooter boards, ball pits, swings and more! Children are enhancing their body awareness, listening skills, turn taking skills, and impulse control while also building core strength to develop their fine & gross motor skills and overall coordination.</p>
<i>Times</i>	T/TH 9:00-12:00 3 hours	MWF 9:00-12:00 3 hours	Offered During School Year 12:30-1:30 6 Week sessions - 1 hour	Offered During School Year 12:30-1:30 6 Week sessions - 1 hour

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