








Preschool Classes

Class Name	 Ladybugs	Ladybugs 'n Lunch 	 Expanded-Day Dragonflies	Half-Day Dragonflies 
Definition	Morning Preschool	Morning Preschool + Lunch	Expanded-Day Pre-Kindergarten	Half-Day Pre-Kindergarten
Age (as of Sept. 1 st)	3-5 years	3-5 years	4-5 years	4-5 years
Toilet Trained	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher-Child Ratio	8 : 1	8 : 1	8 : 1	8 : 1
Class Description	<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>
Times	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

2019-2020 Class Descriptions

	Early Preschool	Special Enrichment Classes	
<i>Class Name</i>			
<i>Definition</i>	Introductory Transitional Preschool	Social Skills Friendship Class	Sensory Exploration and Play
<i>Recommended Age (as of Sept. 1st)</i>	2-3 years	3-5 years	3-5 years
<i>Toilet Trained</i>	No	Yes	Yes
<i>Teacher-Child Ratio</i>	4 : 1	2 Teachers w/ 4-6 Children	1 Occupational Therapist w/ 4 Children
<i>Class Description</i>	<p>A small, highly-nurturing class for toddlers who are first beginning school or for the young preschooler who may benefit from a smaller environment with closer teacher attention. The focus is on mastering separation, early socialization, and language development. Children learn turn-taking, listening, cooperation, self-control, and comfort with adults and peers. The teachers follow the lead of individual children, encouraging developmental play. Music, movement, and floor time play are strongly emphasized. The classroom is enriched with many hands-on learning materials, including age-appropriate Montessori activities that inspire curiosity and creativity and offer multiple opportunities for interactive socialization. Toilet-teaching is offered as a natural part of the day. Transitions are limited. Class size is limited to 16 children.</p> <p>* NOTE: This is a blended age-group class, where young toddlers are enriched by the modeling of older ones. The youngest Two's must start with a 2-day option, adding days as they adjust. Two and a half-year olds may start with 3-day class or more (by recommendation only).</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 & MWF and M-F by recommendation only 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