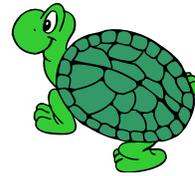


TURTLE TIDBITS



CLOTHING

- Clothing can get dirty or stained despite our best efforts at prevention – please keep this in mind when dressing your child in the mornings
- Please send in and label some extra clothing for your child to be kept in the bathroom where your child can easily find it. Bathroom accidents can happen and children may otherwise get wet or messy. Please send: underwear, socks, pants, shorts, t-shirt, long sleeve, sweater/sweatshirt.
- It is imperative that children wear safe footwear with closed toes and rubber soles for safety reasons on the playground
- Outdoor time is part of our curriculum. We will start every day on the playground except for rain, thunderstorms or low **temperatures (we will provide more information as the seasons change)** Please dress or send weather appropriate clothes for your child! We are usually on the playground from 8:00- 9:30 and again before lunch.
- Please label all loose items (jackets, sweaters, boots, mittens, lunchboxes, backpacks, water bottles and rest items) with your child's name or initials.

REST ITEMS

- Each child will be provided with a rest basket for storing rest items and a mat to rest on. A small pillow, XL crib-sized sheet and/or blanket with a small, soft rest toy are most appropriate (again please label all). We truly appreciate your efforts to keep these items **small enough to fit in the individual baskets** for health, safety and space reasons.

LUNCHES

- We have a microwave available in the classroom for reheating foods. We also have a refrigerator, but it would be most helpful if you send icepacks in your child's lunchbox to keep items cold, since the refrigerator is used for other items such as fresh fruits and vegetables and water for snack
- Since we may have children with food allergies, we will have tags available to put on your child's lunchbox if (s)he has a lunch containing peanut butter or other tree nuts (including sesame seeds). The children in our class leave their lunchboxes in their backpacks and we have a peanut-free table. The teachers accept the responsibility for ensuring that nobody with peanut butter is sitting at the peanut-free table as we set out the lunch tags. We appreciate your help by attaching the tag (we will provide when you come to meet us!).

TOYS FROM HOME

- While we understand that some children need a transition item between home and school, we would like you to help us discourage children bringing toys from home (a family picture to be kept in his/her cubby would be better)
- If your child insists on bringing a toy to school, please try to encourage ONE small, appropriate (not violent or potentially dangerous) toy that can be left in the child's backpack or cubby after he/she shows it to classmates and teachers (we will enforce a 5 minute rule)

SPECIAL DAYS

- We love to celebrate children's birthdays in our classroom with a community snack. Please let a teacher know when you would like to celebrate your child's special event ahead of time for planning purposes. We cannot accept any snack that has peanuts or tree nuts as part of the ingredients.
- If you have a special talent that you would like to share with our class, please talk to any teacher about it – children love to have their parents and grandparents come into the classroom, and we encourage it! This activity can be something as simple as reading a favorite story or singing a special family song, or sharing photos.
- We will schedule special events (classroom celebrations, parent breakfast, etc.) with plenty of advance notice since we understand that scheduling can be an issue for working families. We will also make every endeavor to schedule these events on different days of the week as the year progresses to make it equitable for everyone. If a special day is scheduled on a non-school day for your child, they are welcome to come celebrate with an adult.

SIGN IN/OUT BOOK

- **It is important for you to sign your child in** (and out) every day. The sign in book will be on the bench in the playground or next to the parent mailboxes in the hallway right outside of the classroom if we start inside. This book goes with the class everywhere we go and is the basis for attendance when we leave the building for any reason (including fire drills). The bottom of each sign-in page also is a convenient place for you to put incidental notes about play dates, expected absences, etc. for teacher information. There are also Alternative Pick-Up Forms located in the back of the binder for your convenience.

The Turtle Teachers look forward to getting to know you and your child. Please come to us with any question or concerns. If you need to talk to one of us but cannot take the time in the morning, please give us a note with a convenient time and number where we can reach you, and we will call you. Also, since we start outside on the playground, we want you to know that you are welcomed to go into the classroom at any time, but we ask that you always leave your child's backpack and lunchbox outside on the playground for the sake of consistency. Thanks for your help and cooperation.