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We're on the web!
www.yikestikes.com

At Yikes Tikes! we welcome children of varied developmental abilities and socio-economic backgrounds. We combine a range of age groups in our Reggio Emilia-inspired approach, helping children develop empathy, understanding, acceptance and respect for the differences of others. This imparts self-confidence, a sense of belonging, and appreciation for personal uniqueness. We provide a family-focused environment that offers children an expansive range of perspectives, emulating and celebrating the diversity of the Bay Area and the world beyond.

Fundraising and Volunteerism

Fundraising and volunteerism at Yikes Tikes! form the backbone of our program and help us respond to the need for high quality preschool services in the San Francisco Bay Area. We depend on the support of our parents, donors and volunteers to maintain our unique commitment to helping children prepare for success in kindergarten and beyond.

Your tax deductible donation to Yikes Tikes! helps ensure that the children in our communities receive an excellent pre-academic education that will help them compete in school and become successful adults. Your dollars help pay our excellent teaching staff and keep our school facilities safe and fun.

As a Yikes Tikes! parent, your contributions are invaluable. Do you have a special talent? If you are an artist, play a musical instrument, are a story teller, have a **great book you'd like to share or have an idea for a arts and crafts project** - please tell our teachers. Our kids love music and art and we integrate these values into our curriculum as much as possible.

Lastly, we need help with fundraising, long-range planning, financial planning and legal advice. If you would like to get more involved behind the scenes with Yikes Tikes! our Board of Directors needs you.

For more information on volunteer opportunities or to make a donation, contact awguiney@yikestikes.com

yikes tikes! Bowl-A-Thon
 Saturday, March 23rd 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
 at Moonlite Lanes
 2780 El Camino Real
 Santa Clara, CA 95051

Awards Presented For:
 Highest Score
 Most Strikes
 High Scorer Under 6
 AND MORE ...

\$20 per person
 2 hours of bowling and shoes

Order your tickets at: www.yikestikes.com/bowlathon

yikes tikes! Bowl-A-Thon
 Saturday, April 20th 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
 at Cloverleaf Bowl
 40645 Fremont Blvd
 Fremont, CA 94538

Awards Presented For:
 Highest Score
 Most Strikes
 High Scorer Under 6
 AND MORE ...

\$20 per person
 2 hours of bowling and shoes

Order your tickets at: www.yikestikes.com/bowlathon

Tikes Talk

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Inclusion at Yikes Tikes!

Inclusion is the educational practice of educating children with disabilities in classrooms with children without disabilities.

"Full Inclusion" places a special education teacher or clinician in a classroom as a partner with a general education teacher.

Successful models of inclusion believe that ALL children are different, and ALL children can learn. There is nothing about a child that needs to be "fixed" in order for that child to fit into a system. The school system, as a whole, is enabled to change in order to meet the individual needs of ALL learners.

At Yikes Tikes!, our inclusion practice places

young children from CSLOT's Early Intervention program in the classroom with typical developers from Yikes Tikes! With the support of the early childhood educator and clinicians, these two groups learn with and from each other

and work together on projects and activities.

Research indicates that typically developing children are NOT harmed by integrating with children with disabilities, and in fact, most parents of typical children who are taught in an inclusive classroom find the experience to be beneficial for their child. Inclusion teaches children important life lessons about compassion, tolerance, and the range of individual differences, and that

they don't have to be perfect to be valued. They learn that all individuals are unique, including themselves. Additionally, all children benefit from the increased level of professional staffing, regardless of their developmental status.

"Inclusion" as a term has wholistic undertones and therefore extends beyond a the conversation about people with disabilities and abilities, to a conversation about the whole community, regardless of ability, socioeconomic standing, race, age, gender, or creed. Yikes Tikes! strives to make its classrooms and programs inclusive to everyone who comes in the door, including you!

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San Jose Classroom News With Gerry



“Diamond, lets hammer the nails.”

I would like to wish a Happy New Year to everyone from the San Jose Yikes Tikes family. We are in the full swing of things into the New Year. I would also like to welcome Zachary and Lucas Martin into our program.

The children have been exploring various activities set up throughout the room. One particular activity the children found interesting was the building and construction set. They were pretending to build a house and hammer pegs into the wall. Alejandra said to Diamond, **“Diamond, lets hammer the nails.”** This was a great social interaction, as the girls engaged in pretend play together.

In addition, the class continues to focus on academics for school preparedness during our social circle. This includes the children working on their alphabets,

numbers, shapes, names, and writing. The children enjoy using the dry erase boards for this activity. They write and copy their names or drew what they want. Diamond drew a circle and said, **“Gerry, circle.”** This activity gives them the freedom to write, scribble, or draw what they want while focusing on their academics.

There is plenty going on in Yikes Tikes and we are looking forward to expanding upon the children’s interest.

—Gerry Acheta



Los Altos Classroom News with Monalisa

The Los Altos Yikes Tikes! class is currently studying building structures. The interest of this wonderful exploration project, was spurred by our young thinkers’ fascination and curiosity with a hole in our classroom ceiling. The teacher explained that water was dripping down from an upstairs apartment, and that a repair person had come to investigate the problem. During circle time, the teacher drew a picture of our classroom on the first level and the apartment above it, showing how the water could be dripping. When the

teacher asked the children to share what they saw in the hole. The children mentioned pipes, blocks of wood, leaking water and the dark. One child asked me to **“draw the pipe up the roof,”** and **found the hole to be “spooky.”** Two others mentioned a **“monster”** and **“friends”** were in the hole. Two weeks later we revisited the discussion, where the children took turns drawing what they saw in the hole. A child drew a similar drawing from the teacher’s, but adding a **“bumpy” roof and several pipes connecting from both levels.** The children mentioned rectangular, square and circle blocks, connecting to one another and drew pipes going in different directions. They said water was inside them leading to the outside, and that pipes were **“for the dripping”** or were **“robots.”** We are excited to see where this study leads our young explorers.

—Monalisa Villamar



What the kids saw in the hole.



Two of the Los Altos kids exploring the original drawing the house.

Fremont Classroom News with Hajer

Our Fremont circle time has blossomed into a time of sharing and storytelling. Our class loves to tell about new and/or **exciting experiences they’ve had with family and friends** and circle time has been the perfect opportunity! With the **help of parents, we’ve extended this interest by developing a “little authors”** journal for each child in the classroom. The journals are used to document the **child’s shared experience as it is being** told. As a way to personalize the jour-



Three of the “little author” journals

nals, children titled the covers with their first name as well as a self portrait. Journal writing has become a popular activity in our class. Some children have even requested a story from their journal be shared instead of a selection from our class library. This approach to literacy continues to be an valuable way for our children to be self expressive, explore and develop the use of written language, and more importantly develop social connections to their peers.

Announcements:

On Jan 31, our class will be attending the **“Meet the Critters”** program offered by PETCO. Our class will get the opportunity to explore the proper care and treatment of animals, diverse habitats, and hands on interaction with pet friendly creatures!

—Hajer Suliman

Redwood City Classroom News With Martha

In December, the Parent Advisory Committee and teacher Martha Arellano hosted a community holiday potluck at Yikes Tikes! Redwood City. The purpose was to discuss co-op meeting structures, and to celebrate teachers. Families and staff from various Yikes Tikes! locations came together with

gifts and food, exploring the Family Connections environment, riding tricycles and other vehicles in the brisk, drizzly outdoors, eating pancakes and ensalada de pollo, discussing the future possibilities for coming together as a whole community, and enjoying each other. Feliz Ano Nuevo!

—Alex Webster Guiney



Some of the Los Altos kids exploring the Redwood City Location



Books to share:

How Does a Dinosaur Say Goodnight?
by Jane Yolen

Olmo and the Blue Butterfly
by Alma Flor Ada

I Wanna Iguana
by Karen Kauffman Orloff



Fremont Teacher, Hajer, talks with parents near the potluck table

Yikes Tikes! T-Shirts!

Yikes Tikes! T-shirts are now available for purchase at every school location.

\$20 for any size, including adult S-XL and child S-L.

