

August 31st, 2015

Tikes Talk! Summer 2015



Co-Op News

“If nothing ever changed, there would be no butterflies”

-Author Unknown

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We have a New Program Director. Introducing Trena Davis-Hudson, M.A. Trena Davis-Hudson, M.A. Trena has a Master’s Degree in Human Development and Educational Leadership from Pacific Oaks College and Children’s school and earned her Bachelor’s degree in Human Development and Family Services from Oklahoma State University. She possesses a Program Director permit issued from the California Commission on Teacher credentialing and is also a certified CLASS trainer and observer through Teachstone.

Trena is dedicated to using all that she has learned from being a presenter and participant

at local, regional, and national trainings and conferences, continuing education courses, fifteen years in early education and care, as well as her life experiences as a mother, to help every child, every site and every family have a unique, successful and memorable Yikes Tikes! experience.

Her vision for Yikes Tikes! is simple; it’s to build strong partnerships and meaningful relationships with the families of the program, to support qualified and confident educators in all areas of care and education and to provide an environment where children, families and educators feel safe, wanted, capable and loved.



From Trena. I have been with Yikes Tikes! for only a few weeks and I have already made such meaningful connections with children, families, teachers and other key members of the team.

I feel privileged to have received this opportunity and look forward to being a part of the growing legacy of Yikes Tikes!

Yikes Tikes! seeks a new home

We are currently searching for facilities to house each of our Yikes Tikes! sites. Ideally the location would be within ten minutes of our current locations with a minimum of about 600 square feet of indoor space and about 1500 square feet of outdoor space.

Currently we are looking at churches, community centers or senior citizens homes that have available space for rent.

If you know of any spaces that are available for rent/lease that meet our minimum square footage requirements, please email our Program

Director at Thudson@yikestikes.com or alternatively you can contact her at (510) 456-0499.

Fremont Classroom News



Friends peeking out of the tent, and friends peeking in.

We love summer here in Yikes Tikes! Fremont because summer means playing with and creating things we really love! Ice cream, sand, ice, water, sea shells, camping and much more. Do you want hours of vivid imagination to unfold? Make pretend ice cream with colored and scented shaving foam, freeze it and give it to the children to scoop, mix flavors and pretend-eat!

Do you want hours of focused and quiet play? Create a sensory bin with water beads, bowls and spoons. The water beads flow through little fingers, bounce, shine, reflect light and are so extremely pleasant to touch.

Do you want hours of joy and

happy screams? Put big ice blocks in big bins and a few paintbrushes for water color, and give it to the children to paint on the ice, watch the colors run on the ice, feel the freezing cold ice and scream "it is so coooold!".

Do you want hours of great fine motor practice through soothing, relaxing, and exciting play? Prepare the sand table, filled with all kinds of tools for the children to scoop, fill, pour, hide, dig, and get their surroundings as sandy as can be!

Do you want more structured cognitive play? Put sea shells on the table and have the children sort them, group them, count them, observe their shapes, sizes, col-

ors, and smells.

Do you want active, energetic, super fun play? Set up a tent! And let them pretend they are camping outdoors! This was by far my favorite activity! Though all these activities are good all year long, there is an extra reason to play with them in the summer!

-Maria Asteriadou



Los Altos Classroom News

This summer at Los Altos, our students have spent a lot of time engaging with the world around them. The hot weather has prompted them to spend a lot of time outdoors at school and with family outside of school. These wonderful experiences have driven our curriculum this summer. From experimenting with the hot weather and its affects on ice, to making and of course eating our own homemade popsicles, it has been a fun and engaging summer. Because our families provide our youngsters with such meaningful family experiences outside of school, we have had many exciting group discussions about these experiences. An experience shared by many students this summer has been visits to the ocean, beach, seashore, lakes and aquarium. It is these experiences that has lead us to our current unit of study on the ocean. It has been truly amazing to listen

to the students share their passion for learning about the ocean and its creatures. A favorite animal to learn about has been the "sharks with sharp teeth." We have also learned and created projects about starfish, puffer fish and tropical fish to name a few others. The students are also really enjoyed the shells on display in our newly created Science Center, thanks to a recent and very successful maintenance day. Los Altos Yikes Tikes! is a very special place where families make all the difference working together to make it a wonderful place for their children to come to play and learn.



Our newest student Clara watches and learns how to make a yummy ocean themed snack from her classmate Matthew.

For more Yikes Tikes! classroom news and articles, visit out our blog at <http://yikestikes.com/news/yikes-tikes-blog/>

San Jose Classroom News

A new adventure has started in San Jose last week with attempting to implement nap-time. One week in, it's been more successful than I ever expected. It's been so cute seeing the kids snuggled next to each other. Alex and Ruben, our 5-year-olds, whom we assumed wouldn't nap, decided to go lay down with little Dylan to keep him company, and ended up napping with him. Wish us luck! Inside our classroom, we have been on a YouTube watching kick with requests to see volcanoes, earthquakes, and

lava. Griffin has told us that when he grows up, he wants to make a smoke detector that also detects lava and earthquakes. His sister Kennedy plans on making computers and cameras to allow us to see volcanoes explode! The new game in our classroom to play is "EARTHQUAKE!" where we all sit inside a tent, while someone shakes it yelling "earthquake!" Next we all duck and cover and wait for the earthquake to end. Who knew an earthquake drill would essentially become a game! We hope on the hori-

zon after hosting our Bowl-A-Thon in May, that we'll get to make a trip to the Tech Museum to experience their earthquake simulator.

-Kieva McCullough

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See you soon, Alex!

Your essence is apparent in all aspects of Yikes Tikes! Everything this program is today is a reflection of your awesome leadership and vision. Everyone here at Yikes Tikes! and at CSLOT will miss the positive and unique energy that only you can bring. We wish you well in all your future endeavors and rest assured knowing that we will see you at upcoming Yikes Tikes! events and Board Meetings. Good Luck!

Yikes Tikes! Community Calendar Spring– Fall 2015

August 18th	Aqui's Fundraiser Night
September 7th	Fall Programming Starts
September	Back to School Night
September 12th	Trunk Show Fundraiser-Cox Residence, San Jose 2-4 p.m.

For more information on Yikes Tikes! events, visit <http://yikestikes.com/calendar/special-events/>



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The mission of Yikes Tikes! is to provide an inclusive early-learning environment for children and families.

For more information, contact info@yikestikes.org.

You can include Yikes Tikes in your legacy! For more information, contact info@yikestikes.org.

President's Corner

Hillary and Warren Cox hosted graduation at their home under a large sunshade in their front garden. Their hospitality was a significant and generous gift, considering there was remodeling happening. Proud teachers, parents and families participated with the graduates to celebrate this very first educational milestone, milestone being a developmental step on the way to completion. In my annual graduation presentation I summarized a few parenting tips which I have gained over many years of experience as a therapist, educator, and

mother, while following the model that guides us in Yikes Tikes!—Reggio Emilia. Briefly, these are: “Be a **Y**es to your child: See them as powerful, strong, rich in ideas and interested in the world. Give them choices and help them attain them.

Teach your children the importance of **I**nclusion as a pathway to world peace.

Remember that our kids are **K**ids, not little adults. Give them time to develop, one

Graduation Reflection

milestone at a time, or in leaps and bounds, in their physicality; cognition; motor, self-help and social skills; and of course, communication, by meeting them at their level.

Build their self-**E**steem. A child who is appreciated and cherished by parents who create an environment of positive reinforcement, will confidently achieve her potential.

Most importantly, keep them **S**afe. From toxins in the home to hand holding while crossing the street, be there

preparing the way for them, but please don't hold them back by your worries about their risk taking. Every child gets a turn on the merry-go-round!

-Brendan O'Connor Webster

President of the Board

