



Kids of Destiny

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Summer 2017

We are having so much fun this summer with all the trips and awesome lesson activities created by the staff. So far, we've been to the movies, BounceU, Clementon Park, the Library, Cape May Zoo, Bowling, and Mike's Water Ice. We've had water day, a Hawaiian Luau and made volcanos erupt. Challenge Island visited the center and presented science in such a fun and engaging way.

There's still more to come - Discovery Museum, Bowling, Academy of Natural Sciences & Camden Aquarium.

Our Friday "Bible Verse Challenge" has also been fun. Thanks parents for working with your child on the memory verses.

You don't want to miss our end-of-the-summer bash on Friday, August 25th. All Parents are invited. More info soon!



Upcoming Events

August 25 – Family Fun Day – End of summer barbeque @ KOD!
Starting at 10:30 a.m.

August 28 thru Sept. 1 – School Closed.

September 4 – Labor Day – Closed

September 5 – School Year begins – resume regular hours.

September 8 – Tuition rate increase begins.

September 27 – Back-to-school Night @ 6:30 p.m. School closes at 5:30 p.m.

Grow NJ Kids Update

Attended a training for Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment tool. Will begin inputting children's information to prepare for the new school year.

The meeting on July 31st with the Technical Assistant was productive. We reviewed Grow NJ Kids requirements to determine where we would presently rate. Currently, we are 3 stars. Our score was 53 points, only 7 points away from the 4-star rating. We are going to work on gathering information and/or implementing additional quality standards into our program to meet the requirements for 4 stars.

Our application for rating will be submitted in November. Will meet with the TA Specialist frequently to check our progress. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9th.



State Inspection

On July 6th, the state conducted a monitoring visit. The inspectors observed each classroom and checked the facility for any safety hazards. Overall, the inspection went very well.

There were housekeeping items such as cleaning or painting the walls in the hallway to remove little fingerprints, fix ceiling tiles, and remove some weeds from the playground. We were also instructed to repair or replace the climbing equipment due to a crack on the tunnel portion. We decided to remove the climber since we were unable to obtain replacement parts.

The inspectors commented on how well the staff cared for and interacted with the children. They noted that the children seemed happy. Their remarks were no surprise since KOD staff are the best and take seriously our mission to “shape hearts and impact lives”.

Lastly, our Emergency Evacuation Plan was submitted to the state for review. Parents will receive a copy of the plan at Back-to-School night in September.

Maintaining Quality!

Kids of Destiny has been in business for 10 years and there are several things that we’ve done to help make KOD one of the best. Our focus has been to stay current in the field of early education by attending professional development trainings and expanding our knowledge of child development. The selection a research-based curriculum and participating in the Statewide Quality Initiative (Grow NJ Kids), we have kept quality at the forefront. All of this equals the best possible care for your child. Now that’s the good news. The bad news is that a tuition increase is needed to help us maintain a quality program. Tuition rates will increase \$5.00 per week and will take effect on Friday, Sept. 8th. Fees such as late payment & late pick-up will also increase.

Presently, KOD offers one of the lowest rates for the Before/After-School program. Because our rates are so low, we are no longer able to offer sibling discounts for before/after students. The 10% sibling discount will continue to apply to full-day, full-time enrollment.

Please know that increasing tuition was a tough decision and unlike other programs, we have not increased our rates since February 2015. A new price sheets will be available soon.

If you have any questions or concerns, please see Ms. Debra.

Londyn – August 28th

Parents’ Corner

Summer safety tip – First Aid Kit Essentials

What better time to stock a first-aid kit than during the summer season, when many accidents occur. While you can't prevent all accidents, you can be prepared. Here is a list of helpful things to include in your kit:

Band-Aids

Soap

Antibacterial gel or foam

Triple-antibiotic ointment

Hydrocortisone cream

Sterile gauze pads

Adhesive tape

Tweezers

Washcloths

Cold packs

Nutrition

The summer meals program provided by the Food Bank of New Jersey will end on Friday, August 18th. Please resume packing a healthy breakfast and/or lunch for your child beginning Monday, August 21st. Don't forget to place hot meals in a thermos and include an ice pack for cold items.