

The South Shore YMCA is a charity. Dollars raised through charitable gifts to our Annual Campaign ensure financial assistance and accessibility to programs and services for all. Financial assistance applications are available at the NCP and online at [ssymca.org](http://ssymca.org). Consider donating your time, talent or treasure!

## Schedule and Tuition

### Class schedule:

#### Morning sessions 9am-12pm:

Mon, Wed, Fri (3 days) (Pre-K Program Ages 4-5+)  
Tues, Thurs (2 days) (Preschool Program Ages 2.9-4)

#### Afternoon sessions 1pm-3:30pm:

Mon-Fri (2-5 days) (Preschool & Pre-K Program)  
This session is for children ages 2.9-5+ years old

#### Extended Day Option for AM Pre-K:

Mon and Fri 12pm-2:30pm

#### "Lunch Bunch"

Wed and Thurs 12:00 noon - 12:50 pm  
\$12/child per day or save with book of five lunch tickets for \$50

#### 2019-2020 School Year

Tuition for 2-day morning:

\$305/month

Tuition for 3-day morning:

\$413/month

Tuition for 2-day afternoon:

\$250/month

Tuition for 3-day afternoon:

\$343/month

Tuition for 4-day afternoon:

\$435/month

Tuition for 5-day afternoon:

\$540/month

Tuition for extended day:

\$175/month

Registration fee: \$70 (non-refundable)

Family maximum: \$130

*Enrollment is ongoing and welcomed throughout the school year.*



### THE FAMILY'S ROLE

A high quality preschool program involves the family. We welcome family, encourage suggestions and value your feedback. Visits to your child's class are welcomed. We hope you can join us for special events, celebrating your child's birthday and participating in daily activities such as snacks and stories. We have an enthusiastic Family Advisory Council and invite all families to take an active role in our Preschool community.

The South Shore Natural Science Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the public about the natural and cultural environments of the South Shore. Our mission is to provide natural science experiences that educate, excite, and commit every generation to preserve the environment and to encourage responsible use, stewardship and enjoyment of our natural resources.

Please call for more information at 781-659-2559 or e-mail [naturepreschool@ssymca.org](mailto:naturepreschool@ssymca.org)

South Shore Natural Science Center

48 Jacobs Lane, P.O. Box 429

Norwell, MA 02061

781-659-2559

[www.southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org](http://www.southshorenaturalsciencecenter.org)



NATURE CENTER PRESCHOOL  
at the  
SOUTH SHORE NATURAL  
SCIENCE CENTER  
Norwell



*Nature Center Preschool is located at the South Shore Natural Science Center in Norwell. Founded in 1962, the SSNSC includes 30 acres of land crossed by 6 interpretive trails through woodland, meadow, pond, bog and swamp. It is surrounded by 200 acres of town conservation recreation land.*

It is the goal of **Nature Center Preschool** to support young children's investigations, igniting their passion for learning. By highlighting the interconnectedness of humans with the natural world, we provide a foundation of stewardship, inquiry, and innovative thinking.

Naturalists from the Science Center visit the preschool regularly to provide enrichment activities. Children will explore the Center's diverse habitats on frequent trail walks. Indoor activities include visiting live animals, experiencing the assorted collections of the Center as well as the museum exhibits.



We emphasize hands-on learning for the naturally curious young child. As preschoolers ask questions, teachers encourage them to find the answers through discussion, making guesses, using their senses, and experimenting. This use of the scientific method opens up pathways to lifelong learning in all areas of development.

### **PHILOSOPHY**

Nature Center Preschool connects young children and their families to their local environment developing ecological literacy, critical thinking, engagement, and stewardship for the natural world while nurturing the mind, body and spirit of each child. Nature Center Preschool encourages children to build inquiry skills, develop empathy for all living beings, gain confidence in their problem solving, and cultivate a healthy self-image. Nature Center Preschool does not discriminate with regard to race, national or cultural origin, political beliefs, religion, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or toilet training status.

### **STAFF**

#### **Diane Thureson, Director**

A self-taught naturalist and outdoor enthusiast, Diane has been a teacher at Nature Center Preschool for over fifteen years. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and her MS in Ecological Teaching and Learning from Lesley University. Additionally, she has achieved Director certification from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

#### **Nature Center Preschool Educators**

Teachers have college degrees, early childhood education backgrounds, and are certified by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

**South Shore Natural Science Center membership and a swim playgroup opportunity at the Emilson YMCA is included in Nature Center Preschool tuition.**

### **ACTIVITIES**

- ⤴ Active exploration that fosters children's natural curiosity.
- ⤴ Direct experiences with nature that increase children's understanding of the diverse habitats in their own backyard.
- ⤴ Multi-sensory arts, crafts and cooking activities that encourage experimentation, discovery, and independence.
- ⤴ Opportunities to dictate stories and create charts, books, or letters, imparting environmental education into language, math, and art.
- ⤴ Cooperative play time that strengthens children's social skills and emotional development.
- ⤴ Music and movement activities.



### **Vacation Week Programs**

Nature Center Preschool offers a vacation week program in December, February, April and two weeks in June.