

developing a sense of place

creating a lifelong connection to nature

where kids explore

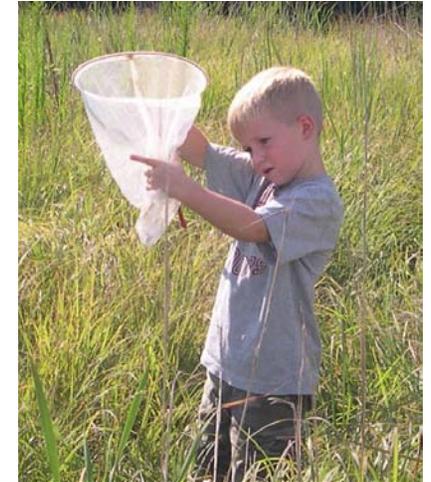


"Thank you for your nurturing, positive interactions and engaging learning experiences. Our child is excited about starting kindergarten due to the solid foundation laid by attending the Nature Center Preschool."

Pioneers Park Nature Center

A facility of the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department and located at the west end of beautiful Pioneers Park, the Nature Center is a 668 acre wildlife sanctuary with over 8 miles of hiking trails winding through prairies, woodlands, and wetlands. Two interpretive buildings house hands-on and small animal exhibits. Outdoor animal exhibits include bison, elk and deer herds, non-releasable raptors, vultures and wild turkeys.

PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER PRESCHOOL



Location: 3201 S. Coddington, Lincoln, NE 68522
Entrance gates on S. Coddington and W. Van Dorn

Mailing address: 2740 'A' St, Lincoln, NE 68502

Phone: 402.441.7895

Fax: 402.441.6468

Email: naturecenter@lincoln.ne.gov

Website: parks.lincoln.ne.gov/naturecenter

The mission of Pioneers Park Nature Center is to interpret the natural history of Nebraska and the Central Great Plains; to promote the enjoyment, appreciation, and awareness of our natural environment; to practice and foster a conservation ethic; and to provide a sanctuary for wildlife and a peaceful retreat for people. (2010)



"We loved the teachers' enthusiasm and warmth with the children."



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learning through discovery

enjoying the miracles of the natural world

nurturing a sense of wonder

Preschool Program

Our program is based on the conviction that children learn by doing: hiking, climbing, digging, building and being outdoors regardless of the weather. We plan our nature curriculum around seasonal themes and include a wide range of age appropriate activities including:

- Daily hikes
- Discussion circle
- Crafts
- Story time
- Snack
- Puppet shows
- Show and tell
- Fine and gross motor skills
- Language arts
- Dramatic play
- Rhythm and movement
- Music

Ages: 3 to 5 year olds

Days and Times: Tuesday and Thursday
or Wednesday and Friday

Morning: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
or Afternoon: 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.



The staff of the Nature Center Preschool is deeply committed to our natural world, to active learning, and to fostering each child's strengths and potential for growth. We provide a warm, nurturing environment that utilizes excellent teaching, diverse natural habitats, and an extensive collection of hands-on teaching materials such as mounts, skulls and nests to lay a solid foundation for further learning.

Begun in 2000, the Preschool has two classrooms within the Prairie Building, that includes a LEED certified green addition.

Classes extend from September to May.

An annual enrollment fee must accompany registration and will be credited to the May payment.

A 10% discount is given for each additional child from the same immediate family.

Tuition is figured on a monthly basis with no reduction for holidays, vacations, illness, or inclement weather. Call for current rates, or visit our website: parks.lincoln.ne.gov/naturecenter.

Occasional open houses are scheduled or we can set up a special visit time just for you.

Call 441-7895 for more information.

Pre-K Program

This program is designed to support your child's transition from preschool to kindergarten. In addition to the Nature Center Preschool's emphasis on outdoor exploration, the curriculum focuses on:

- Letter recognition and printing
- Phonics and sight words
- Journaling
- Numbers and math skills

Ages: 4 and 5 year olds

Days and Times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Morning: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
or Afternoon: 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Periodic conferences will offer a chance for parents and teachers to evaluate a child's development together.

