



P.O. Box 32673
 Baltimore, MD 21282
 410-484-6220

*Since 1983—
 Providing a safe, fun, nurturing environment
 for children in our care.*

Dear Families,

Welcome to Play Keepers for the 2016-2017 school year! We are excited to welcome your child with warm smiles and plenty of fun activities. The staff at each center has been very busy preparing a welcoming environment and planning activities so the children will be engaged. We take pride in ongoing, open communication with families. Please take some time to meet the wonderful center staff at your child's school. We are looking forward to making many happy memories with all the children this year. The first event we are looking forward to is Lights On After-school in October. Each center will be planning a special event to celebrate this national event.

It's not too early to be prepared...

Play Keepers offers an email and/or text alert service in the event that school closes for inclement weather or other emergencies. Sign up today through our website or by following instructions on a paper provided at the center. This is a great way to stay informed.

Communication Tips

- "Information Station" is the parent board at each center where the Sign In/Out sheets are located. Find information about what your child is having for snack, important news and dates, and much more.
- Ask the Center Director if you have questions about the program. Call the billing office at 410-484-8777 for questions regarding your bill. Call the main office to change your child's schedule or for administrative questions.
- The Play Keepers website offers a great deal of information at www.playkeepers.com.
- We welcome feedback and suggestions throughout the year. A "Suggestion Box" is located on our website.
- It is very important for the Director to know if your child will not attend on a scheduled afternoon. Call the center phone number to notify the Director of an absence. A \$5 fee will be assessed if we do not receive notification.

During the first weeks of school, make sure you...

- For returning parents, complete a new Emergency Form for your child(ren) and return it to the Center Director.
- Complete a Classroom Helper Permission Form if you want your child to be available to help teachers before or after school. (Request this form from the Director).
- Clearly communicate with the Director and school teacher what days and sessions your child will attend our program.



What your children can do in our program...

The **Construction Zone** is a great place for children to become engineers! Designing and building marble races, tracks for vehicles, and log cabins are just the start. The possibilities are infinite when they get their hands on Legos and K'Nex.

Children can "**Catch a Beat**" in our music and listening area. An assortment of instruments and dance props accompany a CD player with a variety of music. Children can be exposed to Jazz, Classical, Pop, Country, as well as music from other countries.

"Music washes away from the soul
the dust of everyday life."
~Berthold Auerbach

Delicious and nutritious snacks and fun outdoor play are two very important components in our schedule EVERY DAY!)

Whether it's reading, writing, or arithmetic, children may have homework to begin. **Study Hall** offers a quiet area with the fewest distractions and helpful supplies for their homework needs. We also have friendly staff to assist children if they get stuck.

The **Book Nook** is a wonderful place to sit and relax before or after a long day of school.

Comfy seating

+

a medley of exciting books and magazines

=

Great pleasure!

The "**Game Room**" is an area where children from Kindergarten through 5th grade can find a collection of age-appropriate games and puzzles. Games such as Candyland, Mancala, Scrabble, Guess Who, and playing cards are always available for the children to play.

In the **Technology Corner** the children are able to take a 15 minute turn on the center computer. Fun and educational apps encourage children to learn about the world we live in and have fun in the process.

Exploration Station is an area for children to explore fun concepts of Science, Nature, Social Studies, and Math! Multiple measuring tools, nature items, magnifying lenses, and magnets are just a few of the things to explore in this area. Related, fascinating books, magazines, and pictures will pique the children's curiosity and inclination to explore even more.

In the **Imagine That** area, children can take on roles that include playing house, restaurant, store, and more. Puppets and dress up clothes help to complete this dramatically fun-filled space. This is where dreams begin!

Creation Station is the hub for all things arts and crafts. It is stocked with a plethora of materials to highlight the children's natural ability to create. Many handmade treasures will be generated from this area.