



Here We Go Again!

Shadow Rock Preschool is Waking Up

Unfortunately The Tattler failed to print our September article, so here goes.

As we come out of the quiet days of July we find that our carpets are cleaned, our walls are painted, broken toys are gone and many new ones are waiting. What are the toys waiting for if not our children?

So many children have "had it" with the heat and even with swimming. They eagerly anticipate the coming school year and we at Shadow Rock eagerly

await them. There will be so many returning students who walk the halls with confidence calling to teachers by name. There will be the new students, many just two years old, who cling to Mom's leg as she tries to take the child to her classroom. It is a process and it is repeated every year. Many children imagine going back to last year's room only to be reminded that they are bigger now and are moving up to the 3s or 4s.

Out there in our neighborhoods parents are looking at their children and won-

dering if preschool would be a good fit. Our answer is "yes" and we have a few spots remaining in each age level. It is still not too late to take a tour and decide that absolutely Shadow Rock Preschool is A Place to Learn and Play. It is also not too late to return if your new preschool isn't working out for your child. You are always welcome here.



Good-bye Lion's Mane

How do you thank a school who closes their doors after 30 plus years and gives their equipment and supplies to you. It is almost impossible to imagine such a gift.

To Flo-Ann Campbell, thank

you so very much. To Brooke Bratset, thank you just as much for sharing your children with us as for your generosity..

Our children are finding new toys, puzzles, books and more to enjoy this

week. It's a really tough time for preschools, ours included. Only by blending Lion's Mane's gifts with our own few new purchases could our rooms be so well equipped. Applause please!!!!

Shadow Rock Preschool

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Special points of interest:

- ☉ Sept. 5, Labor Day, no school
- ☉ Sept. 28, 29 Individual and Class Pictures
- ☉ Sept. 30 Meet the Teacher/Fall Event
- ☉ If you need a KDO reservation you can e-mail me with the info at

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Let's Meet Mary

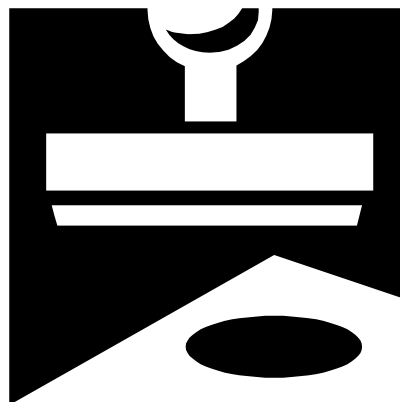
Mary has been the Preschool Registrar since 1980. This year she is with me in the preschool office on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Those will be tour days for new families. Mary is also a Notary and can help you when she is here.

Originally from Illinois, she came to Arizona 42 years ago. To me that means "native." She holds an ASU Non-Profit Management Certificate and has been employed by Shadow Rock Church

as well as the preschool.

Her children and grandchildren have passed through our doors and like so many of us do, the children leave and we stay because this is a place of love and respect.

I'm thrilled to have her in the office and I'm also thrilled when Marilyn stops by just to say "hi."



Put Friday, September 30th on Your Calendar Now!

Friday, September 30 is Meet the Teacher Night. There will also be bouncies, food and lots of fun.

The teachers will only be in their rooms from 5-6 PM so go there first. This is a time for your child to show off his/her new room to the family. It is not a time for a parent/teacher conference. Those can be done privately on the phone if set up in ad-

vance. Plus we hold formal Parent/Teacher Conferences on February 23 and 24.

Your child will also want to show off the playground and join in bouncie houses, fire trucks, etc.

So mark that date now with plenty of advance time to schedule it.

The evening runs from 5-7 so nobody

has to stay up late to attend.

The teachers will have something fun set up in the room to enjoy.

They are already so excited getting to know their new children.

If you need to change or add a KDO reservation, e-mail me at Sharon@shadowrockpreschool.org.

We Must Be Their Advocates

Are children 2-11 too young to be consumers? We certainly think so and we worry about some of the play coming from ads on TV and the Internet that children do not even understand. We worry about children acting in "too grown up" a manner in their play after watching movies that are not meant for their viewing.

Yet companies have one interest in all

the marketing they do, the bottom line. **In 1980 companies were spending about \$1,000 marketing to children. Now they are spending \$17 billion annually to reach our little ones.**

Whether your child is looking at the back of a cereal box or walking past the TV seeing Spider Man do incredible stunts, they do not have the

ability to understand that what the ads promise isn't reality.

If we cut screen time and really preview what our children watch, we are giving them a great gift. We need to be their advocates. There is no one else.

Diane Levin, *Exchange* May/June 2009

We Must Be Advocates Continued-Diane Levin

Helping Our Children

Here is what a comprehensive and meaningful response, directed at children, families, schools, communities and the wider society might be:

1. Protect children as much as possible from exposure to commercial culture. Parents create rules and routines around media use as well as what is purchased, when and how.

2. Restore children's right to develop their full potential through play by helping them:

*Regain control of their play so it

is not remote controlled.

*Find deeply meaningful content to bring to their play that comes from direct experience, not the screen.

*Become good problem finders and problem solvers in their play.

*Find interesting problems to work on and develop the skills needed to solve them.

*Have large blocks of uninterrupted time when they can play at home and school.

*Learn to use open-ended materi-

als such as play dough or blocks in the



service of their play, rather than toys that control the play.

Parents and schools need to work together to support children's right to childhood.

Heard in the Halls

A Teddy Bear was reporting on his first trip to Disneyland. After visiting Pirates of the Caribbean, he told his grammy that the pirates were robots. Then he stared right at her with his big blue eyes and announced, "But the bullets were real!" Scary.

In Blue Birds the children were asked to tell about their bedroom. One little boy, a twin, said, "I have a bed. It

is a mess, My brother will clean it up later!

In the 2s room, drinking from a paper cup is a brand new experience for a few of the children. They tend to crush the cup or pour liquid right down the front of their clothing.

This week one little guy absolutely could not figure out how to drink without teacher help. Later he was

painting at the easel with water on the brush. You guessed it, he found out how to drink that water! Parents, remember it's time to give up those sippy cups very soon.

But the bullets were real!!!!

Still a No Nut School

Remember we are nut free and that means all nuts. I already have two epi-pens locked in the office for children who are really at risk from even touching a table while may have nut residue on it.

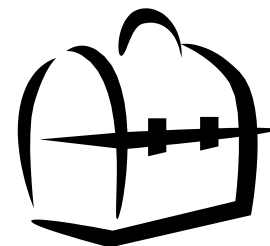
If you send your child a sandwich containing soy cream or any other unknown substance, please label it for us. There can just be no accidents in

this area.

Also a reminder that packing lots of choices sometimes overwhelms the children and they end up eating nothing. Three items and a drink, either water, milk or a juice box seems to work well. We do keep the lunches refrigerated until lunchtime so don't worry about meat or milk.

We also make lunch time a social time.

The teachers eat at the same tables with the children and talk with them.



Shadow Rock Preschool

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Will you get my child ready?

That question is a little confusing to us. When these children come to us, it is not our job to get them ready for the next level. It is our job to help them be the most successful they can be for their age and to have the best feelings about their abilities at this level. It is also our job to guide them gently onward at whatever pace they want to go. Their pace is what matters, not yours and not ours.

This is their moment, celebrate it!

Playground Rules

- *Only 3 people on the tire swings, feet inside, both hands on the chains. Never let the swing bump the supports.
- *Dig holes in the sandbox and keep sand in the sandbox.
- *Enjoy the dump trucks for transporting sand, etc. Never let a child ride in the dump truck.
- *Children are not to slide down the support pole holding the blue awning, lie on the ta-

- ble or stand on the benches.
- *When you are four and strong enough to go alone, you may go on the monkey bars.
- *Water from the sandbox faucet can be transported elsewhere on the playground.
- *Climbers, up the stairs, down the slides feet first.
- *No standing or sitting or jumping from the gazebo windows.
- *Use your words if something happens you don't like.

- *If there is an accident tell a teacher quickly.
- *No flip flops on the climbers.
- *At the end of your playground time bring one toy for each year of your age and put it in the sandbox.
- *Invite others to play.

