

# Natural Beginnings

Early Childhood Program

## *Educational philosophy*

Our curriculum is designed to meet our mission and goals by putting learning into the child's hands. With over 350 acres of prairie, streams, and woodland to explore, students immerse themselves in seasonal themes by taking nature walks, studying natural phenomena, and engaging in activities that build physical, emotional, and academic skills.



## *Mission & goals*

**Mission:** To nurture whole child development through authentic and meaningful experiences with nature.

**Goals:** Foster curiosity through inquiry, hands-on projects, and play. Stimulate intellectual, social-emotional, and physical development. Develop respect and appreciation for the natural world.

## *2017-2018 program year*

Natural Beginnings school year runs from September to May. We offer two-day and three-day classes for children ages 3-8. Maximum class size is 12 students with a teacher-student ratio of 1 to 6.

## *Fees*

Yearly program fees for the two-day class are \$1,500 and our three-day class is \$1,800.



## *Registration information*

If you would like to find out more about registering for the 2016-2017 program year or to schedule a facility tour, please call the program director at 630-553-3939.

*“Learning and teaching should not stand on opposite banks and just watch the river flow by; instead, they should embark together on a journey down the water. Through an active, reciprocal exchange, teaching can strengthen learning how to learn.” — Loris Malaguzzi*