



## December Curriculum

At this point in the school year, the children are feeling very comfortable in their classroom setting. They are enjoying the learning opportunities provided and have all been working very hard. It is truly amazing to see how much each of them have grown!

This month we will continue providing your child with a fun and challenging curriculum. December's themes include the concept of giving, sharing, friendships, Christmas, holiday foods and traditions along with letter review.

### Special points of interest:

- December Curriculum
- Breakfast with Santa
- Reminders
- December Birthdays
- Upcoming Dates
- Parent Tips

## Breakfast with Santa

"Breakfast with Santa" will be Friday, December 13th!

We will serve a pancake breakfast for our students beginning at 9:00 am. Santa will make a special appearance in each classroom to take a photo and hand out a gift (a new book) to your child.

### \*Important:

In order to participate in having Santa give your child a gift, we are asking that each of you secretly bring in a new book, wrapped and labeled:



*"To: Your child's name"*

*"From: Santa"*

**Please bring your book in by Monday, December 9th**



We will also be decorating cookies, creating a Christmas sticker scene project and singing Christmas songs.

All children are welcome to join us, but if it is not your child's regularly scheduled day we ask that you stay with your child for the event.



## Reminders

- Tuition is based on a 20 day month. Most months have 21 or 22 days. We make this adjustment by working in our school holidays. Tuition rates remain the same each month.
- If your child was sent home from school due to a fever over 100 degrees, vomiting and/or diarrhea, they must then remain at home until they are symptom free for a minimum of 24 hours.
- Please sign your child in and out everyday. Do not let your child touch the sign-in screen.
- Please continue to label all of your child’s personal belongings, including: sweaters, jackets, bedding, and lunchboxes.
- If you love Storyland School, please share your experience at yelp.com <http://www.yelp.com/biz/storyland-preschool-livermore>

## Happy Birthday!

Evelyn Jeffries	12/8
Kira Garcia	12/12
Lilyana Garduno	12/14
Tyler Mondon	12/30
Maya Li	12/30
Finn Harrell-Avignon	12/31

## Upcoming Dates

### December:

- Breakfast with Santa Friday, December 13th at 9:00 am
- Storyland closed December 20th through January 1st for Winter Break
- Winter Session begins Thursday, January 2nd

### Coming Soon:

- Storyland will be closed Monday, January 20th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Valentine’s Day Party Friday, February 14th
- Storyland closed Monday, February 17th for President’s Day



## Parent Tips

### Is Your Child's Lunchbox Safe?

If you're like most parents, you do everything you can to ensure your child's safety, never letting them ride a bike without a helmet and teaching them to cross the street only at a crosswalk. But, have you ever stopped to consider the dangers that could be lurking in their lunchboxes?

A study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics reports that less than 2% of all food items packed by parents for their children to eat are kept at safe temperatures.

To prevent your child's lunchbox from becoming a hazard zone, heed these tips for lunchbox.

#### Use an Actual Lunch Bag

Don't use a bag not meant to be a lunch pack, as these may not be insulated and will not keep temperatures low. While most parents and kids gravitate towards the prettiest bags, find one that actually works the best.

#### Find an Insulated Bag

Pack your child's lunch in an insulated lunch box, as this will keep the ice from melting too quickly. Also use an insulated container that can keep food hot until it's time for lunch.

#### Toss in a Cold Pack

Include at least one cold pack in your bag, even if you're packing a frozen liquid or snack. And toss old ones. Cold packs, both hard and soft, can leak hazardous chemical solvents. Throw away any ice pack that has a leak or tear immediately.

#### Throw Out Old Lunch Boxes

Ripped or torn lunch boxes should be discarded immediately, as these may no longer shield food from bacteria or keep items sufficiently cold.

#### Be Wary of High Protein Foods

High protein foods are bacteria magnets. These include meat, chicken, eggs, fish and yogurt. If you include these in your child's lunch box, make sure they are eaten within 2 hours if the temperature outside is below 90 degrees and 1 hour if the temperature outside is above that mark.

#### Mayo

Mayonnaise is not the culprit you think it is. The acid in mayonnaise actually helps to protect food from bacteria.

#### Pack a Small Bag

Opt for a smaller lunch box as these will keep colder longer. If your lunch box is large, fill it with more than one ice pack.

#### Keep it Clean

Wash your lunch box after every use with hot, soapy water and let it dry thoroughly. It is also recommended to air out lunch boxes in the open air if they take on a slight smell. If the smell doesn't fade, toss the lunch box immediately.

While it's impossible to protect children from every dangerous situation they encounter, at least keeping their lunch boxes clean, bacteria-free and safe is within the control of every caregiver.