

## CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PLAY



*You won't find worksheets in our classroom, but you will find an environment that fosters curiosity and a life-long love of learning. Your child will grow and develop physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually.*

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT:** Through play, children master movements such as walking, running, skipping, hopping, jumping, throwing, catching, pedaling, swinging and climbing. With the mastery of these skills, the brain develops and gains control over the body. When a child can control his body, it is easier to: sit still, listen, pay attention, take turns, complete tasks, and be a part of a group.

**EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** According to Dr. James Hymes, a well-known author of books on children and learning, play is the young child's emotional equalizer. It helps him to cope with real life situations. Through play, a child can feel more powerful (as Batman, Mom or Dad) or more loved (as a baby). They can assign themselves roles to help deal with the realities of life. As a child develops emotionally, it becomes easier for him to stand up for himself, deal with separation, make transitions and choices, cope with aggressive situations, be assertive and solve social conflicts using language.

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:** While play can be solitary, more often it involves people. By interacting with others at school, children learn to take turns listening, talking and sharing ideas. They have opportunities to persuade others or to be persuaded. They are confronted with bossiness, pushiness, selfishness, greed, meekness and shyness in themselves and others. This is an important part of lessening their own egocentrism and developing empathy.

**INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT:** Play develops problem solving skills and perseverance. We see repetition in play as children test newly acquired skills or information. This persistence aids the learning process. Play is also the young child's distinctive way of beginning to organize ideas, plan and think cognitively. Our program provides a balance of free play (art, science, blocks, music) and teacher-directed circle time. During circle time, the children listen to stories, sing songs, engage in chants and finger plays, tell and act out stories and participate in movement activities. Most important, they learn to be a part of a group.

# APPS

## PHILOSOPHY & GOALS

### BASED ON SEQUENTIAL CHILD DEVELOPMENT

We believe that by providing children with a variety of age appropriate play, learning and social activities, they will grow and develop.

#### HOW...

Guided by teachers and parents, children are encouraged to explore, experiment, manipulate and learn from their surroundings at their own pace.

#### WHAT...

Through play, children discover who they are. By relating to other children, adults and the environment they develop the foundation for future learning.

AT APPS, WE SUPPORT THIS PHILOSOPHY BY OFFERING A PROGRAM RICH WITH OPEN-ENDED ACTIVITIES. WE ENABLE CHILDREN TO PARTICIPATE AT THEIR PRESENT LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT AND PROVIDE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES FOR GROWTH. ALMADEN PARENTS' PRE-SCHOOL IS A SAFE, SECURE AND JOYFUL ENVIRONMENT WHERE CHILDREN GROW IN ALL ASPECTS.

**ALMADEN PARENTS' PRE-SCHOOL**  
**5805 Cahalan Ave.**  
**San Jose, CA 95123**

School (408) 225-7211  
Membership (408) 496-9111

[www.appsonline.org](http://www.appsonline.org)



***Parents and teachers working together, building the foundation for their children's success in life.***

*A cooperative pre-school is a special place.  
It brings out the best in children and parents.*

### COME AND SHARE IN A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE!

All of our classes offer age-appropriate play and learning, including art and music. We have a large playground with a new play structure, scooters, tricycles and water tables. Our renovated classroom is spacious, clean and full of light.



#### 1-DAY Class

(1 year, 9 months minimum age)

12:30-2:00 Thursday

15 children, 1 teacher, 15 parents

The 1-day program is intended to be an

introduction to preschool and the parent cooperation environment. All parents participate in each session while children have the chance to play indoors and outdoors. In addition to free play, there is a snack and circle time. During each class, the adults will have the opportunity to participate in an informal discussion with the teacher. This portion of the program provides parent support and education.

Besides attending class with your child, a designated family member is required to attend 1 general meeting; volunteer 1 hour during a fundraising event; and volunteer 1 hour during an "annual work party".



#### CLASSES FOR AGES 3-5

(2 years, 9 months minimum age)

In addition to free play, snack and circle time, the following classes also include science, cooking, field trips and an intercultural program.

#### 2-DAY Class

9:00-11:30 Tuesday & Thursday

24 children, 1 teacher, 7 parents

Parents work approximately 3 times per month. This is often the first pre-school experience for children and parents. The teacher and parents work together to make this a smooth and enjoyable transition. As in all of our classes, parents are welcome to visit all or part of their child's class, but are only required to attend on their scheduled work day.

#### 3-DAY Class (2 years, 9 months minimum age)

9:00-11:30 Monday, Wednesday, Friday

24 children, 1 teacher, 7 parents

Parents work approximately once per week. Children in this class have become more independent. Activities include checking out books from our school library and dictating stories to the teacher or a parent.

#### 4-DAY Class (3 years, 9 months minimum age)

12:30-3:00 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

24 children, 1 teacher, 6 parents

Parents work one day per week and are "on call" approximately once every 4-6 weeks. This pre-K class focuses on the needs of the older pre-schooler. Most of these children will go to kindergarten the following year. Individual snack preparation and extended projects are incorporated.

### APPS PARENT OBLIGATION SUMMARY

*Almaden Parents' Pre-School is owned and operated by the parents of the enrolled students. Its smooth functioning depends on the participation of all families. The following summary highlights the minimum requirements.*

#### FEES AND MONTHLY TUITION\*\*

Per Family:	\$35 APPLICATION FEE (non-refundable)
Per Family:	\$80 ENROLLMENT FEE
Per Student:	1-DAY Class \$68
	2-DAY Class \$135
	3-DAY Class \$167
	4-DAY Class \$200

\*\*Tuition includes: Children's daily snack (nut free; allergy sensitive), accredited Music Together Program (each family receives 2 cd's a year), field trips (school bus not provided), year-end developmental assessment for children eligible for kindergarten (a \$200.00 value). \*Fees and tuition: are subject to change. Please call for current prices. Adjustments are made for families with multiple children enrolled at APPS. The school calendar is published in July for the upcoming school year and may be requested.

**CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION:** Under teacher guidance, a parent must work in the classroom on assigned days. On these days, no un-enrolled siblings are permitted to accompany the parent. Parents must be available to work, if necessary, on scheduled "emergency" days. On workdays, each parent is assigned a station (art table, playground, kitchen, etc). Assignments are rotated weekly and each includes a clean-up responsibility.

**MANDATORY ORIENTATION:** For those families new to APPS. The orientation takes place before the school year begins.

**CONFERENCE:** A 30-minute, group conference is required of parents after class on their workday.

**HEALTH FORMS & TB TEST:** A complete set of health forms and emergency information forms must be submitted before beginning school. All working parents must have a current TB test, read and signed by a physician. The TB test must be a Mantoux (under the skin) test. No exceptions can be made.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** A General Meeting is held the first Thursday of each month, as required by our Articles of Incorporation. Meetings begin promptly at 7:30 pm and end at approximately 10:00 pm. School business and adult education are included. At least one parent must attend and is expected to be present for the entire meeting. You may be excused from one meeting per year without penalty.

**WORK HOURS:** A minimum of 18 hours per year are required per child (28 hours is required for families with more than one child). Work hours are in addition to scheduled classroom participation. Typically, hours are earned by serving on a school committee with consideration of your needs and interests. A minimum of 1 hour must be contributed toward a fund-raising event as part of the minimum 18 or 28 hour commitment.

**ANNUAL WORK PARTY:** Each family is required to participate in one 4-hour "Work Party". This is separate from the 18 hours of committee work and does not replace the outside maintenance weekend described below.

**OUTSIDE MAINTENANCE:** Each family will be expected to work one weekend day per year to keep up the yard.

**WAYS AND MEANS:** Two mandatory fundraising requirements. 1) All families must participate in the SCRIP program (or buyout). SCRIP is a store or restaurant gift certificate purchased at face value from the school. The school has purchased these certificates at a discount. Alternately, families can register one or more credit cards with eSCRIP. This service automatically tracks purchases at participating businesses and makes a quarterly contribution to the school. Families are required to spend a minimum average of \$250 per month in the SCRIP program. The annual buyout for this obligation is \$100. 2) Each family must provide APPS with a minimum \$50 VALUE donation (in new goods, services or procurement of an item(s)) suitable for use for a silent auction and/or raffle. Donations must be turned in by November 1. **A DETAILED PARENT OBLIGATION AGREEMENT MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE BEGINNING SCHOOL AND IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ON REQUEST.** Updated 6/13/2010