

Great Moose Adventures

Nature Preschool Parent Handbook

About Us

Great Moose Adventures is an outdoor education centre located in the Gravenhurst Township, which officially opened in the summer of 2013. Owned and operated by experienced and certified teachers, we run a range of programs for adults and children of all ages.

Program Highlights

- Large amounts of time spent outdoors in all seasons exploring and enjoying the forests, fields and waterways on our 96 acre site
- Inquiry, play based and child centered learning
- Forest School and holistic educational focuses
- Healthy snacks and lunches including ingredients grown on site (with the help of the children)
- Indoor comforts in the main lodge for times of adverse weather and activities better suited to the indoors
- Cross country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter
- Canoeing & swimming in the summer (swimming lessons by certified instructors included in the fees)
- Equipment rental is included in the fees (skis, snowshoes, paddles, life vests, gardening gloves, bug hats etc.)
- Rainbow Kids Yoga
- Daily play based Literacy, Science, & Math, Art, Phys Ed. learning
- Gardening, plant and animal studies
- Off-site cultural field trips

Mission Statement

Great Moose Adventures Nature Preschool aims to provide the foundation, scaffolding, skills and motivation for children to achieve a fulfilling, healthy and balanced life; rooted in a deep connection with their natural environment, a positive sense of community and an overall belief in their abilities as productive and adaptable human beings.

Through outdoor adventures, holistic education, experiential learning, inquiry-based play, team building initiatives and meaningful engagement we strive to provide opportunities which will pave the way for character development, self-esteem growth and healthy living habits.

Ages & Group Size

Group Size: Maximum 5

Ages: 2 – 4 yrs

We are an unlicensed child care centre though inspections are made of our facility by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and the Ontario Camps Association.

Hours of Operation

The program runs from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm Monday to Friday.

Early drop off from 7:45 am and late pick up until 4:30 pm are available at no extra charge.

Fees & Schedule

The yearly fees are \$8500 for full time, \$5100 for 3 days a week and \$3400 for 2 days a week. These are to be paid in monthly installments on the 1st of each month. A registration fee is required at the time of enrollment to reserve a place for your child. This fee will be put towards the last month's payment in June. Payment can be made via credit card through our online store, Interac E-Transfer or cheque made payable to 'Great Moose Adventures Inc.'

Trial Period

The first two weeks at Nature Preschool is a trial period for the child, parents and the preschool teachers to determine the suitability of the program for the child. After the first two weeks the parents and teachers will discuss whether the program is a good fit for the child and if either party decides that another learning environment would be more suitable then two weeks' notice must be given. The registration fee will be refunded in such circumstances.

Withdrawal & Refund Policy

After the trial period we ask that parents give one month's notice if they are intending to withdraw their child from the Nature Preschool. The registration fee will be fully refunded if the one months' notice is met.

Calendar

The Nature Preschool follows the Trillium Lakelands District School Board Calendar for elementary students.

Meals & Snacks

All meals and snacks will be provided at the centre following the Canada Food Guide. If your child has a special dietary need or allergy please let us know and we will adapt our menu to fit their requirements.

Emergencies

An emergency contact & medical care permission form must be completed by parents prior to attendance at preschool. Minor first aid will be administered where necessary by staff however in the event of a serious injury or illness which requires aid from the emergency services we will immediately contact parents. If parents cannot be contacted we will contact the child's emergency contact.

Illness

If children begin to show some of the symptoms listed below or any other symptoms which may indicate the possible presence of a contagious disease we will call parents and ask them to come and pick up their child as soon as possible.

High Fever
Persistent diarrhea or vomiting
Severe coughing
Jaundice

Difficult or rapid breathing
Conjunctivitis
Unusual rash
Difficulty/pain swallowing

Parents will be notified of contagious diseases affecting the children in our care. A child with a communicable disease must stay home until the period of contamination has passed or until the child has fully recovered.

Parents are required to complete a medical form prior to attendance at Preschool.