



**OUR MISSION:** To provide meaningful, individualized, play-based early childhood education in a cooperative environment within our community in a way that empowers advocacy and supports relationships between teachers, children and families.

**OUR VISION:** An early childhood community and network empowering families and children to confidently navigate the world.

**OUR CORE VALUES:**

<p><b>PLACING CHILDREN FIRST</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o We keep children and their best interests at the forefront of every decision</li> <li>o We utilize research-based, child-centered practices</li> <li>o We view children as competent, capable human beings</li> </ul>	<p><b>RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF PLAY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o We believe in the research that confirms play IS the foundation for all learning</li> <li>o We facilitate play as the primary method for children to construct their own knowledge</li> <li>o We provide time and opportunity for self-directed exploration and problem-solving</li> </ul>
<p><b>VIEWING THROUGH A DEVELOPMENTAL LENS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o We provide programming that respects the development and learning of each individual.</li> <li>o We utilize Emergent Curriculum to create a program that is flexible and dynamic in order to meet the current understanding and interest.</li> <li>o We meet families and children where they are and scaffold understanding and skills through meaningful and relevant experiences and education.</li> </ul>	<p><b>BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o We recognize that trusting relationships are the heart of what we do</li> <li>o We build trust in order to support one another in our learning and growth</li> <li>o We strive for honest, open dialogue in developing a team-approach of supporting children</li> </ul>
<p><b>PROMOTING A CULTURE OF SUPPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o We nurture opportunities to work together with other families to educate one another through formal, informal, planned, and impromptu interactions</li> <li>o We provide resources and tools that are practical and can transfer to everyday experiences and challenges</li> <li>o We uphold the intent of the co-op by recognizing the mutual benefits and ensuring collaboration in its operation.</li> </ul>	

**OUR CO-OP STRUCTURE:** As a co-op, we utilize the talents, experience, and financial contributions of our families, coupled with paid, professional staff to ensure the smooth operation of the co-op and to enhance each family's experience. In this model, the co-op becomes the families' school as much as it is the child's school. Families work in it, give energy and ideas to its operation and, ultimately, help shape the success of the co-op. In return, families gain a sense of ownership and community in the co-op, participate in additional educational opportunities around parenting, make deep and lasting friendships and model life-long service and communication skills in a shared setting with their children.

# 2024 - 2025 Program & Class Offerings

## **Infant/Toddler Program & Classes:**

Our Infant/Toddler program provides classes for families and their children from 6 weeks to 23 months. Classes introduce children to peer interaction, child-led exploration and problem solving; with many classes incorporating parent education and support for families. For more information about our programs or to discuss your child's individual needs, please contact our Preschool Director.

### Infant Community Group

This program is designed to build community amongst parents and families who have welcomed a new child who is 6 weeks to 11 months old. Here families will be given opportunities to share their experiences, ask for support, and begin friendships with other parents and children. Prior to the class, the facilitator will set up a developmentally appropriate environment for all infants to explore. The facilitator will then welcome families at the beginning of the session and then give the participants space to build community. At the end the facilitator will return to lead a closing with families at the end and be available for child development guidance based on the ages and stages of the class. Children who are 11 months or older are encouraged to join the parent child class as they have aged out of this class.

- **Days:** Wednesdays 11:30am - 12:30pm
- **Ages:** Infants 6 weeks to 11 months and their parent
- **Class size:** Up to 12 children with one facilitator
- **Tuition:** FREE, must sign up for one month at a time
- **One-time Registration & Materials Fee:** \$20 (per child)
- **Annual One-time Membership Fee:** \$25 (per family)

### Parent & Child for Infant/Toddlers:

This class is geared to expose children to social interaction and problem-solving, hands-on art and sensory activities, music/movement, and circle time.

- **Days:** Wednesdays 9:15am - 10:45am
- **Ages:** For children 12 to 23 months old
- **Class size:** Up to 12 children (and an accompanying adult) and one teacher
- **Tuition:** Levels 1, 2, & 3: \$100 per month, Level 4: \$80 per month
- **Application fee:** \$25
- **Annual non-refundable Membership fee:** \$25 (per family)
- **One-time Registration & Materials fee:** \$75 (per child)

### **Member Family Requirements**

- Parent/Child families are welcome to join any general meetings, but attendance as a non-participating member is not required.

## Toddler Transition:

Our Toddler Transition class revolves around experiential learning and introduction to real-life events and understandings. The curriculum infuses learning into daily activities and routines; all while nurturing self-awareness, expressive language, problem-solving, and self-advocacy. Children will participate in circle time, art, sensory, snack, dramatic play, and movement--all in an organized environment prepared for the unique needs of the group. This drop-off program scaffolds children's and parent's transition into preschool. Potty training is not required.

- **Days:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:15am - 11:15am
- **Ages:** For children ages 24 months (by September 1) to 35 months
- **Class size:** Up to 15 children with 1 teacher and up to 2 parent-assistants
- **Tuition:**
  - Level 4: \$230/month
  - Level 3: \$285/month
  - Level 2: \$345/month
  - Level 1: \$415/month
- **Application fee:** \$25 for returning families, \$75 for 1st child of new families (\$25 each additional child)
- **One-time Registration & Materials Fee:** \$150 (per child)
- **One-time Membership fee:** \$25 (per family)

## **Member Family Requirements**

- Classroom assisting per level selected
- Serve on one or more school teams per level selected
- Attend Co-op Welcome Orientation (August), Annual Business Meeting (May)
- Attend Trimester and/or class-specific meetings or responsibilities
- Work one Saturday for a facility maintenance and cleaning day

## **Preschool Program:**

Our preschool program offers classes that provide a wide-range of developmental and cognitive opportunities with two overarching themes—social communication and problem-solving. While the children have ongoing opportunities for art, dramatic play, sensory and outdoor activities, handwriting, movement, and math experiences, we facilitate cooperation, pro-social interactions, and enable (through emotional, physical, and verbal support) interactive problem-solving amongst children. For more information about our programs or to discuss your child's individual needs, please contact our Preschool Director.

## 3-day Preschool:

Our preschool classes directly reflect the interests and abilities expressed by the children while incorporating foundational concepts through play, socialization, and language. Each day consists of a consistent rhythm that provides circle time, story time, snack, indoor/outdoor format, classroom socializing and play--but no two days are the same! Children are required to be potty-trained.

- **Days:** Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 9:00am-12:00pm
- **Ages:** For children ages 3 years (by September 1st) through 5 years
- **Class size:** Up to 25 children with 2 teachers and up to 3 parent-assistants
- **Tuition:**
  - Level 4: \$335

- Level 3: \$415
- Level 2: \$500
- Level 1: \$600
- **Application fee:** \$25 for returning families, \$75 for 1st child of new families (\$25 each additional child)
- **One-time Registration & Materials Fee:** \$150 (per child)
- **One-time Membership fee:** \$25 (per family)

### **Member Family Requirements**

- Classroom assisting requirements per level selected
- Serve on one or more school teams per level selected
- Attend Co-op Welcome Orientation (August) and Annual Business Meeting (May)
- Attend Trimester and/or class-specific meetings or responsibilities
- Work one Saturday for a facility maintenance and cleaning day

### **Enrichment Programs and Classes:**

Our enrichment program provides varied opportunities for children to experience the benefits of play and child-centered learning beyond the school day. Classes are geared toward preschool through early elementary age children and are offered on a trimester basis. For more information about our programs or to discuss your child's individual needs, please contact our Preschool Director.

#### Explorers only

Our extended day program provides project based opportunities for children to experience the benefits of play and child-centered learning beyond the school day. Children will bring their own lunch to enjoy before working in a small group on focused learning opportunities. Classes are geared toward older preschoolers through early elementary age children and are offered on a trimester basis.

- **Days:** Tuesday and Thursdays 12:00pm - 2:15pm
- **Ages:** For preschool-aged children 4 - 5 years old and/or those currently enrolled in TK/Kindergarten
- **Class size:** Up to 8 children with one teacher and one parent-assistant
- **Tuition:** \$190/mo (must enroll for a trimester at time)
- **One-time Registration & Materials Fee:** \$20 (per child)
- **Annual One-time Membership Fee:** \$25 (per family)

#### Preschool plus Explorers

Explorers is for children who will be enrolled in both the Preschool class and the Explorers enrichment class leading to an extended pre-school day. Enrolling in both for the same child allows for families to save on tuition - a 15% discount!

- **Days:** Tuesday and Thursdays 12:00pm - 2:15pm (children will stay after preschool class has finished on Tuesday and Thursday)
- **Ages:** For preschool-aged children 4 through 5 years old
- **Class size:** Up to 8 children with one teacher and one parent-assistant
- **Tuition:** Cost includes both Preschool class and Explorers enrichment day class (including a 15% discount)
  - Level 4: \$415/month

- Level 3: \$515/month
- Level 2: \$620/month
- Level 1: \$746/month
- **One-time Registration & Materials Fee:** \$150 (per child)
- **Annual One-time Membership Fee:** \$25 (per family)

## PlayON:

Play ON is our Outdoor Nature program and is for children to explore the wonder and fun of nature. We will facilitate hikes, games, nature activities/discussion, and encourage exploration of and play in the great outdoors. Each class also includes activities and a gathering time where we may sing songs, enjoy a story, and share or document our experiences. Class locations are held at various outdoor locations (rain or shine!) within about a 15-minute drive of the co-op location.

- **Days:** Mondays 9:30 am - 11:00 am
- **Ages:**
  - Parent Child: 2.5 - 5 years old (with a grown-up) (Siblings under 2.5 may come, but must be worn by the grown-up) OR
  - Drop off: For children ages 3.5 - 8 years old
- **Class size:**
  - Parent Child: Up to 12 Children (and their one adult) and 1 teacher
  - Drop Off: Up to 8 Children with 1 teacher and 1 parent assistant
- **Open to:** Participating Members & Non-Participating Members
- **Tuition:**
  - Parent Child:
    - \$70/ 4 week session with \$5 materials fee
    - \$100/ 6 week session with \$5 materials fee
  - Drop Off:
    - \$75/ 4 week session with \$5 materials fee
    - \$110/ 6 week session with \$5 materials fee
- **Annual One-time Membership Fee:** \$25 (per family)

## Pop-up Enrichment

Our enrichment program provides varied opportunities for children to experience the benefits of play and child-centered learning beyond the school day. Children will bring and enjoy their lunch with their peers. Classes are geared toward preschool through early elementary age children and are offered on a trimester basis. Topics may include: art, science, sensory, etc.

- **Days:** Pop Up Event on Mondays or Fridays depending on teacher availability. Approx 1 time per month for 1.5 hours.
- **Ages:** For preschool-aged children 3 through 8 years old
- **Class size:** Up to 10 children with one teacher and one parent-assistant
- **Tuition:** \$20/day
- **Annual One-time Membership Fee:** \$25 (per family)

# ABOUT BRIGHT BEGINNINGS:

Bright Beginnings Folsom is a non-profit cooperative organization offering programs and classes for families with young children. To participate in any of our classes or program offerings, membership is required.

We offer a range of membership options for the same low annual membership fee. Our goal is to provide you with access to our programs and classes and still provide your family with flexibility in co-op participation.

## HOW THE CO-OP WORKS:

Families have the opportunity to be involved in a variety of ways that enable them to share in the operation and direction of the organization at a level that fits with their family circumstances. Combining the collective talents and contributions support the quality programs and classes we offer and sustain the operations of the co-op.

## CO-OP MEMBERSHIP

We offer two types of annual membership – **Participating** and **Non-Participating** based on the program(s) enrolled.

### Non-Participating Membership

**Non-Participating** Member Families are non-voting members of the organization who gain access to eligible classes and program offerings and have minimal participation requirements. They have minimal requirements, but still have access to Parent Education resources, special events and access to priority enrollment. Those enrolled ONLY in the Parent/Child or an Enrichment program are considered non-participating members. If a Member has a second child enrolled and is enrolled in the Toddler or Preschool program, they are then considered a Participating Member of the Co-op.

Benefits of Non-Participating Membership	Requirements of Non-Participating Membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Access to our classes and programs</li><li>● Access to our lending libraries</li><li>● Member-pricing for community-wide special events</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Pay annual membership fee</li><li>● Attend class- or program-specific orientation meeting(s)</li><li>● Fulfill any class requirements</li></ul>

## Participating Membership

**Participating** Member Families are voting members of the organization who gain access to eligible class and program offerings, Participation Levels are based on your class enrollment and level of involvement. See the chart for details on the benefits and requirements across the four levels of Participating Membership.

### LEVELS OF PARTICIPATING MEMBERSHIP:

MEMBER LEVEL:	Parent Child/ Enrichment Only	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3 (Most Common)	Level 4
<b>BENEFITS:</b>					
Lending Libraries: Parent Ed, Children's Books, and Play Kits	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Child Development/Parent Coaching	2x/year	2x/year	4x/year	4x/year	6x/year
Priority Enrollment for Classes/Programs (after Board membership)	Priority 2	Priority 4	Priority 3	Priority 2	Priority 1
<b>REQUIREMENTS:</b>					
Work Party	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Attend all Co-Op Meetings	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Class specific meetings and responsibilities	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Classroom Assisting	N/A	No Classroom Assisting Required	✓ CA: 1 - 2 times per month	✓ CA: 3 - 5 times per month	✓ CA: 1-2 times per month (dependant on classroom need)
Team Participation	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓✓*

\*Level 4 members are required to commit to significant participation in the Co-Op. For example, two highly impactful jobs on teams or serving on the Board of Directors.

**TUITION:**

\*10% sibling discount offered off the lowest priced class

MEMBER LEVEL:	Parent Child/ Enrichment Only	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3 (Most Common)	Level 4
PARENT CHILD	\$100/month	\$100/month	\$100/month	\$100/month	\$80/month
TODDLER TRANSITION		\$415/month	\$345/month	\$285/month	\$230/month
PRESCHOOL		\$600/month	\$500/month	\$415/month	\$335/month
PRESCHOOL PLUS EXPLORERS		\$746/month	\$620/month	\$515/month	\$415/month
EXPLORERS ONLY	\$190/month	\$190/month (*sib discount may still apply)	\$190/month (*sib discount may still apply)	\$190/month (*sib discount may still apply)	\$190/mo (*sib discount may still apply)
PLAY ON	Depends on Session Length	Depends on Session Length	Depends on Session Length	Depends on Session Length	Depends on Session Length

## WHICH PARTICIPATING MEMBERSHIP LEVEL IS RIGHT FOR ME?

**Level 4** membership is for families that are interested in the highest level of commitment to the Co-op and are able to commit to significantly impactful roles such as serving on at least two teams or serving on the Board of Directors.. Classroom assistance will be 1-2 times a month (if more is needed based upon enrollment, this group will be asked to work in the classroom more.) A limited number of Level 4 memberships are offered.

**Level 3** membership is the most common membership level as it balances classroom commitment and co-op commitment. It is for families that are able to work in the classroom 3-5 times per month and serve on one team.

**Level 2** membership is for families that want to be a part of the Co-Op, including serving on one team, but are only able to work in the classroom 1-2 times per month. A limited number of Level 2 memberships are offered.

**Level 1** membership is for families that want to be a part of the Co-op, including serving on one team, but are unable to work in the classroom. *A limited number of Level 1 memberships are offered.*

At the time of application, families will be asked to state their preferred membership levels. Membership levels are offered to families based on priority factors (e.g., returning family, application processing date, etc). Levels are offered based on enrollment and co-op needs.

**Membership Dues:** \$25 per family annually, non-refundable



These dues cover liability and student accident insurance, affiliate memberships to SVC/CCPPNS dues, and other technology fees. "Membership fees do not cover class or program tuition, nor do they include member benefits such as access to parent education resources, newsletters, events, etc."

**Priority/Timing for Enrollment:**

1. Priority enrollment is based on the following factors:
  - a. Membership selection: Type and Level, including commitment to serving on the Board of Directors
  - b. Returning family, with number of years of Co-op enrollment considered
  - c. Family alignment with program goals and mission
2. Priority enrollment factors are taken into consideration when applications will be processed in batches after the following dates:
  - a. 2/26/24 - 3/8/24: Priority enrollment for current families
  - b. 3/11/24 - 3/31/24 : Open to all
  - c. 4/1/24 - 4/30/24 : Open to all
  - d. 5/1/24 - 5/31/24 : Open to all
  - e. 6/1/24 - 6/30/24 : Open to all
  - f. All applications received after 7/1 will be processed on a first come first serve basis
3. Offers will be given within 2 - 4 weeks of the batch date listed above.
4. If a preferred membership level or class cannot be offered at the time of your application, you will be placed on a waitlist for your highest preferred level and/or class. If and when a spot becomes available, you will be notified.